



MEDIA CONTACT:

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**** MEDIA ADVISORY ****

CALLING ALL LOCAL MILITARY VETERANS

Arizona Opera seeks veterans to perform onstage in *The Falling and the Rising*

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD:

Arizona Opera is seeking 12 local veterans to perform onstage in the final number of the opera company's premiere of [*The Falling and the Rising*](#), an operatic story of service and sacrifice, which traces the inner journey of a soldier who enters a coma after she suffers a roadside attack. *The Falling and the Rising* will open Arizona Opera's 2022/23 Season this October.

Arizona Opera's desire is to create a community effort surrounding local veterans beyond the 12 participants. The organization is thrilled to provide a creative and safe space for Arizona veterans to join a community veterans choir led by [Dr. Philip A. Woodmore](#), who has led many choral programs in the St. Louis area and has vast experience and education in music. **No audition, musical or stage experience is required! Must be 18 years old or older and a veteran.**

Choristers must be reliable, resourceful, positive, and have a strong interest in bringing the arts to Arizonians of all ages. Access to reliable transportation is also required. **These are paid, contracted assignments.**

The Falling and the Rising was first conceived of by Staff Sergeant Benjamin Hilgert of the U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers' Chorus, which then commissioned librettist Jerre Dye and composer Zach Redler to help create the opera. Thus far, the work has been performed by San Diego Opera, Opera Memphis, Seagle Festival, and others.

HOW TO JOIN:

- Veterans who are interested in participating in the Arizona Opera Veterans Chorus are asked to contact Veterans Chorus Master Dr. Phillip A. Woodmore at woodmore@gmail.com

- Veterans should reach out by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 10

WHEN:**REHEARSALS***

The Arizona Opera Center (PHOENIX)

Aug. 11- Oct. 12 at 6:00 – 9:00pm

PERFORMANCE TIMES*

PHOENIX – The Herberger Theater Center

Friday, October 14, 2022 - 7:30pm

Saturday, October 15, 2022 - 7:30pm

Sunday, October 16, 2022 - 2:00pm

TUCSON – The Temple of Music and Art

Saturday, October 22, 2022 - 7:30pm

Sunday, October 23, 2022 - 2:00pm

**A comprehensive rehearsal and performance schedule will be shared with interested participants*

WHERE:

The Arizona Opera Center and The Herberger Theater Center in Phoenix

The Temple of Music and Art in Tucson

ABOUT ARIZONA OPERA:

Arizona Opera entered its 50th Anniversary Season in fall of 2021, and produces fully-staged operas, concerts, and collaborative programs throughout the state of Arizona each year, and is among only a handful of companies in the U.S. that regularly performs in more than one city. Arizona Opera elevates the transformative power of storytelling through music, cultivating community and strengthening a state and people as adventurous and diverse as the place they call home. Since its inaugural year in 1971, Arizona Opera has produced more than 200 operas and concerts. The company's artistic history is rich with a blend of opera's traditional repertoire featuring baroque, bel canto, and verismo works, turn-of-the-century masterpieces, operettas, and contemporary American operas.

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