

Arvo Pärt & Stephen Schwartz to highlight the new season of AOP

American Opera Projects will celebrate 20 years of commissioning, developing and producing original works in the 2008-2009 season. Following are a few season highlights.

Composers & the Voice: 6 Scenes by six rising, young composers

October 3-4, 2008, 8 PM

Composers & the Voice, AOP's year-long emerging composer training program, culminates with concert readings from six operas-in-development. Featuring music by Clint Borzoni, Kristin Kuster, Raymond Lustig, Jack Perla, Gregory Spears, and Andrew Staniland.

Great Room at South Oxford Space, Fort Greene, Brooklyn. \$15 (\$12 for students/seniors).

www.operaprojects.org/composers_voice

Séance on a Wet Afternoon by Stephen Schwartz

November 21-22, 2008, 8 PM

Stephen Schwartz (*Wicked*, *Godspell*) composes his first opera about a spiritual medium who kidnaps a girl in order to "find" her through her séances. AOP presented the first developmental workshops last January that left audiences on the edge of their seats. Soprano **Lauren Flanigan** leads the cast.

11/21: The Angel Orensanz Foundation Center, 172 Norfolk Street, NYC; 11/22: Great Room at South Oxford Space, Fort Greene, Brooklyn. Ticket info available Sep 1.

www.operaprojects.org/seance

Arvo Pärt: Operatic Monodramas

Jan 11-12, 2009, 8 PM

AOP fills the opera void on a winter weekend that the two powerhouse companies are dark with **Arvo Pärt** works for solo performer including the staged premiere of *L'Abbe Agathon*, a chamber opera in a new English translation, starring **Lauren Flanigan**. AOP collaborates with Works & Process at the Guggenheim. Peter B. Lewis Theater of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, 1071 5th Avenue, NYC.

Tickets and info: www.guggenheim.org/education/worksandprocess

Visit www.operaprojects.org for more information about our upcoming season.

American Opera Projects (AOP)

American Opera Projects (AOP) is a driving force behind the revitalization of contemporary opera and music theater in the United States through its exclusive devotion to creating, developing and present new American Opera and music theatre projects. AOP's mission is to champion innovative works of music theater, to expand the art form, and to identify, develop and present new works by emerging and established talent. Our goal is to create a lasting legacy of relevant music theater and to inspire new audiences with a fresh appreciation for new opera and theater.

AOP productions have appeared at the Lincoln Center Festival, Skirball Center at NYU, the Guggenheim Museum, Symphony Space, the Annenberg Center in Philadelphia, the Massachusetts International Festival of the Arts, The Goethe Institute, Berlin's Stükke Theater and Max Kade Auditorium, Aleksander Fredro Teatr in Poland, the Ensemble Theater am Petersplatz in Vienna, TADA! Children's theater, The Center for Jewish History, 1794 Meeting House, the Daryl Roth 2 Theatre, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and at many out-of-doors performances sponsored by the City of New York Department of Parks and Recreation. AOP won a 2005 Encore Award from the Arts & Business Council of NY for its innovative work.

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