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## NORTH CAROLINA OPERA PRESENTS LA TRAVIATA

RALEIGH, N.C. – **North Carolina Opera** brings the passionate and sweeping drama of *La traviata* to Triangle audiences on February 27 and March 1. In this sumptuous production, we follow along the heartbreaking journey of Violetta Valéry as she finds herself stuck with an agonizing choice. Does she stay with the man she loves or leave him to save his family's honor?

*La traviata* is an unforgettable love story set in glittering 19th-Century Paris and features some of Verdi's most beautiful music. A tale of sacrifice, longing and misunderstanding, this opera will move and inspire you.

"*La traviata* captures your attention as soon as the curtain goes up – it doesn't just have an inspired and moving story, it has many of Verdi's greatest melodies. We can't wait to present this opera to Triangle audiences, especially with this great cast." says North Carolina Opera General Director Eric Mitchko.

Soprano **Jacqueline Echols**, who wowed audiences as Musetta in NCO's production of *La bohème*, performs as Violetta. Tenor **Mario Chang**, the winner of Plácido Domingo's 2014 Operalia Competition, is guaranteed to thrill as Alfredo, the second half of this doomed couple. This production also stars baritone **Joo Won Kang**, winner of the 2014 MacCammon Vocal Competition, playing the role of Germont. *La traviata* will be conducted by North Carolina Opera's Artistic Director **Timothy Myers** and directed by **Marc Astafan**.

North Carolina Opera presents just two performances of *La traviata* on Friday, February 27 at 8:00pm and on Sunday March 1 at 3:00pm at Memorial Auditorium in the Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Raleigh. Tickets and information can be found online at [www.ncopera.org](http://www.ncopera.org) or by calling the North Carolina Opera offices at 919.792.3850.

Join us for a special *La traviata* Behind the Scenes discussion at Quail Ridge Books & Music in Raleigh on February 18 at 7pm. This event is FREE, open to the public and is co-sponsored by **Quail Ridge Books & Music** and **WCPE-89.7 FM**.

### NCO TICKETS & MINI SUBSCRIPTIONS

Tickets are also on sale now for remaining NCO productions: *Don Giovanni* (April 18, 19, 22, 24 and 26, 2015 in Raleigh) and *Opera in the Pines* (May 9 at Cary's Koka Booth Amphitheatre). Or purchase a mini subscription now to enjoy the final three productions of our 2014/15 season (*La traviata*, *Don Giovanni* and *Opera in the Pines*) in a money saving ticket package. For more information on these upcoming performances, to purchase tickets or subscriptions or to learn about other events NCO has going on in the community, please visit [www.ncopera.org](http://www.ncopera.org) or call 919-792-3853.

## **ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA OPERA**

North Carolina Opera was formed in 2010 from the merger of The Opera Company of North Carolina and Capital Opera Raleigh. It is dedicated to presenting operatic performances at the highest level throughout the Triangle. We also have a robust education program that brings opera to schools across Wake County and surrounding counties. North Carolina Opera brings international level artists to Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill, and also engages the best in local Triangle talent. Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/NorthCarolinaOpera](http://www.facebook.com/NorthCarolinaOpera) or on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/ncopera](http://www.twitter.com/ncopera) for up to date information on events in the community, news and more.

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