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NORTH CAROLINA OPERA BRINGS EVENTS TO THE TRIANGLE THIS APRIL

RALEIGH, N.C. – As the North Carolina Opera leads up to its upcoming performances of *Aida* in May, the organization has planned a wide variety of events that occur outside of the concert hall to reach a broader audience. Focusing on entertaining and educating both Opera lovers and those new to the art form through two event series: **POPer**a events are live pop up style performances of Opera singers that take place in unique venues (like bars, galleries, farmers markets, etc.) and are often FREE (*generously supported by PNC Bank*). **Inside the Opera Studio** events have more of an educational/adult learning aspect and hope to enrich and deepen patron's appreciation of Opera.

"It's important to the North Carolina Opera to make sure we are connected to our local community. We love doing these events in spaces and venues that are inviting and might attract a newer audience to come explore their own understanding and love of Opera in ways beyond traditional concert hall performances" says North Carolina Opera General Director Eric Mitchko. "We also make an effort to reach all the various corners of the Triangle with events in multiple cities."

UPCOMING NC OPERA EVENTS IN APRIL:

April 5, 2013 – POPera: Live Opera performances at [CAM Raleigh](#) during First Friday (two performances, 7:30pm & 8:30pm). FREE

April 8, 2013 – Inside the Opera Studio: At [Fly Leaf Books](#) in Chapel Hill at 7:30pm, NC Opera General Director Eric Mitchko explores the rich history, exciting music and compelling stories behind Verdi's *Aida*. FREE

April 13, 2013 – POPera: Live Opera performances at [Galloway Ridge](#) in Pittsboro at 4pm. FREE

April 16, 2013 – Inside the Opera Studio: "Opera in Pop Culture" at [Flanders Gallery](#) in Raleigh at 7:30pm, NC Opera Artistic Director Timothy Myers takes us on a video journey of the most famous influences of Opera on modern pop culture. [Raleigh Brewing Company](#) will be on hand to pour their local craft beers while you snack on appetizers and mingle. Tickets are \$15 each and can be purchased at the door or by calling 919.792.3850 (ticket includes 2 drinks, food and event entry). Learn more on the [Facebook event page](#).

April 19, 2013 – POPera: Live Opera performances at [Alley 26](#) in Durham during Third Friday at 7:30pm. FREE

April 20, 2013 – POPera: Live Opera performances during the ['CueGrass Festival](#) at The Pit in Raleigh. FREE with 'CueGrass admission.

April 23, 2013 - Inside the Opera Studio: At [Quail Ridge Books and Music](#) in Raleigh at 7:30pm, NC Opera General Director Eric Mitchko explores the rich history, exciting music and compelling stories behind Verdi's *Aida*. Event also includes live Opera performances! (*presented in partnership with WCPE*)

These events lead up to the North Carolina Opera's main performances of [Verdi's Aida](#) on May 3 at 8pm at Chapel Hill's Memorial Hall and on May 5 at 3pm at Raleigh's Meymandi Concert Hall in the Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts. A sensational tale of war, romance and intrigue, this semi-staged opera from Giuseppe Verdi follows a military commander, the Pharaoh's daughter and an Ethiopian slave, forging a deadly love triangle. *Aida* bursts with all of the passion and conflict that make the operas of Verdi such enduring crowd-pleasers. Tickets and information can be found at www.ncopera.org.

ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA OPERA

[North Carolina Opera](#) was formed in 2010 from the merger of Capital Opera Raleigh and The Opera Company of North Carolina. 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.

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