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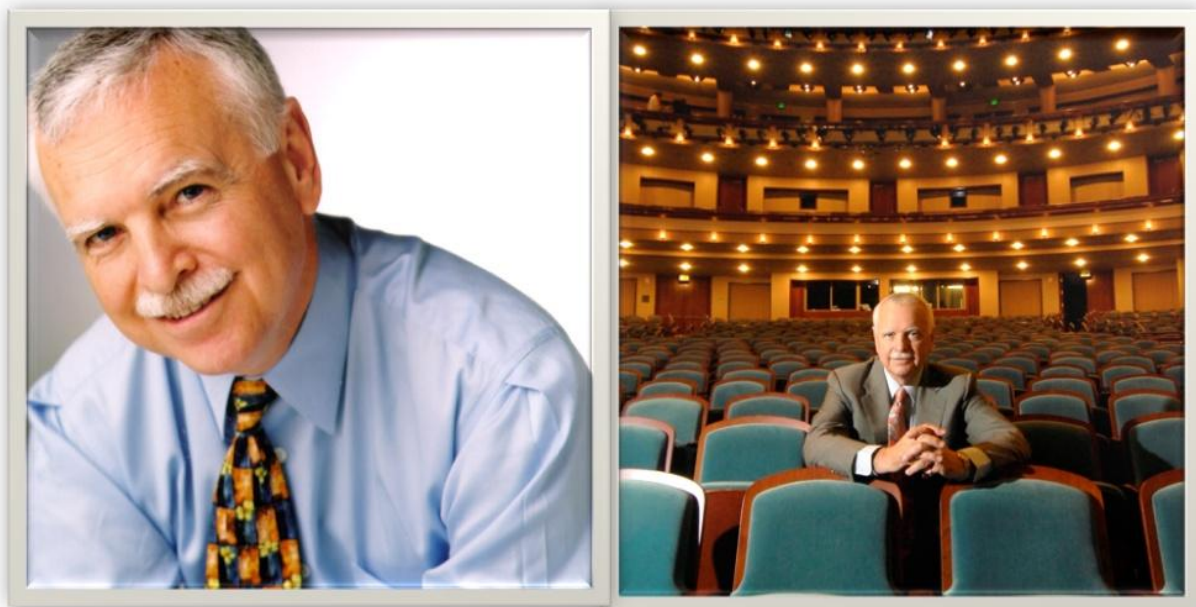
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BIOGRAPHY

Florida Grand Opera General Director & CEO

ROBERT M. HEUER



Robert M. Heuer is the General Director and CEO of Florida Grand Opera (FGO). His opera management career began in Detroit as the Founding Managing Director of Michigan Opera Theatre. He joined Florida Grand Opera as Director of Production in 1979, became Assistant General Director in 1983 and became General Director in 1985. As General Director, Mr. Heuer led the effort to merge the Greater Miami Opera and The Opera Guild Inc. of Ft. Lauderdale, creating Florida Grand Opera in June 1994.

During Mr. Heuer's seasons as General Director and CEO, FGO has mounted 90 main-stage productions, including 25 operas never previously seen in South Florida. Among these productions are Richard Strauss' *Salome and Ariadne auf Naxos*; Britten's *The Turn of the Screw*; Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea*; Handel's *Julius Caesar*; Janacek's *Káťa Kabanová*; Marc Blitzstein's *Regina*; Bellini's *La sonnambula*; and the American premieres of Rossini's *Bianca e Falliero* and Ede Donáth's *Szulamit*, and the world premieres of Robert Ward's *Minutes till Midnight* and David Carlson's *Anna Karenina*.

Under Mr. Heuer's leadership, the Company has developed one of the most important young artist programs in the country with the purpose of providing a bridge for singers from the educational to the professional arena. The Company's Young Artist Studio is one of the most prestigious in the country, receiving over 700 applications from singers all over the world, seeking the eight coveted positions in the program.

Robert M. Heuer was at the forefront of the community effort to build The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County in downtown Miami. In addition, Mr. Heuer spearheaded the purchase of a 43,000 square foot site immediately across the street from the Ziff Ballet Opera House, which will accommodate the James Byrd Anderson, Jr. Opera Center. The Anderson Opera Center will house the Company's rehearsal studios, production office and studios, costume shop, artist apartments, administrative offices, and a 485-seat theater.

Mr. Heuer is currently serving as a board member of OPERA America; Mr. Heuer has also served both as Chairman and panel member for the Opera/Music Theatre Challenge Grant Program and Opera/Music Theatre Grants Panel of the National Endowment for the Arts, and as a member of the State of Florida Music Grants Review Panel. In 1988, the Florida Commissioner of Education appointed him to the Florida Alliance for Arts Education, which is an affiliate of the National Education Program at the Kennedy Center. In 1990, the Republic of Austria awarded him the Grand Decoration of Honor in recognition of his commitment to producing the operas of Mozart. In 2001, he was recognized with the Narot Humanitarian Award presented by Temple Israel of Greater Miami. In 2007, he was awarded the Arts Management Excellence Award by the Arts and Business Council for his outstanding achievement in the management of a local arts organization.

A native of Detroit, Mr. Heuer received his Bachelor of Arts in Speech/Theater from Wayne State University.

About Florida Grand Opera

Florida Grand Opera was formed in June 1994 by the merger of Greater Miami Opera, founded in 1941, and The Opera Guild Inc., of Fort Lauderdale, founded in 1945. Celebrating its 71th year of continuous performances during the 2011-2012 season, Florida Grand Opera stands as one of the oldest performing arts organizations in Florida. In addition to producing standard repertoire, Florida Grand Opera also presents lesser known operas, as well as commissions and produces new operas – all productions featuring projected translations in English and Spanish. Annually, main stage performances are attended by nearly 70,000 people, and education and outreach programs serve over 20,000 members of the community. FGO offers several highly successful outreach and educational programs, including its internationally-recognized Young Artist Studio.

Florida Grand Opera, recognized for funding by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Funding is also provided, in part, by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, Cultural Affairs Council, the Mayor and the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners and the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council. Program support is provided by the City of Miami Beach, Cultural Affairs Program, Cultural Arts Council. Florida Grand Opera is a Resident Company of the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County and a member company of OPERA America.

American Airlines is the Official Airline, Intercontinental Miami is the Official Hotel and Steinway & Sons is the Official Piano of Florida Grand Opera. For more information on Florida Grand Opera, visit us at www.FGO.org.

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