

Opera Odyssey™ 2



Seven Night Alaska Cruise • August 29 – September 5, 2009

Join Dazzling Mezzo-Soprano Joyce Di Donato
Along with Composer-Pianist Jake Heggie and Musicologist James M. Keller



DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
SATURDAY, AUG 29	SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	—	4pm
SUNDAY, AUG 30	AT SEA	—	—
MONDAY, AUG 31	JUNEAU, ALASKA	11am	9pm
TUESDAY, SEPT 1	HUBBARD GLACIER CRUISING	1pm	6pm
WEDNESDAY, SEPT 2	SITKA, ALASKA	8am	5pm
THURSDAY, SEPT 3	KETCHIKAN, ALASKA	7am	1pm
FRIDAY, SEPT 4	VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA	6pm	
SATURDAY, SEPT 5	SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	7am	—



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Our Program at a Glance

BON VOYAGE COCKTAIL PARTY

Saturday, August 29

[Aft Pool Area (weather permitting)]

(6pm–7pm)

Pick up our latest Program Guide, allow our illustrious staff to introduce themselves to you, and meet your fellow Opera Odyssey attendees. Open bar and hot hor d'oeuvres served!

Musing on Mezzos [Wajang]

Sunday, August 30

Speaker: James M. Keller

(9am–10am)

The mezzo-soprano voice has enjoyed a curious and quirky history through four centuries of opera. Join James M. Keller and see how this voice-type evolved as an outgrowth of social assumptions and musical aspirations, how the idea of a “mezzo-soprano” was defined by certain key singers, how roles were composed to reflect the strengths of various types of mezzo-sopranos, and how the concept of a mezzo-soprano continues to evolve today.

Opera Odyssey 2

Call forth your operatic soul under a canopy of northern light. Gracefully glide along Alaska's Inside Passage on Opera Odyssey, where the majesty of nature meets the glorious spirit of the vocal arts.

The brilliant mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, visionary composer and pianist Jake Heggie, and authoritative musicologist James M. Keller invite you to accompany them for a program of recitals, lectures, and social events on Holland America's ms Amsterdam, sailing roundtrip from Seattle August 29 – September 5, 2009.

Mr. Keller will unfurl four centuries of voice and vocal style for you, guide you into the world of the modern American opera singer, and unravel the process of a twenty-first century American composer. Settle into our intimate performance venue, and you'll be captivated by two exclusive recitals by Ms. DiDonato and Mr. Heggie: "Songs and Arias," featuring Old and New World Latin music interspersed with classic songs and arias; and "Cabaret," a celebration of American song that touches upon Copland, Gershwin, Kern, Sondheim, and Jake Heggie. On our exclusive land-based evening outing, engulfed by Victoria's pastel twilight, you'll learn about the real Victoria — the city's lovely homes, gardens, and history. Stroll through history at The Royal Theatre, a designated site of national artistic significance. You'll enjoy the privilege of dining on stage, a venue that has hosted the likes of Bernhardt, Montoya, Baryshnikov, and Pavarotti.

Inhabit the dynamic world of contemporary opera on this journey to The Great Land. Please join the Metropolitan Opera Guild and InSight Cruises on an effervescent opera adventure!

Pre-Recital Talk [Wajang]

Speaker: James M. Keller

Sunday, August 30

(2pm–3pm)

Set the scene for Ms. DiDonato's classical recital. James M. Keller will illuminate this classical program with historical, regional, and musical insights. Absorb the contexts, vocal challenges, and characters that make the art of "Songs and Arias" enthralling!

High Tea [Main Dining Room]

Enjoy High Tea with our group in a private area. We top of the experience with French Champagne!

Sunday, August 30

(3pm–4pm)

CLASSICAL RECITAL [Main Show Lounge]

Performers: Joyce DiDonato and Jake Heggie

Sunday, August 30

(4:30pm–6pm)

Joyce DiDonato casts a spell transporting us to classical Europe, Iberia, and Latin lands around the world. Wrap yourself in a festive, warm, luscious portrait composed of canciones, songs, and arias — all brought to life by Ms. DiDonato's thrilling technical facility, tonal beauty, and artistic integrity.

Q&A with Joyce and James [Main Show Lounge]

Speakers: Joyce DiDonato and James M. Keller

Monday, August 31

(9am–10am)

Listen in as mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato speaks with James M. Keller about her skyrocketing career, some of the roles for which she is noted, her experience with recent trends in opera production, and the concept of the "American voice," offering an up-close look into the world of the modern American opera singer.

Singing Rossini [Wajang]

Speaker: James M. Keller

Tuesday, September 1

(9am–10am)

James M. Keller traces the history of vocal style from the late-eighteenth century through the period of Rossini in the first several decades of the nineteenth century. Documentary evidence and early recordings may reveal more than you might expect possible about the vocal style of two centuries ago and may suggest ways in which singers today can untangle the secrets harbored in the operas of this era.

PARTY! [Crow's Nest]

All invited!

Tuesday, September 1

(6:30pm–7:30pm)

Open bar and hot hor d'oeuvres served!

Q&A with Jake and James [Wajang]

Speakers: James Heggie and James M. Keller

Wednesday, September 2

(6pm–7pm)

Take in an exchange between James M. Keller and the composer-pianist Jake Heggie. They will consider Heggie's career, his musical ideals, some of his most noteworthy compositions, and the challenges and rewards of being an American composer in the twenty-first century.

Pre-Recital Talk [Wajang]

Speaker: James M. Keller

Thursday, September 3

(2pm–3pm)

Begin your countdown to cabaret with this convergence of music, history, and scholarship with James M. Keller. Immerse yourself in the historical, cultural, and compositional underpinnings of the uniquely American vocal art that comes to life in Ms. DiDonato and Mr. Heggie's cabaret recital.

CABARET RECITAL [Main Show Lounge]
Performers: Joyce DiDonato and Jake Heggie

Thursday, September 3
(4:30pm–6pm)

Get in the mood for an interlude of fun — picture a mic stand, bar stool, sequins, and a whiff of va-va-voom. Join Joyce DiDonato and Jake Heggie as they lean toward the lighter side and offer a unique American perspective on the vocal arts. Ranging from searching and thoughtful to cool, suave, and sophisticated, and from Copland and Heggie to Gershwin, Kern, and friends — a dynamic evening of sparkling cabaret awaits you!

PARTY! [Crow’s Nest]
All invited!

Thursday, September 3
(6:30pm–7:30pm)

Open bar and hot hor d’oeuvres served!



THE GRAND FINALE:
**City Tour and Dinner at the
Royal Theatre in Victoria**

Friday, September 4
(6:30pm–10:30pm)
[meet 5:45pm in the Wajang]

Experience the essence of Victoria, capital of British Columbia, in a gracious evening outing. The evening begins with a deluxe motorcoach tour of the famous landmarks of the city, narrated by an expert Victoria tour guide. You'll learn about the real Victoria — "the city," lovely homes, gardens, and some of the fascinating history behind famous landmarks such as the Empress Hotel, Chinatown, and Antique Row.

After our city tour you will arrive at the home of the Victoria Symphony and Pacific Opera Victoria, the landmark Royal Theatre. Here, enjoy the finest of culinary offerings on your exclusive dining platform, the Theatre's stage! Regional delicacies, a classical trio, Rococo/Renaissance Revival style decor and the company of kindred spirits come together to create a memorable farewell evening!

The Metropolitan
Opera Guild