

## **Timothy Myers**

One new face you are sure to see around town during the 2018-2019 Season is Timothy Myers, who recently joined Austin Opera as its Artistic Advisor. In this capacity, Maestro Myers assists General Director & CEO Annie Burrige on casting, season planning, and orchestra administration to ensure the continued artistic excellence of the company. Myers will also conduct Austin Opera's production of the opera *Silent Night* in January and February 2019.

Myers has already hit the ground running, working to fill key orchestra vacancies in the spring and helping round out the singers cast in the season's upcoming productions. He looks forward to working with the gifted musicians of the Austin Opera Orchestra and is particularly excited about bringing *Silent Night* to Austin. "It's such a fantastic piece," he says. "Audiences will love how lush and melodic the music is, and what a moving and inspiring story it tells. It's not what most people expect from contemporary opera."

He should know – Myers is an experienced collaborator in the creation of new works, having conducted world premieres at Houston Grand Opera, Washington National Opera, Fort Worth Opera, and Opera Africa, to name a few. After leading the performances of *Silent Night* in Austin, he will head to Minnesota Opera to conduct the world premiere of *The Fix*, composer Joel Puckett and librettist Eric Simonson's new opera about the 1919 Chicago White Sox scandal. He is also currently involved in the development of *Intimate Apparel*, Ricky Ian Gordon and Lynn Nottage's new commission for the Metropolitan Opera.

Myers recently concluded his nearly decade-long tenure as the Artistic and Music Director of North Carolina Opera, where he was credited for raising the level of the orchestra to new heights and for adding many significant works to its repertory, including a milestone presentation of many Wagner classics, a first for the region. While Myers will continue to keep his base of operation in Raleigh, his burgeoning international career will take him the world over in coming seasons, including a debut next summer leading *The Pearl Fishers* at the prestigious Santa Fe Opera. Fortunately, his wife Christina and young daughter Lilla often join him on the road. "I love having my family with me when I'm working," he says. "They keep me busy and remind me there is life to enjoy beyond the score!"

Another thing sure to keep Myers busy during his time in Austin: food. "I am a passionate foodie," he admits. "If I didn't go to conservatory I would have surely gone to culinary school." Myers looks forward to exploring the city's famous restaurant scene and to bringing the creativity of local chefs into his own work into the kitchen. "I love being inspired by local chefs and how they interpret a city's unique flavors in their dishes. Chefs and conductors are a lot alike in that way!"

The food world's loss is certainly the opera world's gain, as Austin is about to discover.

– Michael Solomon