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THE
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On **November 25** the Santa Fe Opera presents the free digital premiere of ***The Pueblo Opera Program: And What Could Be Next***, directed by **Beverly R. Singer** of **Santa Clara Pueblo** and produced by the **Pueblo Opera Cultural Council** in collaboration with the Santa Fe Opera

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Santa Fe, NM – The Santa Fe Opera is pleased to present the **free digital premiere** of ***The Pueblo Opera Program: And What Could Be Next***, a documentary directed by **Beverly R. Singer** of **Santa Clara Pueblo**. Produced by the **Pueblo Opera Cultural Council** (POCC) in collaboration with the Santa Fe Opera, the film chronicles the 50-year history between the Santa Fe Opera and the Pueblo and Tribal Nations of New Mexico and how its innovative programming has inspired Pueblo and Tribal youth to learn about opera, attend performance rehearsals and perform at the Santa Fe Opera. From **November 25** through **December 31, 2024**, the film will be available to stream for **free** at www.santafeopera.org and the company's [YouTube channel](#). The film premiered in July 2023 at the **Lensic Performing Arts Center** and in October 2023 was a featured selection at the **Santa Fe International Film Festival**. **The November 25 digital premiere marks the first opportunity for the public to view the film virtually.**

The documentary explores the program's future, including initiatives to expand its reach to more communities and engage a wider audience in the power of opera as a tool for cultural exchange and understanding. Says opera director **Peter Sellars**, "Fifty years is probably a second and a half, but it's also a time a child grows up and becomes an adult and leader of a community. It's a human span and it's a generation...by the age of 50 ready for a larger responsibility, a larger emotion, a larger imagination of what could be next."

Support for *The Pueblo Opera Program: And What Could Be Next* is generously provided by the **Hankins Foundation, Inc.**, Principal Sponsor of Education at the Santa Fe Opera; **PNC Foundation**; a Civic Practice Grant from **OPERA America's** Opera Fund; and **Newman's Own Foundation**, in memory of Arthur Newman.

[Watch the trailer](#) for *The Pueblo Opera Program: And What Could Be Next*.

About the Pueblo Opera Program

The Santa Fe Opera's 2023 Season marked the 50th anniversary of the Pueblo Opera Program. Since 1973, more than 100,000 children and families from New Mexico's 23 Sovereign Nations have attended the Santa Fe Opera. The Pueblo Opera Program thrives on the shared value and belief in the power of storytelling. It is led by an advisory council that includes many past participants and Tribal Elders from around the state. Over the years POP members have participated in **Youth Nights**, student-produced operas, fashion shows, and the historic offering of a corn dance before and during performances of *Doctor Atomic* in 2018.

About the Pueblo Opera Cultural Council

In the 2018 Festival Season, audiences at the opera experienced an unprecedented and historical expression of community as members of **San Ildefonso Pueblo**, Santa Clara Pueblo and **Tesuque Pueblo** joined together to offer a corn dance before and during performances of *Doctor Atomic*. All involved wished to continue to explore opportunities to work together. The work began with a series of gatherings that resulted in the formation of the Pueblo Opera Cultural Council, composed of seven members from three Pueblos: **Antoinette Herrera**, Santa Clara Pueblo; **Leon Roybal**, San Ildefonso Pueblo; **Claudene Martinez**, San Ildefonso Pueblo; **Andreemina Harvier**, Santa Clara Pueblo; **Andrew Jordan Harvier**, Santa Clara Pueblo; **Marita Hinds**, Tesuque Pueblo; **Renee Roybal**, San Ildefonso Pueblo. Their mission is to share their living indigenous cultural existence through knowledge of prayer, dance, song, music and art.

For Calendar Keepers

The Pueblo Opera Cultural Council and the Santa Fe Opera present the digital premiere of *The Pueblo Opera Program: And What Could Be Next*. This documentary details the long-standing history between the pueblos and the opera and how their programs can further articulate cultural connections in the future.

What: Free digital screening of *The Pueblo Opera Program: And What Could Be Next*

When: Premieres **Monday, November 25, 2024 at 7 pm MT**. Available through December 31, 2024.

Where: www.santafeopera.org or youtube.com/@thesantafeopera

About The Santa Fe Opera

Recognized as "Festival of the Year" at the **International Opera Awards**, the Santa Fe Opera annually draws 85,000 people from New Mexico and around the globe. Nestled atop a mountain vista in northern New Mexico, the company's iconic **Crosby Theatre** is open on three sides, allowing visitors to enjoy performances complemented by the elements. Since 1957 the company has presented over 2,000 performances of 180 operas by 92 composers spanning five centuries of opera, creating a legacy of 45 American premieres and 19 world premieres.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility at the Santa Fe Opera

Opera has the power to speak truth, broaden perspectives and invite empathy. The Santa Fe Opera is committed to the continuous work of becoming an antiracist and anti-oppressive organization and incorporating the principles of equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility. Our goal is to create a joyful and engaging environment in which a diverse community of artists, staff, volunteers and audiences alike belong.

The mission of the Santa Fe Opera is to advance the operatic art form by presenting ensemble performances of the highest quality in a unique setting with a varied repertory of new, rarely performed, and standard works; to ensure the excellence of opera's future through apprentice programs for singers, technicians and arts administrators; and to foster an understanding and appreciation of opera among a diverse public.

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