

THE HARVARD CLUB OF SARASOTA www.SarasotaHarvardClub.Org

PRESENTS Our December 2015 Luncheon Friday, Dec. 11, 2015 - 11:30 am-1:30 pm



Featuring: RICHARD RUSSELL Executive Director, Sarasota Opera Please RSVP at <u>SarasotaHarvardClub.org</u>



Sarasota Opera, currently in its 57th consecutive season of bringing world class opera to the southwest Florida Gulf Coast, consistently garners international attention as one of the few places in the world to experience rarely performed operatic works. Under the artistic leadership of Victor DeRenzi since 1983, with Richard Russell as its Director of Marketing from 2005-2010 and Executive Director since 2012, the opera consistently distinguishes itself as one of the premiere opera companies in the world by finding innovation through tradition, including robust programming and special performances that have ensured Sarasota Opera's continued growth and success.

Perhaps best known as "Verdi's American Home," Sarasota Opera continues to garner international attention through its **Masterwork Revivals Series**, which presents neglected works of artistic merit, and its **Verdi Cycle**, a 28-year commitment to performing all the works of Verdi by 2016. The opera's upcoming 2016 Winter Opera Festival marks the conclusion of Verdi Cycle with performances of Verdi's *The Battle*

of Legnano and Verdi's Aida, which will make Sarasota Opera the only company in the world to have performed all of the music of Giuseppe Verdi. Sarasota Opera's 2015-2016 festival season, in addition to completing the works of Verdi, also includes Puccini's La bohème, Mozart's Cosi fan tutte, and Beethoven's only opera Fidelio.

Sarasota Opera currently is one of just nine opera companies in the U.S. that owns its own performance facility. Originally built as a movie and vaudeville theater in 1926, the Sarasota Opera House underwent a \$20 million top-tobottom renovation and restoration in 2008, making it "one of the finest venues for opera in America," according to the prestigious Musical America. The intimate scale of the theater (with 1,119 seats) and its excellent acoustics make it the perfect place to experience the magic of opera.

Join us on Dec. 11, 2015 for an enlightening talk with Richard Russell as he discusses Sarasota Opera's current innovative programs and bright future bringing opera to the Greater Sarasota Area and Beyond!!

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 DECEMBER 2015 LUNCHEON with RICHARD RUSSELL, SARASOTA OPERA Friday, Dec. 11, 2015 11:30 am – 1:30 pm MICHAEL'S ON EAST
MY NAME:Degree/Program & Year
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Here's my check for # of Reservations for Alumni + Guests @ \$28 each = \$ (Total)
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