

Unprecedented Access: Seattle Opera Hosts Community Sing-Along | CultureMob

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by Gemma Alexander | 09/05/12 |

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2003 production of Fidelio © Rozarii Lynch

On October 13, Seattle Opera will present *Fidelio*, Beethoven's only opera. In a year that has seen [musicians jailed](#) for political speech in Russia, and with a presidential election looming in the U.S., the story's themes of political action, personal sacrifice in the fight against injustice, and ultimately, the power of the masses to effect political change, couldn't be more timely.

On September 12, Seattle Opera is inviting up to 50 members of the community to join a rehearsal of the finale, in which prison walls are broken down, citizens rejoice in a tyrant's downfall, and celebrate freedom, courage, and love. Guest Chorus Master John Keene and members of the Seattle Opera Chorus will spend an hour teaching participants to sing the opera's finale before the group will join the full 58-person chorus in singing the final chorus. Participating singers will also hear from General Director Speight Jenkins, who will introduce *Fidelio* and discuss the significance of its conclusion. Following the sing-along, participants are invited to stay and observe an hour of chorus rehearsal.

Fifty spots are available on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve your spot, send an email with your name and contact

information to education@seattleopera.org immediately. The first 50 participants will receive a confirmation, with digital copies of study materials including music and a pronunciation guide (the opera is sung in German). Participation is free, and no prior experience is necessary.

Just the Facts:

When: Wednesday, September 12, 2012, from 5:30 p.m. to approximately 8:30 p.m.

Where: Seattle Opera Rehearsal Studio, 200 Terry Ave. N in South Lake Union. Limited street parking is available; location is near the Terry & Thomas stop on the South Lake Union Streetcar.

How to Sign Up: Email education@seattleopera.org with your name and contact information.