

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Yuval Sharon and Michigan Opera Theatre Announce
Additional Performance of
Sold-out "Twilight: Gods" in Detroit**

Oct. 21

DETROIT, Oct. 9, 2020 - In light of overwhelming demand, Michigan Opera Theatre (MOT) has announced an additional performance of Gary L. Wasserman Artistic Director Yuval Sharon's "Götterdämmerung" adaptation, "Twilight: Gods." The Oct. 21 performance will join the previously-announced Oct. 17, 18, and 20 performances that sold out within 32 hours of the first announcement. A limited number of tickets for "Twilight: Gods" will be available to the general public for purchase online beginning at noon on Monday, Oct. 12. Tickets are \$79 per car.

"The unprecedented demand for tickets to this unique opera presentation in the Detroit Opera House Parking Center serves as an early indication of the public's response to the new and engaging creativity that Yuval Sharon brings to MOT and our community," says MOT President and CEO Wayne S. Brown.

Conceived and directed by Sharon, "Twilight: Gods" is a site-specific adaptation of Richard Wagner's "Götterdämmerung" – "the Twilight of the Gods" – staged in the Detroit Opera House Parking Center. Inspired as much by the brutal utilitarianism of the parking facility as the safety precautions of the coronavirus era, "Twilight: Gods" transforms Wagner's six-hour masterpiece into an hour-long series of scenes with live singers and members of the MOT orchestra performed in intervals throughout the

Parking Center. Equal parts drive-in theater and opera house event, "Twilight: Gods" gives audience members the opportunity to watch Wagner's drama unfold scene-by-scene from the safety of their cars, while the live performance (sung in English) is broadcast to car stereos—a full immersion in the world of the Ring. Leading American soprano Christine Goerke stars as Brünnhilde.

Each scene of "Twilight: Gods" will be accompanied by original narrative verse by Detroit-based poet Marsha Music. The final work in Wagner's "Ring" cycle, "Götterdämmerung" is, at its essence, about the dismantling of a corrupt old order and the establishment of a new beginning. Beyond linking the scenes of the abbreviated opera, Music's poetry recontextualizes the climactic unraveling of Wagner's cosmic mythos against the evolution of the city of Detroit.

"Twilight: Gods" is co-commissioned by MOT and Lyric Opera of Chicago. This spring, "Twilight: Gods" will take place in Chicago in a new staging by Sharon.

Last month, Sharon was named as MOT's first-ever Gary L. Wasserman Artistic Director, a five-year appointment made possible by a generous gift from MOT Board member Gary L. Wasserman. MOT, based in the historic Detroit Opera House, has long been an accessible venue for high-caliber performance while inspiring artistic investment and historical preservation in downtown Detroit. Sharon joins Brown as the leadership team for MOT going forward. Sharon begins his tenure with "Twilight: Gods"; the 2021-22 season, Sharon's first full season as artistic director, will be announced this spring.

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About Michigan Opera Theatre

Michigan Opera Theatre, one of the nation's most vibrant nonprofit arts organizations, is committed to presenting opera and dance of the highest artistic caliber. Founded in 1971 by Dr. David DiChiera, the company's mission is to serve as a major cultural resource to the state of Michigan and the city of Detroit. The organization is led by President and CEO Wayne S. Brown, the Gary L. Wasserman Artistic Director Yuval Sharon and Chairman of the Board Ethan Davidson. Visit the website at www.michiganopera.org.