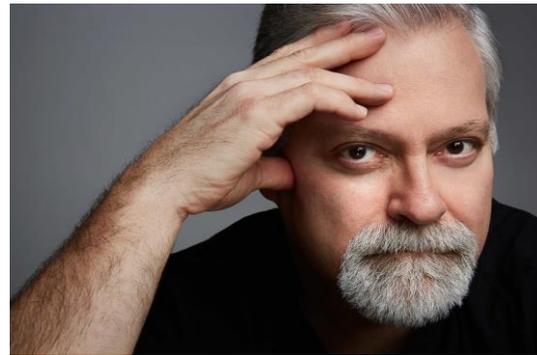


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## Daron Hagen and Peermusic Classical Announce Agreement for Eight Hagen Operas

***Representing the core of Hagen's theatrical catalogue, the works include five from 2008-2013 - already produced and available - and three forthcoming operas.***



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Daron Hagen and Peermusic Classical announced today that their agreement embraces ***Amelia, A Woman in Morocco, New York Stories, I Hear America Singing***, and the magic opera ***Little Nemo in Slumberland*** ([snapshots here](#)), as well as the forthcoming operas ***9/10, The Deputy***, and ***Orson***.

Daron Hagen's operas capture scenes from American life in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, from bearing witness to the tragedies of Vietnam (*Amelia*) and human trafficking (*A Woman in Morocco*), to more intimate portraits of life in New York City, both domestic (*New York Stories*) and artistic (*I Hear America Singing*). Collaborators have included William Burden, Ken Cazan, Robert DeSimone, Jonathan Eaton, Robert Frankenberry, Barbara Grecki, Nathan Gunn, Paul Kreider, Kate Lindsey, J.D. McClatchy, Gardner McFall, Paul Muldoon, Robert Orth, Stephen Osgood, Buck Ross, Gerard Schwarz, and Stephen Wadsworth. Key productions include Seattle Opera, Moores Opera Center (*Amelia*); Kentucky Opera, Butler Opera Center (*Morocco*); Sarasota Opera, UK Opera Theater (*Nemo*); Madison Opera, Opera Theater Pittsburgh, Chicago Opera Theater (*Shining Brow*); Nevada Opera Theater, Butler Opera Center (*Bandanna*); Opera Theater Ireland, Center for Contemporary Opera, West Edge Opera (*Vera of Las Vegas*); Eugene Opera, Boston Opera Underground, Chicago College of Performing Arts, USC Opera, Long Leaf Opera (*New York Stories*).

His forthcoming operas include *The Deputy*, "an opera in the form of a mass" based on Rolf Hochhuth's searing play (adapted by Hagen and Grecki); *Orson*, "a prestidigitation in one act" taking place in Orson Welles' mind that will never be performed the same way twice; and *9/10*, "six New Yorkers on the verge of destiny," a site-specific opera for six singers and pre-recorded electro-acoustic soundscapes set over dinner in a restaurant in Little Italy the night before the collapse of the Twin Towers.

Of the new agreement, Daron Hagen said: "Partnering with Todd Vunderink and the Peermusic Classical team will allow me to concentrate more intensely and devotedly on bringing to the stage the innovative, post-genre, inter disciplinary opera-theater works I've been developing for years as a composer, director, and librettist with collaborative partners, confident that my theatrical catalogue is in good hands. I'm honored to join the ranks of the superb composers who rely on Todd and his staff for counsel and support."

Todd Vunderink, Vice President of Peermusic, said: "I have long admired Daron Hagen's operas and his entire oeuvre. I find him to be a composer of uncommon vision, especially in his ideas on the future of opera, and I am happy to find him to be personally as engaging as his music. We look forward to this exciting new venture and to helping disseminate these works."

"To say that **Daron Hagen** ([www.daronhagen.com](http://www.daronhagen.com)) is a remarkable musician," wrote Ned Rorem in *Opera News*, "is to underrate him. Daron is music." Commissioned by the New York Philharmonic, Seattle Opera, and Philadelphia Orchestra, among many others, he has been twice a Rockefeller Foundation fellow at Bellagio. His music has received the Guggenheim, Friedheim, ASCAP-Nissim, Barlow, and Bearn's Prizes;



Amelia, Seattle Opera Photo: Rozarii Lynch

he is also the recipient of the American Academy of Arts and Letters' Academy Award for "the artist who has achieved his singular voice. Hagen is a multi-faceted composer who does a first-rate job on anything concerning music—its creation, its performance, and its communicability. His remarkable and diverse music compositions include 9 operas, choral works, 5 symphonies, and chamber music. In addition, he is celebrated for his work as a conductor, artistic and stage director, and librettist." He taught at Bard, the Chicago Conservatory of Music, the Curtis Institute of Music, and the Princeton Atelier. A Lifetime Member of the Corporation of Yaddo, he attended the Curtis Institute and Juilliard, and now composes full time. He is married to composer Gilda Lyons, with whom he has two sons.

**Peermusic Classical**, based in New York and Hamburg, publishes the music of 20<sup>th</sup> century and contemporary composers from the Americas and Europe. Formed in 1948 as the classical division of what is now the world's largest independent publisher, Peermusic Classical, it is the home of Morten Lauridsen and Arturo Márquez, the composers, respectively, of the most frequently performed choral and orchestra works in the U.S. Daron Hagen's works will join Peermusic Classical's growing opera catalog, whose recent additions include four collaborations between John Musto and Mark Campbell, Mieczyslaw Weinberg's *The Passenger*, and operas by Mohammed Fairouz and Scott Wheeler.

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