

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

operamission will present 'Creating the Work: ANTINOUS AND HADRIAN' in New York August 28, 29, and September 7, 2013.

NEW YORK, New York (July 22, 2013) – Returning to the dynamic non-traditional format it originated in 2010 (with '*Così fan tutte*: Some Assembly Required'), **operamission** will present '**Creating the Work: *Antinous and Hadrian***' in collaboration with New York's **Queer Urban Orchestra** on Wednesday, August 28; Thursday, August 29, at 7:00 PM; and Saturday, September 7, at 4:00 PM at the Church of the Holy Apostles in Chelsea. This three-part miniseries will offer a complete reading of a new opera with full orchestra. Composer **Clint Borzoni** and librettist **Edward Ficklin** will join conductor **Jennifer Peterson** in bringing the audience through the process of creating a new full-length opera.

During each of the three sessions, 35-45 minutes worth of music will be rehearsed, examined, discussed, and performed by a gathering of professional musicians assembled for the first time. The format will allow the audience not only a glance at the rehearsal process, but also both the excitement and the honor of a first hearing of a new opera in the presence of the creators and the commissioning and developing organization.

Clint Borzoni and Edward Ficklin's ***Antinous and Hadrian*** tells the compelling story of the second century Roman emperor Hadrian and his love for the Greek youth Antinous {an-ti'-no-uhs}. It examines the mystery behind the tragic death of the young Antinous. Upon his death, the distraught Emperor declared his beloved a god. Drawing on both historical sources and dramatic imagination, Clint and Edward have crafted a new work in the grand opera tradition.

Tenor **Tommy Wazelle** as Antinous and bass **Cory Clines** as Hadrian will lead a cast of highly-acclaimed operatic artists. The cast will rotate each session. A number of the singers have been actively involved with operamission in workshoping scenes since its inception in 2008 as part of American Opera Projects' 'Composers & the Voice' workshop series.

operamission, bringing opera 'from the composer to the audience,' has established its artistic presence in the New York classical music scene, the current presentation being its nineteenth since March of 2009. Presenting works both of today and the past, **operamission's** productions have ranged from Handel opera with period instruments to cabaret to operatic world premieres. Also founded in 2009, the **Queer Urban Orchestra** is New York City's largest LGBT Orchestra.

The Church of the Holy Apostles is located at 296 Ninth Avenue, at 28th Street, in New York City, 10001. General admission is \$10, tickets available at the door or in advance through [Brown Paper Tickets](#).

The three sessions will be divided as follows: Wednesday, August 28 at 7:00 PM will cover the Prologue and Act I, scenes 1-4. Thursday, August 29 at 7:00 PM will cover the remainder of Act I (scenes 5-8). Saturday, September 7 at 4:00 PM will cover Act II.

Contact:

Jennifer Peterson – director, operamission
+1 917 520-3163

operamission@gmail.com or [twitter](#)

www.operamission.org

www.queerurbanorchestra.org

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