

# NYC's bright lights come to State College

By Courtney Warner  
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

State College is about to get a taste of New York City's fine arts.

From Oct. 9 to May 14, the State Theatre will show live telecasts of operas from New York City's Metropolitan Opera every Saturday.

Kristy Cyone, marketing and membership director of the State Theatre, 130 W. College, said she has high expectations for the upcoming series. Since the series began four years ago, Cyone said the opera broadcasts seem to be "extremely popular."

"Each year has shown a significant increase in attendance," Cyone said, adding that several performances last year nearly sold out.

The Met Opera season at the theater kicks off at 1 p.m. Saturday with Richard Wagner's "Das Rheingold." The mythical opera is about Wotan, "ruler of the gods," who must save the goddess Freia after spiteful giants kidnapped her, according to the Opera's website.

Discussions about the history of the operas will follow some performances to enhance people's understanding and appreciation of the presented work, Cyone said.

Former Penn State English professor Richard Gidez will lead the first discussion this season. Gidez said he hopes to emphasize the past productions of "The Ring" series, in which "Das Rheingold" is included.

"The overall cycle is a monumental 16-hour-long piece," Gidez said.

Cyone said the telecasts won't take away from the experience of live performances. For the past shows, she said it felt "as if everyone is part of the performance."

And some students said they are excited to be involved.

Corey Masklee (freshman-theater) said broadcasting the operas will be a convenient way to popularize opera within the college demographic.

Masklee, who attended a Metropolitan Opera performance in New York City, said he expects the upcoming performances at the State Theatre to be "magnificent."

Raquel Price, Class of 2002, who attended

## If you go

**What:** The State Theatre presents Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD presents "Das Rheingold"

**When:** 1 p.m. Oct. 9

**Where:** The State Theatre, 130 W. College Ave.

**Details:** Tickets for each show can be purchased at the State Theatre's box office and are \$24 for adults, \$22 for senior citizens and \$18 for students with an ID and children.

a previous telecast, said the theater gives individuals without the opportunity to see a New York production the chance to view an equal experience at a cheaper price.

"The State Theatre preserves the concept of an opera combining powerful drama and intensive music that takes you to a magical place. Opera is a fairytale for every person, no matter how old or young," Price said.



Courtesy of thestatetheatre.org

The Met Opera will be telecasted locally.

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