



## opera cleveland NEWS

### MAKING A MOVE

#### Opera Cleveland relocates to new warehouse

Jan. 20, 2010 - Moving thirty years of accumulation is a daunting task for anyone. Now imagine that history filling an entire warehouse. Opera Cleveland does not have to imagine this scenario; it is currently confronting a lifetime of "stuff" as it prepares to move warehouses within the city.

For approximately 28 years, Opera Cleveland (and its predecessor Cleveland Opera) occupied warehouse space in Tyler Village in the St. Clair- Superior neighborhood. As a producing theater company, the opera stores large stage sets, props, costumes as well as maintaining areas to build, modify and paint the elements that appear in productions.

The move is necessitated by the age and deteriorating condition of the current warehouse. Leasing company Graystone Properties plans to tear down the building and use the space for parking for Tyler Village.

Opera Cleveland's new warehouse, located at E. 49th St and Lakeside, boasts nearly the same square footage and offers significantly improved efficiency. The inclusion of a truck-high loading dock means stage sets, props and costumes won't be subject to Cleveland's fickle climate. With dedicated areas for props, costumes and electrics, the warehouse can function more efficiently.

These improvements are an asset to Opera Cleveland, of course. But other local theater companies will also benefit, as they routinely rent props, costumes and warehouse space to construct stage sets.

Another positive outcome of the move is the chance for Opera Cleveland to assess its belongings. Any items no longer of use will be donated to small local theater companies, including high school theater departments. Thus, the opera can help make it possible for theater groups to stage productions they might not have been able to do otherwise.

## About Opera Cleveland

Opera embraces its mission that opera is for everyone. We enrich the Northeast Ohio community by providing staged opera productions that emotionally connect each audience member to the drama and passion of opera. We also connect our educational resources to our public, neighborhoods and schools in a way that promotes an engaged and confident future audience.

For its 2010-11 season, Opera Cleveland splits open the human psyche. Madness, loyalty, corrupt jealousy, obsession and yearning all come into sharp focus through five titles, which comprise four dynamic evenings of opera. The season at the State Theatre in PlayhouseSquare includes *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *The Pearl Fishers*, *I Pagliacci/La voix humaine*, and *Werther*.

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