

OPERA

IN THE PARK PORTLAND

CRUZAR LA CARA DE LA LUNA

A MARIACHI OPERA

Music by José “Pepe” Martinez

Lyrics by José “Pepe” Martinez and Leonard Foglia

Book by Leonard Foglia

Commissioned by Houston Grand Opera

Premiered at Houston Grand Opera in September, 2010

Orchestrated by David Hanlon

Orchestration commissioned by Minnesota Opera

6:30pm July 24, 2026 Shute Park, Hillsboro

6:00pm July 26, 2026 Peninsula Park, Portland



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ARTIST PROFILES



OCTAVIO MORENO, *Baritone* - Laurentino

Octavio Moreno is a highly acclaimed Mexican-American baritone who created the role of Laurentino for the 2010 world premiere, and has performed signature roles such as the title role in *Rigoletto*, Tonio in *Pagliacci*, Marcello in *La Bohème*, and Zurga in *Les Pêcheurs de Perles*, among others. octaviomoreno.com



CECILIA DUARTE, *Mezzo-Soprano* - Renata

Cecilia Duarte is the “creamy-voiced” mezzo-soprano who created the role of Renata—performing it globally from Houston to Paris—and is both a dedicated champion of Spanish-language repertoire across genres and a licensed mental health practitioner serving the arts community. ceciliaduartemezzosoprano.com



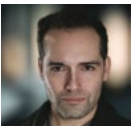
CÉSAR DELGADO, *Tenor* - Rafael

César Delgado is an internationally acclaimed Mexican tenor, whose recent highlights include joining the roster of the Metropolitan Opera and performing major roles with the National Opera Company of Mexico, Nashville Opera, and Opera Southwest. cesar-delgado.com



GEMANEREIDA BARRAGÁN CRUZ, *Mezzo-Soprano* - Lupita

Gemanereida “Gema” Barragán Cruz is a Portland State University Music Education student, award-winning classical alto, and national Mariachi Extravaganza finalist who performs with the PSU Chamber Choir.



ADRIAN ROSALES, *Baritone* - Mark

Adrian Rosales is a Portland-based baritone praised for his vibrant voice and charismatic acting, whose recent performances include leading roles with Portland Opera, OperaBend, and Cascadia Chamber Opera. adrian-rosales.art



ESTEBAN JOSÉ ZÚÑIGA-CALDERÓN, *Tenor* - Chuchó

Esteban José Zúñiga-Calderón is a Costa Rican-born tenor and voice faculty member at Willamette University and Linn-Benton Community College. He has appeared with Seattle Opera, the Oregon Bach Festival, and the National Lyric Company of Costa Rica among others. estebanz.com/en/



JUDY YANNINI, *Soprano* - Diana

Judy Yannini is a Mexican soprano with a rich North American performance career, whose recent highlights include performing as a soloist with The Arlington Chorale in their *Rejoice!* concert, premiering *For Women Serving Time*, and debuting at the Kennedy Center with IN Series. judyyannini.com



CHRISTIAN BAEFF, *Actor* - Víctor

Christian Baeff is an Argentine-born, Oregon-based actor whose diverse musical theater and dramatic stage credits span both North and South America, including acclaimed productions in Argentina and standout roles with Stumptown Stages and Pentacle Theatre. IG: [@thechristianbaeff](https://www.instagram.com/thechristianbaeff)



MOSES ESTRADA, *Child Actor* - Young Rafael

Moses Estrada is an enthusiastic eight-year-old Portland kid who loves performing, playing the violin, and singing with the Pacific Youth Choir, bringing a natural joy for music and storytelling to the stage. He loves film scores, especially *Jurassic Park* by John Williams.



NICHOLAS FOX - *Conductor*

Nicholas Fox is the Artistic Director of Opera in the Park Portland and recently led our hit summer presentations of *La Traviata* and *Carmen*. He also serves as Associate Music Director at Portland Opera. His recent engagements include New Orleans Opera, Oregon Ballet Theatre, and the Portland Chamber Orchestra.



JOSÉ “PEPE” MARTÍNEZ (1941–2016) - *Composer*

José “Pepe” Martínez was a legendary musician and the longtime Music Director of Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán whose signature compositional style and historic collaboration with Houston Grand Opera created *Cruzar la Cara de la Luna*, the world’s very first mariachi opera.



LEONARD FOGLIA - *Librettist*

Leonard Foglia is an acclaimed director and librettist whose extensive credits include directing hit Broadway productions, staging world-premiere operas, and writing a celebrated trilogy of mariachi operas—including *Cruzar la Cara de la Luna*—that have been performed across three continents.



DAVID HANLON - *Orchestrator*

David Hanlon is a celebrated composer, conductor, and pianist. A graduate of the HGO Studio and former Adler Fellow, he created the orchestration for *Cruzar la cara de la luna* and was deeply involved in the development of this modern masterpiece.

ORCHESTRA

1ST VIOLIN

Inés Voglar Belgique
Vijeta Sathyaraj
Aidan Ip
Jamie Chimchirian
Ainur Zabenova
Jennifer Estrin

2nd VIOLIN

Janet Dubay
Casey Bozell
Lily Burton
Hae-Jin Kim
Kirsten Norvell
Elizabeth Peyton

VIOLA

Hillary Oseas
Maia Hoffman
Dana Rokosny
Adam Hoornstra

CELLO

Kenneth Finch
Toni Gan
Jae Choi
Mario Bastea-Forte

DOUBLE BASS

Jason Schooler
David Parmeter

FLUTE

Sarah Tiedemann
Emily Stanek

OBOE

Victoria Racz
Nick Thompson

CLARINET

Todd Kuhns
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BASSOON

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CHORUS

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Kari Burgess
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Sterling Roberts
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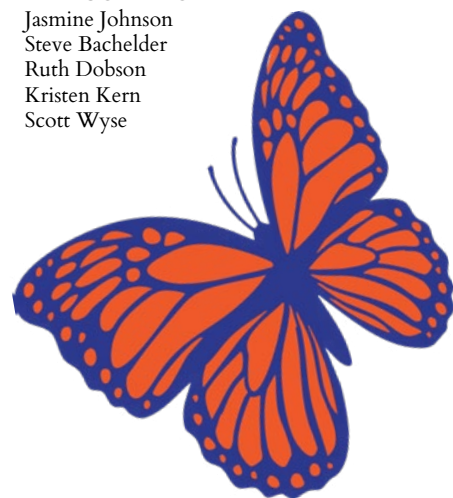
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ABOUT THE OPERA

Where is home? Is it where we are born? Or where we live most of our lives? Is it with the family we leave behind or with the new ones we create?

To Cross the Face of the Moon follows three generations of a single family, divided by countries and cultures.

As a Mexican-American man deals with the approaching death of his father, he is forced to face these questions about his own place in the world—straddling two cultures—as well as that of his immigrant father and his American daughter. As long-buried secrets are revealed, he finds himself dramatically re-evaluating his own understanding of what makes a family.

Like the Monarch butterflies that migrate every year to the birthplace of his father, the members of the Velásquez family must travel both physically and spiritually between Michoacán and Texas and look deep into their hearts before they learn where they truly belong.

By Leonard Foglia

CELEBRATE 24 YEARS OF OPERA IN THE PARK!

OPERA IN THE PARK Portland's mission is to enrich the cultural life of the Portland community by providing professional opera performances of high artistic quality to the public free of charge.

OPERA IS FOR EVERYONE!

OPERA IN THE PARK Portland has presented FREE opera to over 70,000 people in the metro area since 2003! For our two concert operas of *Cruzar La Cara De La Luna*, we are expecting over 10,000 people in the audience!

OPERA IN THE PARK Portland is a 501(c)3 and relies on donations from supporters like you.

PLEASE DONATE!

Visit our Information Tent to see how you can participate in bringing opera to everyone, Learn how to volunteer or donate to receive a hand-screen printed *Cruzar La Cara De La Luna*. A t-shirt or Opera in the Park canvas bag! Donor envelopes are available and credit cards are accepted. Or you can donate directly by scanning the QR code.

Opera in the Park Portland, PO Box 4084, Portland OR 97208
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Our grants depend on how many people we serve. Help us get those grants by filling out a survey and enter a drawing to win a S.M.O.C. Skincare gift box! Surveys can be found at the OPERA IN THE PARK Portland Information Tent or online. Survey closes at midnight, August 10. Winners will be notified on August 11th.



HELP US CONTINUE THE MAGIC OF FREE OPERA IN THE PARK!

All donations, large and small, make a difference. Please kindly consider making a gift on our website. The entire community thanks you!



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Thanks to you, this past year saw the highest number of donors in our 24-year history! Because our community of supporters grew so dramatically, we ran out of room in tonight's print program. We are profoundly grateful for every single gift. To view the full list of the incredible donors under \$100 who made this milestone possible, please visit operaintheparkportland.org/donate



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