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**NEWS RELEASE**  
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**FWOpera Announces Call for Submission for *Frontiers* 2018**

*Company seeks out works for further development and production through its sixth annual, critically lauded new works showcase.*

Fort Worth, TX - Fort Worth Opera (FWOpera) announced today a call for submissions for its sixth annual *Frontiers* showcase, to be held during the 2018 Fort Worth Opera Festival – April 27, 2018 – May 13, 2018. Launched during the company's 2012-2013 season, *Frontiers* remains one of the only programs world-wide that seeks out unproduced works by the finest up-and-coming composers and librettists from North, South, and Central America, and has been acclaimed for the opportunities it provides its winners. Composers and librettists whose works are selected as part of the *Frontiers* showcase gain valuable exposure for their works in a live performance environment while also taking part in unparalleled networking opportunities with industry professionals including artistic directors of other established opera companies, artist managers, classical music publishers, funding organizations, and conductors.

Composer and librettist teams whose works are selected for the 2018 *Frontiers* showcase will be in residence during the 2018 Festival where they will attend the showcase, participate in the final rehearsals of their work, and engage in discussions about their works with panelists and audience members. Selected composers and librettists will also receive feedback on their piece through private meetings with the *Frontiers* jury panel and will have a recording of their work provided to assist them further in their compositional process.

Building on the model established by the program's first five installments, the 2018 *Frontiers* showcase will continue in its goal of specifically seeking out works for future production in FWOpera's popular alternative venue series *Opera Unbound*, which shines a light on thought-provoking, contemporary works and lesser-known operatic gems. Each production features socially conscious and culturally-relevant topics presented in unconventional settings. To that end, the program's selection panel will include collaborative partners who will play a critical role in the long-term development of the *Frontiers* works and ensuring their future development.

Hailed as “one of the most significant music events of the year” by D Magazine, Fort Worth Opera’s *Frontiers* showcase has yielded numerous regional and world premieres since its inception. Commissioned by the American Lyric Theater, Patrick Soluri and Deborah Brevoort’s macabre, Edgar Allan Poe-inspired opera *Embedded* (*Frontiers* 2013) appeared during FWOpera’s 2016 Festival. This past season, Matthew Peterson and Jason Zencka’s critically-acclaimed, true crime opera *Voir Dire* (*Frontiers* 2014) proved to be a highlight of the company’s 2017 Festival.

Beyond North Texas, Robert Paterson and David Cote’s trio of comic, one-act operas, *Three Way*, premiered at Nashville Opera and BAM Fisher in 2017, and Opera Colorado will present the world premiere of Gerald Cohen and Deborah Brevoort’s true-life WWII romance, *Steal a Pencil for Me* (*Frontiers* 2016) during their 2018 season. Griffin Candey and Thom Miller’s delectable dark comedy, *Sweets by Kate* (*Frontiers* 2017), will receive its NYC premiere at the legendary Stonewall Inn in July of 2017 with OperaRox Productions. In January of this year, Clint Borzoni and John de los Santos’ erotic opera, *When Adonis Calls* (*Frontiers* 2015), was staged as part of Opera America’s 2017 New Works Forum.

Composers from the Americas (citizens or residents of North, Central, and South America, as well as associated territories) are eligible and invited to submit a composition via an online portal that will guarantee blind submission. Excerpts should be between 15-25 minutes in length and must not have been presented publicly except for workshop or school presentations. While the works may ultimately consist of grand scale personnel or orchestral forces, submitted selections may only utilize up to six singers. Only those that can be performed with solo piano accompaniment will be considered for the showcase; no additional electronic, percussion, acoustic instrument, or other equipment may be used.

A minimum of 15 minutes of the composition must be completed—although the selection does not need to be continuous—and can be in any language. Composers may only submit one work for the 2018 *Frontiers* showcase. Six to eight pieces will be selected and showcased. Composers and librettists must attend the rehearsal period and showcase during the 2018 Festival (May 2-11, 2018). Lodging and round-trip travel will be provided. Works not selected will not be automatically reconsidered for future showcases, however, these works may be submitted again for the 2019 program.

#### ***Frontiers* 2018 Submission Information:**

Applications must be submitted between June 7 and July 31, 2017.

Please contact Amanda Robie, Director of Artistic Operations at [frontiers@fwopera.org](mailto:frontiers@fwopera.org) for submission address and information. All application materials must be submitted electronically through the *Frontiers* web portal. Only 15-25 minutes of a composition will be considered. Submissions must include: Synopsis of the entire composition; Libretto and Piano/Vocal score of the excerpts (in order within the piece); English translation if the work is in another language. All materials submitted must have the composer and librettist names removed to ensure anonymity during the panel review. A non-refundable entry fee of \$25 U.S. is due upon submission. Payments will be made with the application submission online. Fort Worth Opera retains the right to select fewer than six works for the showcase. More details are available at <http://www.fwopera.org/operas/frontiers/>.