

# The Christmas Spider

BY CLINT BORZONI & JOHN DE LOS SANTOS

**JANUARY 6, 2024**  
**2:30 PM & 5:00PM**  
**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL**

# *A Letter from our Founding Executive Artistic Director*

Thank you so much for joining us this to celebrate the holidays, good fortune, love, and togetherness through this beautiful new opera *The Christmas Spider* by Clint Borzoni and John de los Santos. This opera has allowed us the opportunity to work with children who have developed a love for opera and a desire to be on stage performing. It's always a joy to work with and mentor young people and expose them to this wonderful art form, and we hope you enjoy the opera as much as we do. Wishing you all good fortune in the new year!



**Kathryn Frady**

Founder & Executive Artistic Director

## *Synopsis*

On a bitterly cold Christmas Eve, two poor children named Dymtro and Zoya play games together while they wait for their father, Federov, to return home from selling firewood. Their impatient landlady, Olha Petrina, comes to remind them that their rent is due, and she means to collect it. Federov returns, having sold hardly anything, and with nothing for Christmas dinner but dark bread. When Zoya cries over this, Federov reminds her that "We don't have much, but each other. Each other is so much." Although they have no gifts, the children convince their father to cut down a small tree to decorate their cottage. Federov brings in a sapling, which turns out to be home to a large spider. Although the children are afraid at first, the spider becomes their friend and takes part in a special Christmas miracle that reminds them all of the power of kindness and giving.

"The Christmas Spider was developed by The American Opera Project in their First Chance program."

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Kathryn Frady, Founding Executive Artistic Director  
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*Special Thanks to*

Ed & Kathy Baker  
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St. John's Cathedral Treble Choir & Cantors

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MARBLE CITY OPERA PRESENTS

# *The Christmas Spider*

BY CLINT BORZONI & JOHN DE LOS SANTOS

THE WORLD PREMIERE CO-PRODUCTION WITH OPÉRA LOUISIANE

Executive Artistic Director	Kathryn Frady
Conductor & Music Director	Brandon Coffey
Stage Director	Ivan Griffin
Costume Designer	Kyla Kazuschyk
Production Manager	Kayla Beard
Social Media Content Creator	Whitney Wells
Rehearsal Pianist	Dustin Lee
Children's vocal coach	Kayla Beard

**Zoya @ 2:30pm**

**Dmytro @ 2:30pm**

**Zoya @ 5:00pm**

**Dmytro @ 5:00pm**

**Federov**

**Ms. Petrina**

**Janessa Iusan**

**Andrew Collins**

**Amadea Kahler**

**Oscar Kahler**

**Charles Eaton**

**Kathryn Frady**

# CHORUS

## **Trebles:**

Blakelynn Adams

Adele Marie

Blake

Alex Bowden

Lucas Bowden

Simon Fowler

Lucas Humber

Elizabeth Overall

Marshall Smith

Caleb Tyrell

Ella Wolfe

## **Altos**

Harriet Bowden

Tracy Ward

## **Tenors**

Joe Fowler

Jon Humber

## **Bass**

Jason Overall

Daniel Spiotta

# ORCHESTRA

VIOLIN

**JEFF BRANNEN**

CELLO

**KATHRYN YORK**

FLUTE

**KELLY BACON**

PIANO

**DUSTIN LIN**

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