



**PRESENTS**

# THE ATLANTA OPERA LA CENERENTOLA



Photo by Brett Croomer/Houston Grand Opera.

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FIELD TRIP EDUCATOR GUIDE

# WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE OPERA

Many people have preconceived ideas about the opera. Read the truth behind some of the most popular opera myths and see if they answer some of your questions about the opera as well.

## MYTH #1: Opera is boring and stuffy.

Not true! Operas tell some of the most interesting, scandalous, and beautiful stories of all time. It's not unusual to find love triangles, murders, fatal illnesses, and messages from beyond the grave.

## MYTH #2: Opera is sung in a foreign language so I won't understand the story.

We can help! It is true that many operas, like *La Cenerentola*, are sung in languages other than English. This Atlanta Opera production will be sung in Italian. Since most people in our audience do not speak Italian, we project English translations called "supertitles" on the screen above the stage. This way, you can follow along even if you do not understand the language. You also can read the synopsis of the opera before you arrive. Knowing the story will also help you follow along.

## MYTH #3: I need to wear a tuxedo or a ball gown to the opera.

Some people like to dress up when they go to an opera performance, but there is no dress code to attend an opera. You will see people wearing everything from jeans to ball gowns. Dressing up can be a part of the fun of attending an opera performance but you should wear whatever makes you comfortable. The opera is a place for everyone.



Photo by Raifermen



If you like what you have seen and heard, let the performers know! It is okay to applaud at the end of songs, called arias, and at the end of a scene. If you really liked what you heard, call out "bravo" (to the men on stage), "brava" (to the women) and "bravi" (for all on stage). And of course, a standing ovation is always welcome!