

URBANARIAS

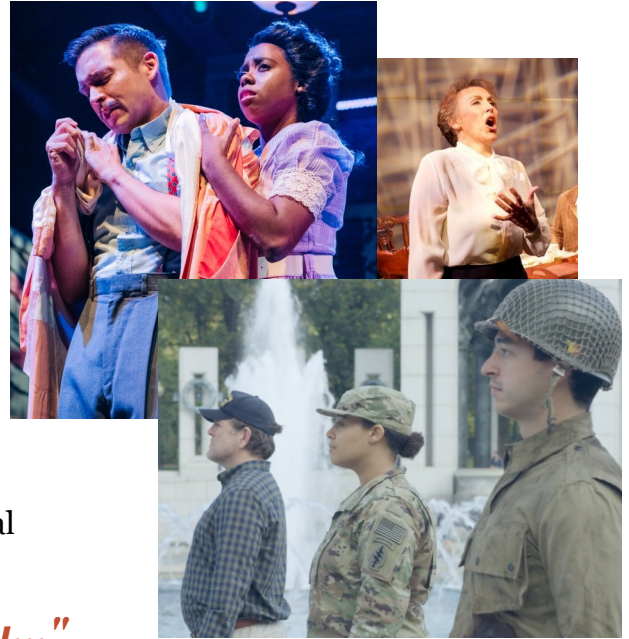
UrbanArias tells stories of modern relevance through the powerful medium of opera.

Founded in 2009 by conductor Robert Wood, UrbanArias is the **DC area's contemporary opera company** and has achieved national recognition for its innovative approach to a classic art form. By producing only **shorter works written in English**, UrbanArias focuses on compelling theater and sung stories in a format modern audiences can embrace.

Recently featured on **PBS Newshour** for the film *Unknown*, which honored the 100th anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, UrbanArias receives **regular acclaim** from national outlets like The Washington Post and New York Times.

"...a thought-provoking creative laboratory..."

- The Washington Post



WHAT'S NEXT:

Next up for UrbanArias is a **digital holiday album in collaboration with eight other opera companies** across the country, which will release in fall 2022, and which will feature soprano Melissa Wimbish and her band **OUTCALLS** in an original composition which is sure to be both beautiful and entertaining.



UrbanArias Founder and Artistic Director Robert Wood made his debut with the San Francisco Opera in 2004 with Verdi's *La traviata*, and has conducted at major opera houses across North America, including Minnesota Opera, Wolf Trap Opera, Opera Colorado, Vancouver Opera, and Austin Opera. Prior to founding UrbanArias, Maestro Wood was appointed Conductor in Residence at the Minnesota Opera, and held the position of Chorus Master at The Santa Fe Opera.

Soprano Melissa Wimbish enjoys a varied and eclectic career in opera, musical theater, rock opera, oratorio, and concerts. Her band, the "electronic opera queens" duo **Outcalls**, creates pop music that counters the tired narratives pervading much of today's popular songs. With compelling live shows that feature melodic and harmonic surprises, their voices can "tickle your ear hairs one second and shake your teeth the next."



DONATE

Your tax-deductible donation will support new opera in DC.
THANK YOU!

BY THE NUMBERS:

- **30** productions
- **13** world premieres
- **9** commissions

WATCH

Unknown—20-minute film honoring the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier