



Media Release

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**THE DALLAS OPERA RELEASES OPERA PARALLÈLE'S
EVEREST - A GRAPHIC NOVEL OPERA,
A NEW ORIGINAL FILM ON STREAMING PLATFORM
THE DALLAS OPERA.TV**

Available for Pay-Per-View/On Demand Viewing Beginning July 16

DALLAS and SAN FRANCISCO—The Dallas Opera (TDO) announces the addition of a new film to its streaming platform, [thedallasopera.TV](#), as part of its Originals collection. Available starting July 16, San Francisco-based Opera Parallèle's innovative film production of *Everest – A Graphic Novel Opera* is offered exclusively on [thedallasopera.TV](#) for a period of six months for pay-per-view/on-demand viewing. Subscriptions to the streaming service are not required for purchase.

Joby Talbot and Gene Scheer's one-act opera, *Everest*, was commissioned and given its world premiere by the Dallas Opera in 2015 under the baton of Nicole Paiement, who serves as TDO's The Martha R. and Preston A. Peak Principal Guest Conductor, as well as General and Artistic Director of Opera Parallèle. The graphic novel treatment of *Everest* is the first of its kind for an opera, and was created specifically for a virtual audience by Opera Parallèle's Creative Director Brian Staufenbiel, in collaboration with illustrator Mark Simmons and Director of Photography David Murakami.

“The Dallas Opera is thrilled to host *Everest - A Graphic Opera Novel*, as part of thedallasopera.TV,” said TDO’s The Kern Wildenthal General Director and CEO Ian Derrer. “We believe wholeheartedly in this piece and are proud to offer another opportunity for a broad audience to experience it. We are so pleased that our digital partnership with Opera Parallèle has resulted in bringing this work to life again in an innovative and creative way, under the baton of Nicole Paiement.”

Maestro Paiement said, “Opera Parallèle is all about telling remarkable stories in new ways and this idea of creating a new genre, the graphic novel opera film, expanded the company’s interdisciplinary way of making art. This unique concept explores the very notion of what opera can be beyond the traditional confines of the lyric theater stage and should resonate with the public. Helping us to accomplish this, I am so very pleased that we are collaborating with recognized industry leader, The Dallas Opera, and that they will host our new genre-bending approach to opera on their innovative digital platform.”

The cast for this film production includes Sasha Cooke (Jan Arnold), Nathan Granner (Rob Hall), Kevin Burdette (Beck Weathers), Hadleigh Adams (Doug Hansen), Matt Boehler (Guy Cotter, Mike Groom and Vocal Ensemble), Charlotte Fanvu (Meg Weathers), Shawnette Sulker (Vocal Ensemble), Whitney Steele (Vocal Ensemble), and Kevin Gino (Vocal Ensemble). Both Cooke and Burdette starred in TDO’s premiere of the staged production.

Everest - A Graphic Novel Opera is based on the documented 1996 Mount Everest disaster when eight climbers perished. Composer Joby Talbot and librettist Gene Scheer created the opera based on interviews with survivors of their ill-fated attempt to descend the summit of Mount Everest in the midst of a relentless blizzard.

The story takes place on May 10 and 11, 1996, and follows the fates of three expedition climbers, Rob Hall, Doug Hansen, and Beck Weathers. The opera’s scenes move between the climbers and their families at home, exploring both the cost of ambition and the collective hope

we derive from challenging ourselves in some of the world's most famous and unforgiving terrain.

The *Everest* creative team is led by Opera Parallèle's Director & Creator Brian Staufenbiel; Conductor Nicole Paiement; Illustrator Mark Simmons; Director of Photography David Murakami; Audio Engineer Miles Lassi; Project Manager Daniel Harvey; Assistant Conductor Jessica Bejarano; and Production Manager Tony Shayne.

Films in the Originals collection on thedallasopera.TV are offered at a pay-per-view price to all. *Everest - A Graphic Novel Opera* will be available for six months beginning July 16 for \$19.99 at thedallasopera.TV; subscriptions are not required to purchase. Video content on thedallasopera.TV is available via an app for mobile devices (iOS and Android), on smart TVs via Fire TV and Roku, and on the website for desktop/laptop users.

[About The Dallas Opera](#)

thedallasopera.TV is made possible through the McCasland Strategic Opportunities Fund with additional support by The Dallas Opera donor family.

SEASON SPONSOR

Mary Anne Cree, in memory of Rosine Smith Sammons

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[About Opera Parallèle](#)

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Note to journalists: To request a private link to review Everest and other content on the site at no cost, please contact:

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Watch the Making-of *Everest* as a Graphic Novel Opera: <https://youtu.be/O4smXsedwdQ>

Watch the *Everest* trailer: <https://youtu.be/Wcfg6cLK-Yc>