

It's a Wonderful Life Director Biography: Patrick Summers



American director Leonard Foglia made his San Francisco Opera debut with Jake Heggie's *Three Decembers* in 2008, and he returned to the Company in 2012 to direct Heggie's *Moby-Dick*. He made his Houston Grand Opera debut in 2004 directing the world premiere of Heggie's *The End of the Affair*, which he later directed for Seattle Opera and Madison Opera. Other opera credits include Heggie's *Dead Man Walking* for Opera Pacific, New York City Opera, and in Madrid, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and Detroit. He directed the world premieres of Heggie's *It's a Wonderful Life* at Houston Grand Opera, Jody Talbot's *Everest* at the Dallas Opera, Jennifer Higdon's *Cold Mountain* at the Santa Fe Opera, *Three Decembers* at Houston Grand Opera, and *Moby-Dick* at the Dallas Opera, which has also been seen at San Diego Opera, Calgary

Opera, and the State Opera of South Australia. Foglia's Broadway credits include Terrence McNally's Tony Award-winning *Master Class* (also on national tour and in London's West End); *On Golden Pond* (also at the Kennedy Center and on national tour); *Wait Until Dark*; *The People in the Picture*; and *Thurgood* this past season. Off Broadway he directed *The Stendhal Syndrome*, *One Touch of Venus*, *If Memory Serves*, *By the Sea*, *Lonely Planet*, and *Let Me Down Easy*. Foglia's other theater credits include *Unusual Acts of Devotion* (Philadelphia Theater Company); *Distracted* (Mark Taper Forum); *Things Being What They Are* (Bay Street Theater); *Paper Doll* and *The Secret Letters of Jackie and Marilyn* (Pittsburgh Public Theater); *Thurgood* (Westport Playhouse); *The Subject was Roses* (Kennedy Center); and *God's Man in Texas* (The Globe Theatres). As a librettist, his mariachi opera, *Curzar la Cara de la Luna (To Cross the Face of the Moon)* with music by Jose "Pepe" Martinez, received its premiere at Houston Grand Opera in 2010 and was

performed at the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris in the fall of 2011. He is co-author with David Richards of the mystery novels *1 Ragged Ridge Road*, *Face Down in the Park*, and *The Sudarium Trilogy: The Surrogate, The Son, and The Savior*.