

LA OPERA

SUPERNUMERARY APPLICATION

Please attach a CURRENT photo of yourself, full body pictures preferred.

Please fill out all information to the best of your ability to be considered for Supernumerary work with LA Opera. Your information will be added to our Supernumerary Database, and we will call or e-mail you to audition for appropriate roles.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Cell phone: _____ Home phone: _____

E-mail: _____

MEASUREMENTS:

Height: _____ Weight: _____ Shoe Size: _____ Inseam: _____

Chest: _____ Waist: _____ Hips: _____ Sleeve: _____ Circumference of head: _____

PREVIOUS SUPERNUMERARY WORK:

OTHER PRODUCTION WORK:

SPECIAL SKILLS / TALENTS (for example: stunt work, juggling, acting, acrobatics, puppetry, dance, playing a musical instrument, foreign languages):

PHYSICAL STATUS (circle yes or no)

Are you able to lift 20 pounds? Yes No

Can you stand for long periods of time? Yes No

Can you climb stairs easily? Yes No

Can you easily get into and out of a kneeling position? Yes No

How did you hear about us? (Friend, Website, Mailings, etc.) _____

Return this form with photo (and resume, if you have one) to:

**Gretchen Meyerhoefer, Manager of Chorus, Dancers and Supers
Los Angeles Opera, 135 N Grand Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90012**

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WHAT IS A SUPERNUMERARY?

Supernumeraries (Supers) are those lucky people you see on stage in your favorite operas who do not sing or speak, yet are an important part of the production. They take roles such as servants, soldiers, villagers, priests, courtiers, and sometimes even animals. It is the equivalent of “extra” in the motion picture and TV industries.

Supernumeraries are usually character artists who train under professional direction to create a believable scene. They are an integral part of the stage picture and give a sense of credibility to scenes where crowds, members of the royal court, wait staff, townsfolk, or a variety of characters are needed.

WHO CAN BE A “SUPER”? WHAT HAPPENS?

Supers sometimes have varying levels of experience. Some have no previous acting or performing experience, while others are professionals. The most important thing is the ability to take direction well and be prompt and reliable. Casting is generally based on a specific look or size, and often operas require more male supers than female.

Every Super hopes to get important roles with plenty of stage time, but it doesn't always work that way. Some of the super parts are very brief. Waiting is an essential part of preparing a production. You will eventually go on, no matter how long it seems to take in rehearsal. Once the show moves into performance, the waiting time is minimized.

WHY BE A SUPER?

Being a Super is fun! Supers have the opportunity to be in rehearsals, backstage and onstage and experience firsthand the excitement of creating live opera. Supernumeraries do their part out of love for the opera and the stage. They receive a brief mention in the program notes and a small amount of money for their time. Many Supers perform in opera after opera because they enjoy the excitement of being a part of what always becomes a beautiful production. Supers often have lavish costumes and sometimes wigs that are tailored for them. They also enjoy the chance to meet the cast and crew, interact with world-famous singers and directors, and become a part of the opera and supernumerary community.