UTAH SYMPHONY | UTAH OPERA

1983-1998 - Joseph Silverstein assumes the reins as Music Director of Utah Symphony.

1995 - Utah Opera establishes the Utah Opera Production Studios, moving its rehearsals and set and costume operations to a centralized location.

1996 - Utah Opera premiered its first commissioned opera, *Dreamkeepers*.

195-1973 - "Under the direction of Maurice Abravanel, Utah Symphony made first recordings of works by Varese, Milhaud, Honegger, Satie and a pioneering cycle of Mahler Symphonies that included the first commercial recording of the Eighth. The Orchestra has been nominated for Grammy Awards with both Maestro Abravanel (Le Roi David, Honegger – 1962; Sacred Service, Bloch – 1978; Symphony of Psalms, Stravinsky – 1979) and Michael Tilson-Thomas (Old American Songs, Copland – 1987)." Utah Symphony's recording legacy was recently rekindled by Keith Lockhart with the release of Symphonic Dances in 2005.

1980? - The Utah State Legislature, under the leadership of Haven Barlow, creates a line-item in the state budget to support the arts, and in particular, the Utah Symphony, which allows the organization to establish a 52-week season.

2001 - Renovations on the Production Studios are completed, making it one of the finest rehearsal and construction facilities in the country.

1976-1980 - Salt Lake County, in partnership with the LDS Church, builds Abravanel Hall and renovates the Capitol Theatre as part of the U.S. Bicentennial.

1946-1947 - Utah Symphony was officially established as a full-time, 26-week orchestra under Music Director Werner Janssen.

1966 - Utah Symphony's First international tour to Greece, Yugoslavia, Austria, West Germany, and England

1980-1983 - Varujan Kojian succeeded Abravanel as Music Director of Utah Symphony

2002 - USUO merges, becoming one of only two merged symphony and opera companies in the United States.

1940 1945 1950 1955 1960 1965 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005

1947-1949 - Maurice Abravanel serves as Music Director of Utah Symphony, establishing an internationally acclaimed reputation for the organization.

1949 - Utah Symphony narrowly averts dissolution through heroic efforts of Maestro Abravanel, the musicians, staff, and board, but reduces operations to a part-time schedule.

1972 - Glade Peterson returns from Milan, Italy, to Utah to establish Utah Opera.

1985 - Utah Opera Introduces the use of supertitles at every performance; at the time, the youngest regional company in America to do so.

2008 - Economic Recovery Plan concludes with most objectives reached, along with the finding of a new leader for the organization in Melia Tourangeau.

1978 - Utah Opera presents its opening performance of *La Bohème* at Kingsbury Hall.

1935-1940 - Utah State Symphony Orchestra was created as a WPA Orchestra under Roosevelt's New Deal, offering five concerts with 52 part-time musicians.

1978-1983 - Glade Peterson establishes Utah Opera as a series company by featuring and nurturing local talent and by hiring well-known opera stars to perform with the company. Roberta Peters thrilled audiences with her appearances in *La Traviata, Lucia di Lammermoor,* and *The Merry Widow*. Giorgio Tozzi Sang in *Turandot* and *The Barber of Seville*, and Martina Arroyo starred in *Madame Butterfly*.

2008 - A new era creates economic challenges and a Board of Directors dedicated to building a financial foundation that will thrive into the future.

1997-2008 - Keith Lockhart is named Music Director of Utah Symphony. During his tenure, Utah Symphony recorded and released a new CD and embarked on its 1st European tour in 19 years, visiting concert halls all over Germany and Austria, and was featured in a national PBS broadcast with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir performing the Ralph Vaughan Williams Christmas oratorio, *Hodie*.

2007 - Utah Opera presents the western United States premiere performance of *The Grapes of Wrath*, an opera co-commissioned/co-produced with Minnesota Opera.

2002 - Utah Symphony and Utah Opera present Cultural Olympiad performances and Utah Symphony performs for the opening and closing ceremonies of the XIX Olympic Winter Games.

2003 - The Deer Valley® Music Festival, a four-week, 6 days per week, festival is established, featuring pops, classical, chamber, and opera performances, as well as salon and education events.