

Opera Philadelphia *The Listeners* Press Gallery



- 1) *The Listeners*, a new opera by composer Missy Mazzoli and librettist Royce Vavrek, makes its American premiere in September 2024 with Opera Philadelphia.

Photo by Erik Berg



- 2) *The Listeners*, a new opera by composer Missy Mazzoli and librettist Royce Vavrek, makes its American Premiere in September 2024 at the Academy of Music.

Photo by Erik Berg



- 3) Soprano **Nicole Heaston** stars as Claire Devon, a middle-class mother living in a southwestern U.S. suburb, in *The Listeners*, a new opera by composer Missy Mazzoli and librettist Royce Vavrek.

Photo by Erik Berg



- 4) *The Listeners*, based on a story by Jordan Tannahill, received its world premiere at Norwegian National Opera in 2022 and makes its American Premiere to open Opera Philadelphia's 2024-2025 Season.

Photo by Erik Berg



- 5) Soprano **Nicole Heaston** stars as Claire Devon in *The Listeners*, a thriller about social rejection, suburban loneliness, and the role of charismatic leaders in society.

Photo by Erik Berg



- 6) Composer **Missy Mazzoli**, a graduate of Opera Philadelphia's Composer in Residence program, calls *The Listeners* "both a psychological thriller and an intimate portrait of modern family life."

Photo by Adam Olsson



- 7) *The Listeners* is the fourth opera written by librettist **Royce Vavrek** with composer Missy Mazzoli, having previously collaborated on *Song from the Uproar*, *Breaking the Waves*, and *Proving Up*. Their fifth opera, *Lincoln in the Bardo*, will receive its world premiere at the Metropolitan Opera in 2026.

Photo by Adam Olsson



8) Director **Liliana Blain-Cruz** makes her Opera Philadelphia debut as director of *The Listeners*.

Photo by Adam Olsson



9) Choreographer **Raja Feather Kelly** makes his Opera Philadelphia debut with *The Listeners*.

Photo by Adam Olsson



10) Librettist **Royce Vavrek**, director **Liliana Blain-Cruz**, and composer **Missy Mazzoli** at the 2022 world premiere of *The Listeners* in Oslo.

Photo by Mats Bäcker