



SACRAMENTO OPERA NEWS RELEASE

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SACRAMENTO OPERA

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SACRAMENTO OPERA ANNOUNCES ITS 2009-2010 SEASON

(Sacramento, CA 4/13/09) The Sacramento Opera's new 2009-2010 Season will kick off with *The Elixir of Love* in November 2009; followed by *La Traviata* in February 2010; and A Russian Affair: Highlights from Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* and *The Queen of Spades* in May 2010. All performances take place at the Sacramento Community Center Theater, 1301 L Street and feature projected English supertitles and the Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Sacramento Opera Artistic Director Timm Rolek.

Sacramento Opera presents *The Elixir of Love*, Gaetano Donizetti's comic and wistful look at the foibles of young love and the misguided belief that true love can be bought in a bottle. Performances are Friday, November 20, 2009 at 8 pm; Sunday, November 22, 2009 at 2 pm; and Tuesday, November 24, 2009 at 7:30 pm. The Sacramento Opera will update this gem of the Bel Canto repertoire to Post-World War II in a small town in Northern California's wine country. *The Elixir of Love* is a timeless view of passion and longing, pathos, and youthful exuberance. Be sure to listen for the famous aria, *Una furtiva lagrima*.

The 2008-2009 Season continues on Friday, February 26, 2010 at 8 pm; Sunday, February 28, 2010 at 2 pm; and Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 7:30 pm with Giuseppe Verdi's gripping melodrama *La Traviata*. Based on the novel and play *La Dame aux Camélias* by Alexandre Dumas, Jr., *La Traviata* is one of the ten most popular operas in the repertoire. The story was immortalized in the classic movie *Camille* starring Greta Garbo and later given a popular update in *Pretty Woman* starring Julia Roberts. Listen for the famous "Drinking Song" and *Sempre libera* aria. The story revolves around the relationship between a stunningly beautiful but frail courtesan and her well-born lover. Don't miss this romantic tale of love, passion, and betrayal.

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The Sacramento Opera 2009-2010 Season ends with **A Russian Affair: Highlights from Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* and *The Queen of Spades*** on Friday, May 7, 2010 at 8 pm and Sunday, May 9, 2010 at 2 pm. Enjoy opera at its grandest in a Russian double-bill featuring concert stagings of two of Tchaikovsky's greatest works, both based on the writings of one of Russia's most acclaimed writers, Alexander Pushkin. This production features Tchaikovsky's stunning music for the lyric stage performed by a cast of acclaimed singers. *Eugene Onegin* gives us a glimpse of life among St. Petersburg's wealthy in the 1820s, capturing the essence of a unique world in all its glory and despair. The operatic masterpiece of obsessive love and greed, *The Queen of Spades*, follows an army officer who deviously learns the "secret of the three cards," which costs him his possessions, lover, and ultimately his own life.

Season subscriptions go on sale April 13, 2009. Full subscriptions to all three productions are \$49 to \$314. Discounted mini-subscriptions for two productions are also available. For more information, call the Sacramento Opera office at 916.737.1000 or visit sacopera.org.

Discounted **group sales** (ten or more tickets) are available through the Sacramento Opera office, 916.737.1000.

Single tickets are \$18 to \$130 and go on sale through the Sacramento Community Center Theater Box Office on July 17, 2009. For more information, call 916.808.5181 or visit sacopera.org.

The Sacramento Opera's 2009-2010 Season is sponsored by the generosity of the James Irvine Foundation, Raley's Family of Fine Stores, Barbara K. Jackson, and the County and City of Sacramento's Cultural Arts Award administered by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission.

The mission of the Sacramento Opera is to produce outstanding opera, to develop and cultivate a wider public interest in opera and its allied arts, and to further music education in the region.

Programs and artists are subject to change.

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