



SACRAMENTO OPERA NEWS RELEASE

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SACRAMENTO OPERA

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SACRAMENTO OPERA PRESENTS THE ELIXIR OF LOVE

NOVEMBER 20, 22, 24, 2009

(Sacramento, CA 10/12/09) **Sacramento Opera presents Gaetano Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love* at the Sacramento Community Center Theater, 1301 L Street, Sacramento, Friday, November 20, 2009 at 8 pm; Sunday, November 22, 2009 at 2 pm; and Tuesday, November 24, 2009 at 7:30 pm. *The Elixir of Love* is an opera in two acts, with music by Gaetano Donizetti and libretto by Felice Romani. This Sacramento Opera production is sung in Italian with projected English supertitles. For more information, visit www.sacopera.org. For tickets, call 916.808.5181 or visit the Box Office, 1301 L Street, Sacramento. Single tickets are \$18 to \$130. Join the Sacramento Opera on Facebook and Twitter.**

The Sacramento Opera production presents Katrina Thurman as Adina, Dinyar Vania as Nemorino, Igor Vieria as Dr. Dulcamara, David Small as Belcore, and Carrie Hennessey as Gianetta. José Maria Condemi is the stage director. All shows feature Sacramento Opera Artistic Director and Conductor, Timm Rolek, the Sacramento Opera Chorus, and the Sacramento Philharmonic Orchestra.

This fresh look at one of the gems of the Bel Canto repertoire is set in Post-World War II in a small town in Northern California's wine country. *The Elixir of Love* is a timeless, wistful look at love and longing, pathos, and youthful exuberance. It's the story of a bashful and naïve farm laborer, who falls in love with the boss's daughter, Adina. His efforts at love are thwarted by the strapping Sergeant Belcore, who all but kicks sand in Nemorino's face as he sweeps Adina off her feet. What's a boy to do? Enter Dr. Dulcamara, a "snake oil" salesman par excellence. From his roadside stand the good Doctor hawks a variety of medicines, potions, and elixirs guaranteed to cure everything from impotence to the infirmities of old age.

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SACRAMENTO OPERA THE ELIXIR OF LOVE PAGE 2

Nemorino timidly approaches and asks if there is anything for “affairs of the heart,” to which Dr. Dulcamara offers a bottle of cheap red wine disguised as the “Elixir of Love.” Be sure to listen for the famous aria, *Una furtiva lagrima*.

Praised for her “vocally brilliant European debut” (German Theater Rundschau) and her "silvery, floating soprano" (Bonn General-Anzeiger), **American soprano Katrina Thurman** (Adina) possesses a distinctively beautiful voice, which is enlivened by her magnetic, fiery performance, her dramatic intent, and infallible comic timing. In the 2008-2009 season, Ms. Thurman made her Lyric Opera of Kansas City debut as Musetta in *La Bohème*, joined Florida Grand Opera as Ellen in *Lakmé*, Barbarina in *Le nozze di Figaro*, and Amy in *Little Women* for Syracuse Opera. Ms. Thurman embarks upon her 2009-2010 Season as Belinda in *Dido & Aeneas* with The Yard and a recording of Louis Karchin’s opera, *Romulus*, on the Naxos label.

Tenor Dinyar Vania (Nemorino) is rapidly emerging as one of the America’s most exciting new talents, whose attributes include a rich lyric voice of astonishing power and beauty. He has performed as Rodolfo in *La Bohème* at New York City Opera, Opera Roanoke, Knoxville Opera, and Madison Opera; Meleagros in Mark Adamo’s *Lysistrata* at New York City Opera; Edgardo in *Lucia di Lammermoor* at Syracuse Opera; Cavaradossi in *Tosca* at Dallas Opera, Nevada Opera Theater, and Sacramento Opera; and Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly* at Cedar Rapids Opera Theater. He made his debut with Opera Delaware in a Gala Concert followed with his first Alfredo in *La Traviata* at Opera Cleveland, then again with Metro Lyric Opera under the baton of Anton Coppola. He was a featured soloist in the New York City Opera in The Parks concert series. At the prestigious International Vocal Arts Academy in Tel Aviv (Israel) he performed excerpts from Lucia di Lammermoor under the baton of Maestro Paul Nadler and the New Israeli Chamber Orchestra.

Stage Director José Maria Condemi has been hailed by the *Oakland Post* as “one of the most promising and impressive directors in all opera,” and the *Seattle Weekly* called his production of *La Bohème* for Seattle Opera “flawless,” “handsome,” and “impressively crafted.” In the 2008-09 Season, Mr. Condemi

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SACRAMENTO OPERA THE ELIXIR OF LOVE PAGE 3

directed *Tristan und Isolde* at Lyric Opera of Chicago, *Orfeo ed Euridice* for West Bay Opera, *Le nozze di Figaro* for Livermore Valley Opera, *The Elixir of Love* and *Tosca* for San Francisco Opera, a new *Die Zauberflöte* for Opera San José, and the world premiere of Don Davis's *Río de Sangre* for Florentine Opera. In the summer of 2009 he directed *Ainadamar* for Cincinnati Opera. In 2009-10, his engagements include directing a new production of *Ermani* for Lyric Opera of Chicago, *Il trovatore* for Seattle Opera, and *Faust* for San Francisco Opera.

Season subscriptions are still available through the Sacramento Opera office, 916.737.1000. Season subscribers save up to 26% off single ticket prices and receive priority seating among other benefits.

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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