ANCHORAGE OPERA

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Anchorage Opera Announces Its 2009-2010 Season:

THE POWER OF LOVE

(Anchorage, Alaska – March 5, 2009) Anchorage Opera (AO) is pleased to announce an exciting line-up for the **2009-10 Season "The Power of Love"**: a double feature of Ruggero Leoncavallo's ***Pagliacci*** and Giacomo Puccini's ***Sister Angelia***; Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's ***Eugene Onegin***; and a new concert production by AO, ***The Power of Love.*** The UAA /AO Opera Apprenticeship Program will present ***Kismet***. This collaboration between UAA's Opera Ensemble and AO continues to be an unprecedented opportunity for young Alaskan artists and is on the cutting edge of arts education in the United States.

AO's 2009-10 Season marks the return of two popular events, the ***Dark Night Series*** and the **New Year's Eve Bash** as well as the addition of the '**Big Wild' Opening Night Party** and a special benefit concert, ***We Salute You***.

Ruggero Leoncavallo's ***Pagliacci*** and Giacomo Puccini's ***Sister Angelia***
Conducted by William Todd Hunt & directed by Teresa K. Pond
Both operas sung in Italian with English supertitles
November 7, 11, 13, 15, 2009
With music that's featured in the classic mafia movies, *Pagliacci* is one of the most touching and powerful combinations of music and theater ever to hit the stage. Love drives him crazy!
Puccini's *Sister Angelica*, is an incredible story about human weakness and struggle. A good woman's mistake brings scorn and loss but she finds salvation in super-human faith. Love gives her power!

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's ***Eugene Onegin***
Conducted by Timothy Meyers & directed by Cynthia Edwards
Sung in Russian with English supertitles
February 6, 10, 12, 14, 2010
When Pytor Ilyich Tchaikovsky (composer of *The Nutcracker*) set Aleksandr Pushkin's novel to music, he created one of the very best Russian operas, *Eugene Onegin*. It's a classic tale of love and loss. When she loved him, he wasn't interested. When he changed his mind, she had moved on. AO's

production of *Eugene Onegin* will be one of most exquisite operas ever presented in the Great Land – and the first Russian opera produced by AO. Love teaches life's lessons!

The Power of Love
A new concert production by Anchorage Opera
Conducted & directed by Andrew Sweeney
Sung in multiple languages with English supertitles
April 2, 3, 4, 7, 2010
This dazzling musical extravaganza will move your soul and fill your heart with joy. Alaska's greatest operatic vocal talents come together with the AO Orchestra to perform an evening of beautiful music from Mozart to Strauss and beyond! Love binds us together.

Kismet: A Musical Arabian Night
Presented by UAA Opera Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Mari Hahn
Sung in English
April 8, 9, 10, 11, 2010
In the 1950s, *Kismet (Fate)* took Broadway by storm and it remains a classic. With delightfully romantic, charming music inspired by Russian composer Aleksandr Borodin, *Kismet* is an enchanting story about the life journey of a devoted father and his daughter. Love can last a lifetime!

The Dark Night Series
Anchorage Opera goes indie!
Conducted & directed by Andrew Sweeney
November 10, 2009 ~ February 9, 2010 ~ April 6, 2010
Do you share that good ol' Alaskan penchant for something different? Then you will ***love*** AO's Dark Night Series. This season, AO will present three artsy one-act operas. These special operatic shorts are a great addition to AO's regular season. Love can make you try something new and different! (Net proceeds benefit AO's education and outreach programs.)

We Salute You
Special Concert Tribute to Alaska's Men & Women in Uniform
Sung in Enlgish
February 11, 2010
Hosted by Colonel Eric S. Overturf, commander of Air Force Reserve Command's 477th Fighter Group, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska. In *We Salute You*, AO General Manager and Artistic Director Torrie Allen and leading Alaskan mezzo-soprano Nancy Caudill share a special evening of

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patriotic, Broadway, American folk songs (and a bit of opera!) in honor of Alaska's men and women in uniform. Love can make you proud!

Anchorage Opera continues its commitment to educating the community about opera and reaching out to people who are new to the world of opera. There will be several opportunities to learn more about each opera. The ***AO website***, www.anchorageopera.org, has a wide range of information on the opera and cast, as well as ***Study Guides*** to download. ***Brown Bag Opera*** is a behind-the-scenes look at the main-stage performances, co-sponsored with Anchorage Public Library. It will be held the Friday before the shows open, at 12 noon in the Assembly Chambers at the Loussac Library. And, ***Before the Opera Chat*** is a 30-minute talk filled with insights about the productions and answers to your questions; ***Before the Opera Chat*** starts an hour before each performance in Voth Hall at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts.

Tickets: Season Subscriptions, $75 - $230 per person, available through September 25, 2009.
Dark Night Series subscription, $30 per person.
Single Tickets, $35 - $105 available through CenterTix starting October 3, 2009 at 907-263-ARTS or www.centertix.net.
Youth/Senior and Student/Military discounts available on Single Tickets.

Location: All AO performances take place in the Discovery Theater of the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts. *Kismet* will be performed in the Recital Hall of the University of Alaska Anchorage Fine Arts Building.

Information: www.anchorageopera.org and 907-279-2557.

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