



For Immediate Release

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Anchorage Opera Announces 2010-2011 Season ***FRENCH CONNECTIONS***

(Anchorage, Alaska – April 1, 2010) Anchorage Opera (AO) is pleased to announce an exciting line-up for its **2010-2011 Season, *French Connections***: An original AO concert production, *Spellbinding Moments in French Opera*; Giacomo Puccini's *La Boheme*; and Rodgers and Hammerstein's *South Pacific*. AO continues its partnership with the UAA music department via the AO/UAA Opera Apprentice program. ***A Boustier of One Acts*** is the theme for the apprentice productions of *Les Mamelles de Tiresias* by Poulenc and *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* by Ravel.

Spellbinding Moments in French Opera

Date: One Night Only! Saturday, October 9, 2010
Location: Atwood Concert Hall, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts
Sung in French with English Supertitles

An original concert production by AO, this high-spirited multi-media production will take the audience through the most memorable moments of grand French opera. Solo and ensemble selections (many never-before-performed by AO) from: *Dialogue of the Carmelites*, *Tales of Hoffman*, *Lakme*, *Les Troyens*, *Mignon*, *The Pearl Fishers*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *Castor et Pollux* (Jean-Philippe Rameau). The show will feature a renowned roster of guest and resident artists and the AO orchestra and chorus. AO's Associate Artistic Director, Andrew Sweeney, will serve as conductor. Director, TBA.

Giacomo Puccini's ***La Boheme***

Dates: February 19, 23, 25, 27, 2011
Location: Discovery Theater, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts
Sung in Italian with English Supertitles

Set in the 1940s and directed by Marc Astafan, AO's exciting new production of Puccini's operatic masterpiece will thrill AO audiences. Pablo Zinger, who led the cast and orchestra in AO's triumphant 2008-2009 production of *La Tabernera del Puerto* will return as guest conductor. Veronica Mittina, who played Tatyana, in AO's recent production of *Eugene Onegin* will return to star in the role of Mimi. Jordan Pagels will be the scenic designer.



Rodgers and Hammerstein's ***South Pacific***

Dates: April 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 2011

Location: Discovery Theater, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

Sung in English

Considered to be one of the greatest musicals ever written, Rodgers and Hammerstein's ***South Pacific*** has become one of the standard 'cross over' musical productions for numerous opera companies since its 1987 production by New York City Opera. Acclaimed young conductor, Kelly Kuo, will lead the AO orchestra. Leading Alaskan director and actor, Shane Mitchell, will lead a powerful cast of visiting and resident artists.

AO/UAA Opera Apprentice Program: ***A Boustier of One Acts***

Dates: TBA

UAA Recital Hall

AO and UAA will continue their partnership in a production of two one-act operas. Mari Hahn, the head of the voice department at UAA will be leading the UAA Opera Ensemble in the productions of *Les Mamelles de Tiresias* by Poulenc and *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* by Ravel.

Important Dates

- **April 16, 2010** – Season brochure will be mailed with additional season information
- **May 3, 2010** – Season ticket renewal deadline and entry into Alaska Airlines ticket drawing.
After this date, all ticket sales, including season subscriptions, will be handled through the CenterTix box office.
- **June 1, 2010** – Opening Night Party tickets go on sale at the CenterTix box office
- **August 1, 2010** – Single tickets go on sale at the CenterTix box office

Ticket Information

- Season Subscriptions, \$75 - \$230 per person
Single Tickets, \$35 - \$105
- Before May 3, 2010, subscriptions can be purchased directly through the Opera Center by calling 907-279-2568.
- After May 3, 2010, subscriptions (and tickets) can only be purchased through Centertix. 907-263-ARTS or www.centertix.net.
- Single tickets available **August, 1, 2010.**
- 50% Youth/Senior and Student/Military discounts available on single tickets.



Special Events

Opening Night Party

Date: Saturday, October 9, 2010

Location: Atwood Concert Hall Lobby, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

Immediately following the Opening Night performance

Tickets - \$25.

Available June 1, 2010 via Centertix 907-263-ARTS or www.centertix.net

Discovering Neptune – A New AO Production

Date: November, 2010, TBA

Location: UAA Planetarium

An extraordinary celebration of timeless French art songs and the French astronomer who predicted by mathematical means the existence of the planet Neptune.

Dinner on the set of La Boheme

Date: Saturday, February 26, 2011

Location: Discovery Theater Stage, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

Tickets:

General - \$125 per person/VIP - \$250 per person (Includes champagne reception and behind the scenes tour with the cast and visiting artists)

Tickets and information, Eva Aigner at eaigner@anchorageopera.org or 907-279-2570

(A portion of the ticket price is a tax-deductible donation)

Information

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

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. **AO's website**, www.anchorageopera.org, has a wide range of information about the company and its productions. **Brown Bag Opera** is a behind-the-scenes look at the main-stage performances, co-sponsored with Anchorage Public Library. Brown Bag Opera presentations are held the Friday before the shows open, at 12 noon in the Assembly Chambers at the Loussac Library. **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 at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts.

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