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Opera Cleveland Announces 2010-11 Season

Opera Cleveland splits open the human psyche in its 2010-11 season. Madness, loyalty, corrupt jealousy, obsession and yearning all come into sharp focus through five titles, which comprise four dynamic evenings of opera. Join us at the State Theatre in PlayhouseSquare for a season that includes *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *The Pearl Fishers*, *I Pagliacci/La voix humaine* (Cleveland premiere), and *Werther* (Cleveland premiere).

Lucia di Lammermoor

by Gaetano Donizetti

Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, May 22, 2010 at 8 pm

Sunday, May 23, 2010 at 2 pm

Ruthless family politics deny Lucia her true love Edgardo, breaking both her heart and her mind. But from the depths of madness and tragedy comes some of opera's most riveting bel canto singing. Tomer Zvulun (*La boheme*, 2008) returns to Cleveland to direct a thrilling new production, with striking sets adapted specifically for Opera Cleveland.

The Pearl Fishers

by Georges Bizet

Thursday, Sept. 23, 2010 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, Sept. 25, 2010 at 8 pm

Sunday, Sept. 26, 2010 at 2 pm

The arrival of a mysterious woman to a pearl fishers' island camp challenges the bond between two men. What will prevail--the fidelity of friendship or the unrelenting strength of love? Lush melodies, vibrant orchestration and evocative choreography frame Bizet's "other" masterpiece in Grand Opera style.

I Pagliacci

by Ruggero Leoncavallo

A visceral meeting of two Italian and French extremes. *I Pagliacci* presents a "bleeding slice of life," a verismo tour-de-

La voix humaine

by Francis Poulenc

Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010 at 8 pm

Sunday, Nov. 14, 2010 at 2 pm

force fraught with lurid, emotional turmoil. In *La voix humaine*, the torment and despair of a jilted lover emerges in an enthralling monologue. (Cleveland premiere)

Werther

by Jules Massenet

Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, April 9, 2011 at 8 pm

Sunday, April 10, 2011 at 2 pm

Dutiful Charlotte is torn by her love for intense poet Werther (*ver-TARE*) and her commitment to another man. Massenet's sumptuous score dramatically sets Goethe's novel with Puccini-esque orchestration in a rare opportunity to see this French masterpiece. (Cleveland premiere)

You talked. We listened.

Changes to our new season

Over the past year, current and former patrons of Opera Cleveland have shared their views of opera and the company with us. We're excited to share some significant changes to the way we are presenting opera in Cleveland--**with no increase in ticket prices.**

A Winter through Spring Season

A winter through spring season suits our patrons the best. To that end, we are extending the 2010 season into the spring of 2011, and subsequent seasons will commence in the fall, starting with the 2011-12 season. To bridge this gap without a break in the "action," the 2010-2011 season will feature four major titles--without raising ticket prices. (We've also managed to avoid the months of the worst winter weather, too!)

One Weekend of Opera

In light of economic realities, we are performing each opera in the same week: Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. The savings in housing, rentals, and from other expenses will allow us to invest more directly in singers and staging of each production, providing you with a performance and production of much higher

caliber. In addition, we will achieve this without double-casting each production--every audience will see the same first-class cast.

An Earlier Evening

Due to the running times and the late-night nature of opera, our new Thursday evening performances will now begin at 7:30 pm, a time more consistent with the rest of the theater events at PlayhouseSquare, allowing for easier access to parking and post-performance activities. Saturday performances will remain at 8 pm and Sunday matinees will remain at 2 pm. Our popular Pre-Opera Talks will still take place one hour prior to each performance.

Bringing People Closer to the Stage

To provide the most intimate operatic experience the State Theatre will allow, we have adjusted the upstairs seating sections. Without increasing ticket prices, balcony patrons will now find themselves much closer to the stage and the whole theatrical experience.

Titles by Request

We get requests all the time for what people would like to see. In a perfect world, we'd love to do them all. We chose the titles for this season by listening to our audience--primarily through an extensive audience survey. The titles here represent a mix of operas rarely performed in Cleveland and those worthy of repeat. Three of the titles were in the top six "Most Requested" in our survey. In addition, two of our titles are Cleveland premieres.

Enjoy free exchange privileges, free ticket insurance for lost tickets, and an annual subscription to our full-color newsletter *Bravo!* **To subscribe to the 2010-11 season or to find out more information, visit operacleveland.org or call 216.664.6065.**