



SEATTLE OPERA
SPEIGHT JENKINS GENERAL DIRECTOR

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Seattle Opera's Hot-Blooded *Il Trovatore* Runs January 16 – 30

**Featuring a Star-Studded Cast of International Faces:
Antonello Palombi, Lisa Daltirus, Malgorzata Walewska, and Gordon
Hawkins**

Seattle—Seattle Opera will open its production of Verdi's hot-blooded melodrama *Il Trovatore* on January 16, 2010. The production will run for eight performances through January 30.

Verdi's *Trovatore* is an intense masterpiece with inspired music and dramatic depths. This passionate tale of the dark secret of a gypsy mother features everything from swordplay and late-night abductions to gypsy curses and a host of familiar tunes that soar to the rafters. Maestro Yves Abel will conduct the production staged by José María Condemi. Sets were designed by Allen Moyer, with costumes by John Conklin and lighting by Thomas Hase.

The Opening Night cast features Italian tenor Antonello Palombi as Manrico, the troubadour, and soprano Lisa Daltirus as the lady-in-waiting Leonora. This dramatic pair was last seen at McCaw Hall in 2008 as the lovers in Verdi's *Aida*. Polish mezzo-soprano Malgorzata Walewska, who made her company debut last season as Judith in Bartók's *Bluebeard's Castle*, performs as the gypsy Azucena. Baritone Gordon Hawkins performs as Count di Luna.

In the Sunday/Friday cast, tenor Arnold Rawls makes his company debut as Manrico, alongside soprano Mary Elizabeth Williams, a former Seattle Opera Young Artist, who makes her mainstage company debut as Leonora. Mezzo-soprano Mary Phillips sings Azucena, and baritone Todd Thomas sings Count di Luna. Rounding out both casts are bass Arthur Woodley as Ferrando, tenor Leodigario del Rosario as Ruiz, and soprano Vira Slywotzky—a current Young Artist making her company mainstage debut—as Inez.

Il Trovatore runs from January 16 through January 30. Single tickets start at \$25 and are available online at seattleopera.org, by calling 206.389.7676 or 800.426.1619, or by mobile phone at mobile.seattleopera.org. Tickets may also be purchased at the Box Office by visiting 1020 John Street (two blocks west of Fairview), Monday to Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Please note the following artists list for Il Trovatore replaces all previously announced cast lists.

Il Trovatore

Music by Giuseppe Verdi

Libretto by Salvatore Cammarano and Leone Emanuele Bardare, after Antonio García Gutiérrez's play *El Trovador*

In Italian with English Captions

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall

8 Performances: January 16, 17m, 20, 23, 24m, 27, 29, & 30, 2010

Approximate Running Time: 2 hours and 40 minutes, including one intermission

Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m.; matinees begin at 2:00 p.m.

Premiere: Teatro Apollo, Rome, Italy, January 19, 1853

Previous Seattle Opera Presentations: 1966, 1975, 1982, 1989, 1997

Artists

Manrico:	Antonello Palombi/Arnold Rawls ^{†*}
Leonora:	Lisa Daltirus/Mary Elizabeth Williams ^{†*}
Azucena:	Malgorzata Walewska/Mary Phillips [*]
Count di Luna:	Gordon Hawkins/Todd Thomas [*]
Ferrando:	Arthur Woodley
Ruiz:	Leodigario del Rosario
Inez:	Vira Slywotzky [†]

Conductor: Yves Abel
Stage Director: José María Condemi
Set Designer: Allen Moyer
Costume Designer: John Conklin
Lighting Designer: Thomas Hase
English Captions: Jonathan Dean

Sets: Minnesota Opera
Costumes: Seattle Opera

† Company Debut

* On January 17, 24, and 29, 2010 only

Leodigario del Rosario and Mary Elizabeth Williams are former Seattle Opera Young Artists. Vira Slywotzky is a current Young Artist.

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About Seattle Opera

Founded in 1963, Seattle Opera is one of the leading opera companies in the United States. The company is recognized internationally for its theatrically compelling and musically accomplished performances, especially the Opera's interpretations of the works of Richard Wagner. Since 1975, Seattle Opera has presented 38 cycles of the *Ring* (three different productions), in addition to acclaimed productions of all the other major operas in the Wagner canon. Seattle Opera has achieved the highest per capita attendance of any major opera company in the United States, and draws operagoers from four continents and fifty states.