



**THE DALLAS OPERA
MEDIA RELEASE**

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Friday, December 19, 2008

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**TDO PROUDLY PRESENTS
JANUARY AT THE DALLAS OPERA**

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**INCLUDES AN INTENSE PERSONAL AND POLITICAL DRAMA:  
*ROBERTO DEVEREUX*, A MUSICAL MASTERPIECE BY DONIZETTI  
IN A BRAND-NEW PRODUCTION BY THE DALLAS OPERA**

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DALLAS, DECEMBER 19, 2008 – The New Year at **The Dallas Opera** is highlighted by the premiere of a new Dallas Opera production of one of the great operas in the bel canto (“beautiful singing”) repertoire: **ROBERTO DEVEREUX** by **Gaetano Donizetti**, opening **Friday, January 23rd at 7:30 PM in the Music Hall at Fair Park.**

The work will be performed in the original Italian—with English language supertitles projected above the stage at every performance.

FLEX mini-subscriptions (three operas of the customer’s choice, \$93-\$369) and single tickets are on sale now through The Dallas Opera Ticket Services Office at **214.443.1000** or online at **www.dallasopera.org**.

This opera marks the return of the phenomenally talented **Stephen Costello**, a young tenor who made his Dallas Opera debut in the first installment of our Tudor trilogy (*Mary Queen of Scots*) in 2007 before making his mark, world-wide, in the title role; as well as renowned Welsh baritone **David Kempster**, an unforgettable Sharpless in The Dallas Opera’s 2005 production of *Madama Butterfly* returning in the role of the conflicted Duke of Nottingham.

This new production, with Globe Theater-inspired sets by **Benoit Dugardyn**, period costumes by **Ingeborg Bernerth** and lighting design by **Mark McCullough** is also notable for two important company debuts: Armenian soprano **Hasmik Papian**,

described by the international music media as “drop-dead gorgeous...heavenly...divine,” and **Andrew Oakden**, an “unexpected thrill of a young baritone” (*The Sunday Telegraph*, London) in the role of Sir Walter Raleigh.

ROBERTO DEVEREUX will be conducted by **Dallas Opera Music Director Graeme Jenkins** and staged by acclaimed British director **Stephen Lawless**.

Chorus preparation is by Chorus Master **Alexander Rom**.

January’s activities include a special panel discussion, “Overtures with The Dallas Opera,” part of the **Nasher Performing Arts Series** being broadcast (in edited form) on **WRR, Classical 101.1 FM**. (You can attend this live performance, including a concert by tenor **Scott Quinn**, Sunday, January 4th at 2:00 PM at the Nasher Sculpture Center. The concert is free, regular museum admission is \$5 to \$10 per person.).

This month, “Overtures” will focus on the artistic and musical legacy of two larger-than-life patrons and collectors: Ray and Patsy Nasher.

For performance dates and special events throughout the 2008-2009 season, go to the calendar at dallasopera.org (located on the left side of your screen). Individual media releases about upcoming events and productions also are available under the heading “News and Features” on The Dallas Opera’s homepage.

January Calendar of Events

1.) Sunday, January 4th

“Overtures with The Dallas Opera: The Nasher Arts Legacy” Nasher Sculpture Center/Nasher Performing Arts Series featuring a live performance by tenor Scott Quinn (Lord Cecil in *Roberto Devereux*) and a comfortable chat with the singer, Music Director Graeme Jenkins and a Nasher Family representative, hosted by “Inside The Dallas Opera’s” Suzanne Calvin.

Time: 2:00 PM-3:00 PM

Location: The Nasher Sculpture Center

Cost: FREE with regular admission to Nasher Sculpture Center, 2001 Flora St. (\$10 adults, \$5 students, \$7 for seniors).

2.) Sunday, January 11th

“Amici di Opera: Young Professionals Lecture Series”

Dallas Opera Music Director Graeme Jenkins brings a British (as well as a musical perspective) to Donizetti’s tale of Good Queen Bess’s love for a much younger man. All this, and surprise guests with goodies.

Time: 4:00 PM-6:00 PM

Location: The Karayanis Rehearsal/Production Center, 4301 S. Fitzhugh, Dallas, 75210

Cost: FREE to Amici members. For information, call 214.443.1000 or visit dallasopera.org. Email amici@dallasopera.org for a guest pass.

3.) Sunday, January 18th

The Dallas Opera Guild presents “Opera Insights: *Roberto Devereux*.” An entertaining panel discussion featuring singers, artistic and production personnel, as well as your questions about this new production. If you love “The Tudors” on Showtime – You can’t miss this!

Time: 4:00-5:30 PM

Location: Gooch Auditorium on the campus of UT Southwestern Medical Center, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd. Free garage parking if you enter off Inwood at Butler.

Cost: FREE for Guild and Amici members, \$10 for non-members.

4.) Tuesday, January 20th

The Founders Lecture Series (*Roberto Devereux*) with Prof. Jim Yancy, presented by The Women’s Board of The Dallas Opera.

Time: 6:45-9:00 PM

Location: Dallas Country Club, 4100 Beverly Dr., Dallas

Cost: \$30 (includes coffee and dessert), call 214.443.1043

5.) Friday, January 23rd

The Dallas Opera presents *Roberto Devereux* (Opening Night)

This riveting drama pits England’s Queen Elizabeth I against her young love—the clever and ambitious Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex. One thing is certain: heads will roll!

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: The Music Hall at Fair Park

Cost: \$15 to \$199 if purchased in advance. Call 214.443.1000 or visit dallasopera.org.

6.) Saturday, January 24th

“Inside The Dallas Opera” hosted by Suzanne Calvin

Time: 12:00 PM

Location: WRR, Classical 101.1 FM

Cost: FREE. A program mixing a lively panel discussion featuring Music Director Graeme Jenkins, a Nasher Family representative, tenor Scott Quinn and The Dallas Opera’s Suzanne Calvin, exploring the artistic and musical legacy of Ray and Patsy Nasher.

7.) Sunday, January 25th

The Dallas Opera presents *Roberto Devereux* (Matinee performance)

This riveting drama pits England’s Queen Elizabeth I against her young love—the clever and ambitious Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex. One thing is certain: heads will roll!

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: The Music Hall at Fair Park

Cost: \$15 to \$199 if purchased in advance. Call 214.443.1000 or visit dallasopera.org.

8.) Wednesday, January 28th

“Amici Night at The Dallas Opera”

Time: 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Location: The Music Hall at Fair Park

Join The Dallas Opera’s Young Professionals Network for a pre-performance lecture and cocktail reception followed by a performance of *Roberto Devereux*.

For information about joining Amici di Opera, call 214.443.1000 or visit dallasopera.org.

9.) Wednesday, January 28th

The Dallas Opera presents *Roberto Devereux* (Midweek performance)

This riveting drama pits England’s Queen Elizabeth I against her young love—the clever and ambitious Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex. One thing is certain: heads will roll!

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: The Music Hall at Fair Park

Cost: \$15 to \$199 if purchased in advance. Call 214.443.1000 or visit dallasopera.org.

10.) Saturday, January 31st

The Dallas Opera presents *Roberto Devereux* (Final Night)

This riveting drama pits England’s Queen Elizabeth I against her young love—the clever and ambitious Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex. One thing is certain: heads will roll!

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: The Music Hall at Fair Park

Cost: \$15 to \$199 if purchased in advance. Call 214.443.1000 or visit dallasopera.org.

Events May be Subject to Change

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT “NOVEMBER AT THE DALLAS OPERA”
IS CONVENIENTLY AVAILABLE ONLINE
VISIT WWW.DALLASOPERA.ORG AND CHECK THE CALENDAR LISTINGS

For high-resolution, digital photographs suitable for print

To arrange an interview

Or for additional information

Please contact Assoc. Dir. Of Marketing Suzanne Calvin

214.443.1014 or suzannec@dallasopera.org

Ticket Information for the 2008-2009 Dallas Opera Season

FLEX subscriptions (3 shows of your choice) begin at \$93. Single tickets \$15 to \$199, if purchased in advance. Group ticket sales at a substantial discount. For more information, contact The Dallas Opera Ticket Services Office at 214.443.1000 or visit TDO’s web site at dallasopera.org.

THE DALLAS OPERA 2008-2009 SEASON INFORMATION

The Dallas Opera celebrates its Fifty-Second International Season with 20 performances of five productions in the Music Hall at Fair Park. Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and matinees begin at 2 p.m. English translations are projected above the stage at every performance and assistance is available for the hearing impaired.

(Second half of Season:)

ROBERTO DEVEREUX by Gaetano Donizetti

January 23, 25(m), 28 & 31, 2009

A new Dallas Opera production by the team that brought you MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS!

An opera in three acts first performed at Teatro San Carlo in Naples, October 28, 1837.

Text by Salvatore Cammarano after François Ancelot's tragedy, *Elisabeth d'Angleterre*.

Time: the Elizabethan Age

Place: London

Conductor: Graeme Jenkins

Stage Director: Stephen Lawless

Scenic Design: Benoit Dugardyn

Costume Design: Ingeborg Bernerth

Lighting Design: Mark McCullough

Wig & make-up Design: David Zimmerman

Chorus Master: Alexander Rom

Starring: Stephen Costello (*Roberto Devereux*), Hasmik Papian* (*Elizabeth the Queen*), David Kempster (*Duke of Nottingham*), Elizabeth Batton (*Sara, Duchess of Nottingham*)

LA BOHÈME by Giacomo Puccini

February 13, 15(m), 18 & 21, 2009

Our most popular opera in one of our most popular productions!

An opera in four acts first performed in Turin's Teatro Regio, February 1, 1896.

Time: 19th century

Place: Paris, France

Conductor: Pietro Rizzo**

Stage Director: Mark Streshinsky

Scenic Design: Jean Pierre Ponnelle

Costume Design: Peter J. Hall

Lighting Designer: Thomas Hase*

Wig & make-up Design: David Zimmerman

Chorus Master: Alexander Rom

Starring: Maria Kanyova (*Mimi*), James Valenti* (*Rodolfo*), Valentina Farcas* (*Musetta*), Dwayne Croft (*Marcello*), Robert Gleadow* (*Colline*) and Weston Hurt* (*Schaunard*).

THE ITALIAN GIRL IN ALGIERS by Gioachino Rossini

March 6, 8(m), 11 & 14, 2009

The Grand Finale! Production from Santa Fe Opera.

A comic opera in two acts first performed in Venice's Teatro San Benedetto, May 22, 1813.

Text substantially derived from Angelo Anelli's libretto for Luigi Mosca's 1808 *L'italiana in Algeri*.

Time: Fantasy

Place: Algiers

Conductor: Graeme Jenkins

Stage Director: Chris Alexander

Scenic Design: Robert Innes Hopkins*

Costume Design: David C. Woolard*

Lighting Design: Duane Schuler

Wig & make-up Design: David Zimmerman

Chorus Master: Alexander Rom

Starring: Manuela Custer* (*Isabella*), William Burden* (*Lindoro*), Paolo Pecchioli* (*Mustafa*) and Patrick Carfizzi* (*Taddeo*).

* Dallas Opera Debut

** American Debut

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