

# GRANITE STATE OPERA

Press Release: May 9, 2007

## Returning Leads from Award-Winning Opera, and Debut of New American Phenom Promise Dramatic Opera in May!

Temple and Portsmouth, NH – Granite State Opera's *Madama Butterfly* was recently named "Best Classical Music Performance in NH of 2006." One year later, two very popular big voices from that production return to Portsmouth and Concord on May 10th and 13th, respectively, as lead singers in *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci*.

These two one-act operas will be exciting. Cast in the role of *Pagliaccio*, the clown, is Daniel Rodriguez, who is a protégé of Plácido Domingo, and who is known to millions of Americans as the "Singing Cop" who brought a nation together at memorials for those who perished in the 9/11 tragedies. Stadium after September 11, 2001. Nouné Karapetian, an award-winning soprano from Armenia and Boston resident, will be singing the role of *Nedda*.

The second opera, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, has Arnold Rawls of the Metropolitan Opera, who sang the role of Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*, as *Turiddu*, New Hampshire soprano Melissa Manseau as *Santuzza*, who is pregnant with *Turiddu*'s child, *Jacque Wilson* as *Lola*, *Turiddu*'s current love interest. New Hampshire's own *Janice Edwards* will sing the role of *Mama Lucia* and Opera Boston's baritone *Phil Lima* as *Alfio*, *Lola*'s husband. Artistic Director *Philip Lauriat* will conduct the full Granite State Opera Orchestra.

Tickets (\$19-\$72) available for the May 10th performance at The Music Hall in Portsmouth by calling 603-436-2400 or visiting [www.themusicall.org](http://www.themusicall.org); and for the May 13th performance at the Capitol Center in Concord by calling 603-225-1111 or visiting [www.ccanh.com](http://www.ccanh.com).

MEET\_THE\_ARTISTS receptions will be held following each performance.



Above: Daniel Rodriguez (*Canio*), Nouné Karapetian (*Nedda*) and Philip Lima (*Tonio*) entertain as traveling players or, *Pagliacci*, in Granite State Opera's production of the same name.

Left: Daniel Rodriguez as *Canio*, the tragic hero of Granite State Opera's "*I Pagliacci*"



If you are interested in learning more about Granite State Opera, call 603-436-8GSO, or visit the Web site at [www.GraniteStateOpera.org](http://www.GraniteStateOpera.org).

Granite State Opera is devoted to creating opera of the highest artistic quality for the benefit, enrichment and education of its audience throughout New Hampshire. It is supported in part by the NH State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, The NH Charitable Foundation, The Arthur and Dolores Daniels Foundation, The Hoffman Family Foundation, The Penates Foundation, The Verney Foundation, and by its generosity of individuals and corporate sponsors including Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Center of New Hampshire Radisson, Devine, Millimet and Branch, Ear, Nose & Throat Specialists of NH, Holiday Inn of Concord, Laconia Savings Bank, MARKEM Corporation, Merrill Lynch – The Hahn Group, Portsmouth Computer Group, Sheraton Harborside Portsmouth, TFMoran, Vital & Ryze Advertising, WKXL 1450 AM.