



Press Release: January 8, 2007

Popular star of Granite State Opera's Madama Butterfly to Substitute For Ailing Soprano at Saturday's Opera Gala

Temple and Portsmouth, NH - Theresa Cincione, who sang the title role in last May's hugely successful Madama Butterfly with Granite State Opera, will perform at the company's Opera Gala Concert this Saturday, January 13th at 8 p.m. at The Music Hall. Ms. Cincione will be substituting for Barbara Quintiliani, a Quincy, Massachusetts native and winner of the 1999 National Grand Prize at the Metropolitan Opera National Council Competition. Ms. Quintiliani has had to withdraw from the concert due to illness.

"We are terribly sorry Barbara is ill, and wish her a very speedy recovery. She is a wonderful talent and I was excited to showcase her here in New Hampshire," said Granite State Opera Executive Director John MacLeod. "But we are also thrilled that Ms. Cincione is able to take her place as our soprano soloist. It's a real testament to the quality opera company [Artistic Director] Phil Lauriat has built here, that Ms. Cincione, who has sung frequently with the Met, was available and interested on such short notice."

Portsmouth and Concord audiences will have fond memories of Ms. Cincione's "Cio-Cio San" (Butterfly). The Portsmouth Herald's Jeanné McCartin wrote in a review that her performance was, "simply spectacular, and soaring...deeply touching" while The Hippo Press' Jeff Rapsis described it as "a canny magic...absorbing...[with a] seamless grace."

Ms. Cincione will join fellow Met regular, and Met New England Regional Competition winner, Sandra Piques Eddy and National Grand Finalist Charles Mays, Jr., together with Philip Lauriat and the Granite State Opera Orchestra for an evening of opera favorites. The concert will feature arias, duets and trios grouped into four sections (Verdi, Mozart, French Opera and Seduction), plus several Extras. Additional composers include Rossini, Strauss, Offenbach, Bellini, Gounod and Massenet. The performance will last approximately 2 hours, including one intermission.