



Press Release: October 2, 2006

Granite State Opera subscriptions to more than triple! A Triumphant Butterfly and 06-07 blockbusters Carmen and I Pagliacci credited

Temple and Portsmouth, NH - Granite State Opera has announced its seventh season for 2006-2007. Following on the heels of record attendance and rave critical reviews for its production of Madama Butterfly in May, Granite State Opera plans another season of crowd-pleasing opera, and will continue to perform at both The Music Hall in Portsmouth, NH and at the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord, NH.

Leading off in the Fall of 2006 will be an all-time favorite, Carmen on October 19 (Portsmouth) and October 22. Bizet's wildly popular tale of the love triangle between a sultry Spanish gypsy, a quiet army corporal and a famous matador contains many beloved and memorable tunes including the seductive Habanera and Toreador's Song.

Following Carmen on January 13, 2007 the Granite State Opera Orchestra will accompany four of the hottest young opera singers in the country in an Opera Gala concert. Audiences in Concord thrilled to this event in 2005, as winners from the Metropolitan Opera's National Council Competition gave them a glimpse of tomorrow's superstars today. This time it's the Seacoast's turn as 2007's Opera Gala concert will be held at The Music Hall in Portsmouth.

And putting a fitting capstone on a season designed to thrill and please, Granite State Opera will stage the passionate and tragic pairing of Cavalleria Rusticana and I Pagliacci in the Spring of 2007 on May 10 (Portsmouth) and May 13 (Concord).. The opening "Cav" is a story of "Rustic Chivalry," Sicilian style, combining love, seduction, adultery, revenge and murder-by-stiletto, all on an Easter morning. And it is followed by "Pag", another story of love, betrayal and murderous revenge amongst a troupe of 19th Century players, with one of the most famous and pathos-filled arias in all of opera.

To obtain the best seats at the best prices, and to avoid long lines at these sure-to be sold out performances (not to mention the ticket scalpers reported by one newspaper after Madama Butterfly) interested persons are encouraged to subscribe now by calling Granite State Opera directly at 603-878-0539. Subscriptions are available only by calling this number and are not available through Music Hall or Capitol Center Box Offices.

If you are interested in learning more about Granite State Opera, call 603-878-0539, or visit the Web site at 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 in 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 generous corporate sponsors including Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, AutoFair, Center of NH Radisson, Comfort Inn - Concord, Devine, Millimet & Branch, Laconia Savings Bank, MARKEM Corporation, Portsmouth Computer Group, Sheraton Harborside Hotel, TFMoran, Vital & Ryze Advertising and WKXL-1450am.