



PLÁCIDO DOMINGO
LEI AND EDYTHE BROAD GENERAL DIRECTOR
JAMES CONLON
RICHARD SPARKS MUSIC DIRECTOR

NEWS RELEASE
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LA Opera and The Broad Stage Present World Premiere of *Dulce Rosa*

Opera with music by Lee Holdridge and libretto by Richard Sparks, is based on Isabel Allende's "Una Venganza"

Plácido Domingo will conduct LA Opera Chorus and Orchestra for inauguration of *LA Opera Off Grand* series

(Los Angeles, CA) April 17, 2012 – **Plácido Domingo**, General Director of LA Opera, has announced that LA Opera will collaborate with The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage to present the world premiere of *Dulce Rosa*, a new opera by composer **Lee Holdridge** and librettist **Richard Sparks**, based on the Isabel Allende short story "Una Venganza" [An Act of Vengeance]. Conducted by Mr. Domingo and directed by Mr. Sparks, the opera will have six performances at The Broad Stage at the Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center, from May 17 through June 9, 2013.

"Lee Holdridge and Richard Sparks have worked on several successful projects for LA Opera in the past," said Mr. Domingo. "Their newest opera gives us the perfect opportunity to inaugurate the LA Opera Off Grand series. I look forward to collaborating with them and with The Broad Stage as we launch this exciting new venture."

Dulce Rosa relates the aftermath of a violent political uprising, as a young woman plans her revenge against a merciless attacker. The title role will be performed by Uruguayan soprano **María Eugenia Antúñez**. The production will feature the LA Opera Chorus and Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Domingo. The media art director and set designer is **Yael Pardess**, with costumes by **Durinda Wood**, lighting by **Anne Militello** and projections by **Jenny Okun**.

LA Opera Off Grand

Dulce Rosa will be the inaugural presentation in *LA Opera Off Grand*, a new initiative developed to bring LA Opera performances to a wider geographical area, increase audience diversity, and expand the range of experiences for the Company's existing attendees. *LA Opera Off Grand* performances will be concentrated in neighborhoods that are not easily accessible to downtown and will expand on traditional ideas of the operatic experience by experimenting with performance spaces, creative artists new to the genre and a variety of musical styles.

Performance Schedule

Performances will take place from May 17 through June 9, 2013, at The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage, 1310 11th Street, Santa Monica CA 90401. Tickets range in price from \$20 to \$150 and will be available in The Broad Stage's "create-your own" subscription packages beginning June 25. Single tickets to *Dulce Rosa* will be available for sale to the public beginning July 30. For ticket information, please call The Broad Stage box office at 310-434-3200 or visit www.TheBroadStage.com.

The Composer and Librettist

Emmy Award-winning composer **Lee Holdridge** and librettist **Richard Sparks** are the creators of *Concierto para Mendez*, a multi-media concert piece that had its world premiere at LA Opera in 2007, and was televised on KCET. They have also created numerous projects for the Company's Education and Community Outreach Programs, including the one-act operas *Journey to Cordoba*, *The Prospector*, *The Magic Dream* and *Tanis in America*. They have also collaborated on many other musical projects, from songs for films such as *The Adventures of Pinocchio* and *The Secret of NIMH 2*, to *The Golden Land*, a millennium commission for the California Symphony. Mr. Sparks, the author of numerous plays, books and television programs, created a new English translation of *Hansel and Gretel* for LA Opera in 2006. For more information about the composer, please visit www.leeholdridge.com.

Author Isabel Allende

Isabel Allende's short story "Una Venganza" was published in her 1995 collection *Tales of Eva Luna*. The story was included in *Short Stories by Latin American Women: The Magic and the Real* in 2003, in an English translation by E.D. Carter, Jr. Born in Peru in 1942 and raised in Chile, Ms. Allende is one of the world's most widely read Spanish-language writers. She is the author of 19 books, including the novels *The House of the Spirits* and *City of the Beasts*, as well as stories, memoirs and children's novels. Her books have been translated into 35 languages and have sold more than 57 million copies. In 2004 she was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters. For more information, please visit www.isabelallende.com.

The Broad Stage

Under the leadership of Director Dale Franzen and Artistic Chair Dustin Hoffman, The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage opened its doors in 2008. Inspired by Italian "horseshoe" theaters, yet conceived in a contemporary vernacular, The Broad Stage presents theater, dance, film, opera, musicals, symphony and chamber orchestras, helping to build a new generation of audiences and artists.

Dulce Rosa will be sung in English with projected English translations.

Artist headshots and preliminary designs can be found on the LA Opera Press Gallery:

<http://www.laopera.com/press/Press-Photos/201213-Season/Dulce-Rosa/>

For more information, please visit www.LAOpera.com.

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