



## BALBOA PERFORMING ARTS THEATER ANNOUNCES *SEASON WITHOUT WALLS*

**Series of Concerts & Special Events Will Take Place November 2006 Through June 2007 and Includes Collaborations with Pacific Symphony, Opera Pacific, Bowers Museum and Beckman Center**

**Programs Will Feature Pacific Symphony's American Composers Festival, Opera Pacific's "Opera in the Raw" and Modern Gypsy Guitarist Emilio**

**Season began in November with Extreme Waves Lecture and Book Signing**

**Newport Beach, CA – January 22, 2007**—The Balboa Performing Arts Theater Foundation is pleased to announce the 2006-2007 *Season Without Walls*, a series of concerts and special events to be presented from November 2006 through June 2007 at select venues in Orange County.

*Season Without Walls* includes Opera Pacific's *Opera in the Raw* at the private Pelican Hill villa of Glenn & Mindy Stearns in Newport Coast, a Pacific Symphony *American Composers Festival* concert at the Samueli Theater in Costa Mesa, and Modern Gypsy guitarist Emilio at Bowers Museum in Santa Ana.

Tickets are \$25 per event where available. Series subscriptions are available for \$70.

"This is an exciting step forward for the Balboa Performing Arts Theater," says Balboa Performing Arts Theater Foundation Executive Director Mary Lonich. "We are committed to partnering with local arts organizations and artists, and this season features a number of unique collaborations that serve as examples of the type of programming we intend to present at the Balboa Performing Arts Theater once we reopen."

*Season Without Walls* started on November 5 with ***Extreme Waves***, an illustrated lecture and book signing by Newport Beach author Craig Smith at the **Beckman Center**.

The season continues on **January 28, 2007** with ***Opera in the Raw*** at the private Pelican Hill villa of Glenn & Mindy Stearns in Newport Coast. Created by Opera Pacific, *Opera in the Raw* is an exciting new concept in opera specifically geared to reach new, younger audiences. *Opera in the Raw* is a performance of the major musical sequences of an opera performed cabaret style with piano accompaniment, and the artists in their casual rehearsal attire. For this program, *Opera in the Raw* will present Donizetti's "The Elixir of Love." The event includes a wine and appetizer reception. No single tickets are available for ***Opera in the Raw***; admission is via subscription only.

On **Friday, April 20**, Season Without Walls features a **Pacific Symphony American Composers Festival** concert entitled “Mexican Tapestries” in the new 500-seat Samueli Theatre at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts. This special multi-media event explores multi-cultural influences on Mexico’s music and features pianist Pedro Carbone and guitarist Roberto Limon along with musicians from the Pacific Symphony.

The season concludes at the **Bowers Museum** on **Sunday, June 3** when Modern Gypsy guitarist **Emilio** brings his exciting and passionate “Nuevo Flamenco” music to the museum’s new John M. Lee Atrium Court. This intimate evening of Flamenco music and dance features a four piece band and Flamenco dancers. The evening begins with a Spanish wine tasting at 4:30, followed by the concert at 5:30.

“Our *Season Without Walls* features world music, classical music, opera and an illustrated lecture and book signing,” notes Lonich. “It’s a perfect representation of who the Balboa Performing Arts Theater is, and what we will be presenting given our unique location and ambiance.”

“The alliance with the existing arts institutions in Orange County is a significant move in establishing our niche within the arts community,” adds Lonich. “We’re not just another arts organization. Our goal is to bring added value and depth to the existing organizations.”

Sponsors for *Season Without Walls* include C.J. Segerstrom & Sons, City National Bank, and AECOM Technology Corporation/DMJM. Supporting sponsors include Janet & Walkie Ray, Craig & Nancy Smith, Jeff Johnson, Hensel Phelps Construction Co., The Health Emporium and Integrated Engineering Management. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, contact Mary Lonich at (949) 673-0895.

Since 1928, the Balboa Theater has been a treasured historic landmark, one that served countless visitors until closing its doors in 1992. Now, the Balboa Performing Arts Theater Foundation is conducting a capital campaign to renovate this legendary icon and transform it into a 320-seat multi-use venue for the presentation of music, dance, theater, film and performing arts education programs. The Foundation is charged with facility design, raising construction funds, and eventually managing the Theater’s daily operations.

For more information, call the Balboa Performing Arts Theater at (949) 673-0895.

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