



**BALBOA PERFORMING ARTS THEATER PRESENTS  
OPERA PACIFIC'S *OPERA IN THE RAW* AT THE PELICAN HILL  
VILLA OF GLENN & MINDY STEARNS IN NEWPORT COAST  
ON JANUARY 28, 2007**

**Renowned Maestro John DeMain will Conduct and Narrate  
an Abridged Version of Donizetti's "The Elixir of Love"**

***Opera in the Raw* is part of the Balboa Performing Arts Theater's  
2006-2007 *Season Without Walls* Series of Concerts & Special Events**

**Newport Beach, CA – December 8, 2006**—Leave your opera glasses at home and get up close and personal with sensational singers when the Balboa Performing Arts Theater presents *Opera in the Raw*, an intimate operatic performance at the private Pelican Hill villa of Glenn and Mindy Stearns in Newport Coast on Sunday, January 28, 2007.

Created by Opera Pacific, *Opera in the Raw* is an exciting new concept in opera specifically geared to reach new audiences. *Opera in the Raw* is a performance of the major musical sequences of an opera performed in an intimate setting with piano accompaniment, and the artists in more casual attire.

For the Balboa Performing Arts Theater's program, *Opera in the Raw* will present an abridged version of Donizetti's "The Elixir of Love," conducted and narrated by Opera Pacific Music Director John DeMain, at 5:30 pm. The event includes a pre-performance wine and appetizer reception at 4:30 pm.

Due to limited seating at the Stearns's villa, admission to *Opera in the Raw* is currently available only by purchasing a season subscription, which is \$70 for all three events and includes a concert by Modern Gypsy guitarist Emilio at the Bowers Museum in April 2007 and a Pacific Symphony PULSE Festival concert at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in June 2007.

"We're delighted to partner with the Balboa Performing Arts Theater for this presentation of *Opera in the Raw*," says Opera Pacific Executive Director Robert Jones. "Normally you can only have this kind of intimate experience in a rehearsal room before the singers move to the formal stage with scenery, costumes, and lighting, so we're delighted to have found a way to let the public in on it. *Opera in the Raw* is an innovative way to give the operaphile a new experience and to introduce the art form to newcomers by changing the way it is presented while preserving its essence."

## ABOUT SEASON WITHOUT WALLS

The *Opera in the Raw* event is part of the Balboa Performing Arts Theater's 2006-2007 *Season Without Walls*, a series of concerts and special events presented from November 2006 through June 2007 at select venues in Orange County.

The season began on November 3, 2006 with a well-received multi-media presentation by author Craig Smith of his new book, *Extreme Waves*, at the Beckman Center in Irvine. Upcoming *Season Without Walls* presentations include Modern Gypsy guitarist Emilio at Bowers Museum in Santa Ana on April 14, 2007, and a Pacific Symphony PULSE Festival concert and reception at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in June 2007.

Sponsors for *Season Without Walls* include C.J. Segerstrom & Sons, City National Bank, AECOM Technology Corporation/DMJM, Hensel Phelps Construction Co. and The Health Emporium.

"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."

## ABOUT BALBOA PERFORMING ARTS THEATER

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, or via email at [ctrela@thebalboatheater.org](mailto:ctrela@thebalboatheater.org).

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