



The State Theatre

www.StateTickets.org

130 West College Avenue
State College, PA 16801

*Centre County's community
Performing arts center*

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814.272.0606



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October 15, 1938*

August 17, 2009

Dear State Theatre Opera Patron:

The State Theatre is excited to announce the Metropolitan Opera for 2009-2010. Our third season will kick off on Saturday, October 10, at 1:00 pm, with a performance of Tosca. The opening day will feature a pre-opera discussion by Helen Manfull who will enlarge our perspectives of Tosca. Also back by popular demand are pre-opera discussions led by Penn State and local opera aficionados and two pre-opera luncheons on January 16th (CARMEN) and March 27th (HAMLET). See flyer for details.

THIS SEASON....There will be nine HD productions, five of which are brand new. Three will be among the most popular operas in the repertory and will feature opera's most glamorous divas. Puccini's TOSCA has Karita Mattila, whom many recognize as last season's Salome, in the title role of this exciting melodrama. Bizet's CARMEN features Angela Gheorghiu in her debut performance as a fiery gypsy heroine along with her husband, Roberto Alagna, playing the role of her lover, Don Jose. Offenbach's LES CONTES D'HOFFMAN, with Anna Netrebko as one of Hoffman's three loves, will be directed by Tony Award Winner Bartlett Sher. The other two new productions are Thomas' HAMLET, a very popular 19th century opera which has not been heard at the Met since the 1890's, and Rossini's ARMIDA, which has never before heard at the Met and will feature Renée Fleming as the sorceress who entralls men in her island prison. The production will be by Mary Zimmerman, the director of last season's controversial LA SONNAMBULA.

Also to be seen are two of the Met's most grandiose grand operas, Verdi's AIDA, which uses every stage lift in the opera house, and Puccini's TURANDOT, which will be a Franco Zefferelli production. The remaining two operas are Strauss' DER ROSENKAVALIER, a bitter-sweet comedy of love and renunciation with Renée Fleming and Susan Graham, and Verdi's gripping story of politics and intrigue SIMON BOCCANEGRA, with Placido Domingo singing in the baritone title role for the first time in his Met career; he has already sung the opera's tenor role.

OPERA BUFFS....This year we will again be offering great benefits for those that show their support by joining the **State Theatre Opera Buffs!** We count on you to help us bring opera back each year. Enclosed is a list of the giving levels and benefits.

Opera tickets will go on sale **August 28 for Opera Buffs at levels of \$250 and above** and to the public on September 8. Thank you for your enthusiasm for Opera at the State Theatre. We look forward to seeing you this season!

On behalf of the State Theatre Opera Advisory Committee,

Susan Boardman Theresa Cummins Michele Ebaugh Walt Ebaugh
Richard Gidez Marian Hammond Sue Hutchison Beverly Patton
Guy Pilato Sandy Stelts Bill Welch

Questions can be directed to Carol Falke 814-272-0606 X314 or carol@thestatetheatre.org

The official registration and financial information of State Theatre, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.