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**LA Opera Announces
Company Premiere of Janáček's
*Jenůfa***

September 27 through October 13, 2007

**Conducted by James Conlon, Directed by Olivier Tambosi,
starring Karita Mattila and Eva Urbanová**

**Production Also Stars Kim Begley, Jorma Silvasti,
Elizabeth Bishop and Jason Stearns**

(LOS ANGELES, CA) August 22, 2007 – “Leos Janáček’s *Jenůfa* is one of the most intensely dramatic and deeply moving of 20th-century operas, and I am proud to introduce this riveting work to LA Opera audiences for its Company premiere,” announced **Plácido Domingo**, the Eli and Edythe Broad General Director. “Music Director **James Conlon** will conduct, and the cast will be headed by the internationally acclaimed Finnish soprano **Karita Mattila**, who makes her Company debut as *Jenůfa*, one of her signature roles. She will be joined by soprano **Eva Urbanová** as the *Kostelnička*, tenor **Kim Begley** as *Laca*, and tenor **Jorma Silvasti** as *Števa*, in the Metropolitan Opera’s acclaimed **Olivier Tambosi** production which we will bring to LA Opera in performances at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion.”

Conducted by **James Conlon** and directed by **Olivier Tambosi** in his Company debut, *Jenůfa* is the strikingly dramatic story of a woman caught between two brothers—one who has fathered *Jenůfa*’s unborn child, and one whose secret love for *Jenůfa* bursts into violence—and her imperious stepmother, determined to conceal *Jenůfa*’s shame. This production stars soprano **Karita Mattila** as *Jenůfa* and soprano **Eva Urbanová** as her stepmother, the “*Kostelnička*” [Sacristan] in their Company debuts. Tenor

Kim Begley makes his LA Opera debut as the bitter Laca and tenor **Jorma Silvasti** returns as the irresponsible Števa. Mezzo-soprano **Elizabeth Bishop** makes her LA Opera debut as Grandmother Buryjova and bass-baritone **Jason Stearns** returns as the Mill Foreman.

Jenůfa opens September 27 at 7:30pm and runs for five additional performances through October 13 at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, 135 North Grand Avenue, Los Angeles.

Jenůfa is made possible by special support from The Lloyd E. Rigler – Lawrence E. Deutsch Foundation.
Jenůfa will be sung in Czech with English supertitles projected above the stage.
Production from the Metropolitan Opera.

Media Kits

Artist headshots and production shots can be found on the LA Opera Press Gallery
<http://www.laopera.com/press/2007-08/jenufa/index.htm>

Synopsis for *Jenůfa* can be found on the LA Opera website
<http://www.laopera.com/productions/0708/jenufa/synopsis.htm>

Performance Schedule and Tickets

Jenůfa opens on Thursday, September 27 at 7:30pm. Subsequent evening performances are on October 4, 10 and 13 at 7:30pm and two matinees are on September 30 and October 7 at 2:00pm.

Tickets to *Jenůfa* range from \$20 to \$238, and are on sale at the LA Opera Box Office, by phone at (213) 972-8001 or online at www.laopera.com. For disability access, call (213) 972-0777 or e-mail wehelpyou@laopera.com.

All LA Opera performances take place at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Music Center, 135 North Grand Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

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