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February/March 2008

**LA Opera Presents Giuseppe Verdi's  
*Otello***

**American Debut of British Tenor Ian Storey  
Conducted by LA Opera Music Director James Conlon**

**What:** Plácido Domingo, the Eli and Edythe Broad General Director of LA Opera, announces the return of Verdi's greatest tragic opera, *Otello*, in February and March 2008. Verdi's transformation of the original Shakespeare play is a powerful drama of uncontrolled human emotion at its most extreme. The evil sadist Iago taunts and manipulates the Moor of Venice, cleverly exploiting his one fatal flaw: jealousy. This musical portrait of Otello's descent into a tortured heart of darkness is explicit in every chilling detail as he destroys all in life that he holds dear.

**Who:** Music Director **James Conlon** conducts and stage director **John Cox** lead a sensational cast with several highly anticipated LA Opera debuts. British tenor **Ian Storey\*** makes his American debut in the title role, joined by Chilean soprano **Cristina Gallardo-Domâs\*** in her Company debut as Desdemona and baritone **Mark Delavan\*** as Iago in his Company stage debut. Tenor **Derek Taylor** as Cassio, mezzo-soprano **Ning Liang\*** as Emilia and bass **Eric Halfvarson** as Lodovico (also appearing as King Marke in *Tristan und Isolde*) round out the cast. Set and costume design is by **Johan Engels**.  
\* LA Opera debut

**When:** **Opening Night Performance: Saturday, February 16, 2008 at 7:30pm**  
Evening Performances: February 21, 24 and March 5 at 7:30pm  
Matinee Performances: February 27 at 1:00pm (new weekday matinee performance) and March 2 and 9 at 2:00pm

**Where:** **Dorothy Chandler Pavilion**, 135 N. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Admission:** Tickets to *Otello* 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](http://www.laopera.com). For disability access, call (213) 972-0777 or e-mail [wehelpyou@laopera.com](mailto:wehelpyou@laopera.com).

Artist headshots can be found on the LA Opera Press Gallery:  
<http://www.losangelesopera.com/press/2007-08/otello/index.htm>

Synopsis can be found on the LA Opera website:  
<http://www.losangelesopera.com/productions/0708/otello/index.htm>

*Otello* will be sung in Italian with English supertitles projected above the stage.  
This is a Co-Production with Opéra de Monte-Carlo and Teatro Regio di Parma

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