

PLÁCIDO DOMINGO ELI AND EDYTHE BROAD GENERAL DIRECTOR
JAMES CONLON RICHARD SEAVER MUSIC DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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November / December 2009

LA Opera Presents Company Premiere of Handel's

Tamerlano

William Lacey to conduct production directed by Chas Rader-Shieber

**Cast Includes Plácido Domingo as Bajazet
with Bejun Mehta in Title Role**

- What:** Handel's rarely-performed work recounts the tale of the Turkish sultan, Bajazet, who has been defeated and taken prisoner by Tamerlano, the Tartar emperor. Bajazet would rather die than remain captive; only his great love for his daughter Asteria prevents him from taking his own life. Tamerlano, however, is in love with his prisoner's daughter, who accepts his marriage proposal in order to take revenge by murdering him on their wedding night. The riveting tale of enslavement, infidelity and suicide unfolds with tragic grandeur in a theatrically vital modern-dress interpretation.
- Who:** Conductor **William Lacey** makes his LA Opera debut. The cast includes countertenor **Bejun Mehta** as Tamerlano, tenor **Plácido Domingo** as Bajazet, soprano **Sarah Coburn** as Asteria, mezzo-soprano **Patricia Bardon*** as Andronico, mezzo-soprano **Jennifer Holloway*** as Irene, and **Ryan McKinny** as Leone. The production, directed by **Chas Rader-Shieber***, features scenery and costumes designed by **David Zinn*** and lighting designed by **Chris Akerlind**. (* = LA Opera debut)
- When:** **Opening Performance: Saturday, November 21, 2009 at 7:30pm**
Additional evening performances: November 23 and 25, December 1 at 7:30pm
Matinee performance: November 28 at 2:00pm
- Where:** **Dorothy Chandler Pavilion**, 135 N. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- Tickets:** Tickets to *Tamerlano* range from \$20 to \$260, and can be purchased 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.

This production is made possible by a generous gift from Barbara Augusta Teichert.

Rolex is the Presenting Sponsor of *Tamerlano*.

Artist headshots can be found on the LA Opera Press Gallery:

<http://media.laopera.com/photo/?level=album&id=71>

Synopsis and additional information can be found on the LA Opera website:

<http://www.laopera.com/production/0910/tamerlano/index.aspx>

Tamerlano will be performed in Italian, with English supertitles projected above the stage.
Production from Washington National Opera.

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