



Lyric Opera San Diego

MUSIC FOR EVERYONE

Lyric Opera San Diego Opens 2009-10 31st Season with Cole Porter's "Anything Goes!"

Oct. 2 – 11, 2009 at Birch North Park Theatre

For immediate release: July 22, 2009

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SAN DIEGO — Lyric Opera San Diego opens its 31st season with the Depression-era Broadway smash hit *Anything Goes!*, opening at the Birch North Park Theatre on Friday, October 2, 2009.

With music and lyrics by the most successful American musical theatre songwriter of his day, Cole Porter, *Anything Goes!* was a hit when it opened on Broadway in 1934. The show premiered many songs that have entered into the pantheon of popular American music, including the title song and "I Get a Kick Out of You."

Lyric Opera's production will be directed by the talented director and choreographer **David Brannen**. **Chris Thompson** will once again lead from the podium as conductor. He most recently conducted performances of *Man of La Mancha* at Lyric Opera.

Jimmy Ferraro, who wowed audiences with his Sancho in *Man of La Mancha*, will return to play the role of Moonface, Public Enemy #13. **Jordan Miller** will make his company debut as Billy. Miller, a Texas native, was recently seen in his San Diego debut as Volodya in Cygnet Theatre's "Critic's Pick" revival of *Bed and Sofa*. Before that, he starred in Performance Riverside's *Annie Get Your Gun* as Frank Butler, for which he received an Inland Theatre League Excellence in Theatre award. Other regional credits include *Oliver!* at FCLO, *A Playhouse Christmas*, Hunterton Hills Playhouse, and Prather Family of Theatre's regional tour of *Oklahoma!* as Curly.

Joining Jordan Miller in the cast is **Laura Bueno** in the role of Hope. Laura was last seen to great acclaim in the title role of LOSD's *Iolanthe*. Returning as Reno Sweeney is **Debra Wanger**, last seen with LOSD as Nancy in *Oliver!*

(more)

Lyric Opera San Diego
2891 University Ave., Ste 1 • San Diego, CA 92101 • Tel. (619) 231-5714 •
www.lyricoperasandiego.com

Lyric Opera San Diego presents Anything Goes! — 2

ABOUT THE SHOW

Cole Porter was coming off a string of hits when he wrote *Anything Goes!*, and it proved to be his biggest hit yet. The score was a triumph and audiences flocked to see the show and learn all the words. For Ethel Merman and William Gaxton, in the roles of Reno Sweeney and Billy Crocker, Porter wrote the greatest of his “list songs,” the great show-stopping “You’re the Top.” *Anything Goes!* is one of the most frequently requested repeat shows by Lyric Opera audiences, and is part of the company’s mission to examine the jazz-age musicals of the American musical theater tradition. Packed with the best of the great Cole Porter’s signature wit and tunefulness, this show made Ethel Merman a star. The joy of returning to the musical comedy roots of Broadway in the 1930s is a reminder that even in the Great Depression, people could only stay holed up so long. The time came when a night on the town, and a witty, naughty time needed to be had by all.

THE STORY

A huge trans-Atlantic ocean liner is about to sail. The dock is crowded with departing passengers; their friends, newspaper reporters and cameramen are milling through the crowd. Billy Crocker comes aboard ship to bid his boss “bon voyage.” The boss fires Billy, who discovers at the same time that his girlfriend, Hope Harcourt, is sailing on the same boat with her mother and Sir Evelyn Oakleigh, whom Hope’s mother wishes her to marry. When Billy learns this, he decides to make the trip to Europe on the same ship.

Also on board are nightclub proprietress Reno Sweeney and her chorus girls; the Reverend Dr. Moon, who is really Public Enemy #13 in disguise; and Bonnie La Tour. Moon has an extra ticket because his accomplice, Snake Eyes Johnson, Public Enemy #1, has failed to join him on the ship. Moon gives Johnson’s ticket to Billy, who accordingly becomes the object of the authorities who are searching the ship. Billy constantly changes disguises so as to be free to woo Hope, and he persuades Reno to pursue Sir Evelyn to keep the latter from interfering with his courtship. Both Moon and Billy are finally apprehended, but Billy manages to clear himself and there is a final happy ending for all.

PERFORMANCE DATES:

Friday	Oct. 2 at 7:30 pm	Thursday	Oct. 8 at 7:30pm
Saturday	Oct. 3 at 7:30pm	Friday	Oct. 9 at 7:30pm
Sunday	Oct. 4 at 2:30pm	Saturday	Oct. 10 at 7:30pm
		Sunday	Oct. 11 at 2:30pm

Lyric Opera San Diego 2009-10 Season

***Anything Goes!* – Cole Porter**

October 2-11, 2009

***Hansel and Gretel* – Engelbert Humperdinck**

November 13-22, 2009

(more)

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Lyric Opera San Diego presents Anything Goes! — 3

***A Little Night Music* – Stephen Sondheim
February 12-21, 2010**

**Priti Gandhi in Recital
March 6, 2010**

***The Pirates of Penzance* – Gilbert and Sullivan
March 26-April 11, 2010**

PURCHASING TICKETS

Subscription renewals are unchanged from last season: \$100 to \$180 for all four shows. New subscriptions are \$108 to \$188 for all four shows. Full season subscribers will receive complimentary tickets to our Pre-Show lectures. Regular single tickets are \$32 to \$52; children 17 and under are half price.

Tickets for Priti Gandhi in Recital are \$40, or \$60 including a Champagne and hors d'oeuvres reception with the artist after the show.

For more information please call the Box Office, (619) 239-8836.

– All programs and artists are subject to change without notice. –

GENERAL INFORMATION

All Lyric Opera performances take place at the newly restored Birch North Park Theatre. Disabled persons seating is available with at least 72 hours notice. No children under 3 years old are admitted. (Minimum age for *A Little Night Music* is 5.)

Evening performances are at 7:30pm; matinees at 2:30pm.

ABOUT LYRIC OPERA SAN DIEGO

Lyric Opera San Diego celebrates 30 years of bringing accessible, affordable opera and musical theatre productions to San Diego. The company proudly performs operas and musicals from the European and American tradition, in English, presenting the finest young musical talent available with full orchestra and chorus accompaniment at its new home, the newly restored Birch North Park Theatre.

Lyric Opera San Diego's Outreach Department presents preview performances to students and social service organizations throughout San Diego County.

For more information, please call the Lyric Opera office, (619) 231-5714.

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