



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Livermore Valley Opera Presents

Donizetti's *THE DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT* Opening Sept 28

Family-friendly tale dazzles audiences with comedy, romance and sublime music

LIVERMORE, CALIF. – The Tri-Valley's own professional opera company, Livermore Valley Opera (LVOpera), opens its thrilling 33rd season with Gaetano Donizetti's *The Daughter of the Regiment* (*La Fille du Régiment*), sung in French with English supertitles, at the Bankhead Theater on September 28, the first of four performances that run through October 6. New this season, the Saturday performance on October 5 will be a 2:00 pm matinee instead of an evening performance.

This opera tells the story of a spirited heroine Marie, found on a battlefield and raised by a French regiment, who side-steps the wishes of both her foster-father Sulpice and her aunt, the Marquise of Berkenfield, to follow her heart's desire and the love of Tyrolean peasant Tonio. One of Donizetti's three most popular comic operas, *The Daughter of the Regiment* is replete with memorable arias, including the one that crowned Luciano Pavarotti as "King of the High C's."

With over 70 operas to his name, Donizetti's *The Daughter of the Regiment* emerges as one of his most beloved works, offering an engaging mix of romantic comedy that is sure to deliver sheer entertainment perfect for the entire family. Erie Mills, LVOpera's Artistic Director, notes "The opera has some of the most wonderful music by Donizetti. It is charming and funny, and has a very happy ending. The audience will smile through the entire opera. It's fun for all ages!"

Returning Stage Director Marc Jacobs leads a stellar cast and all performances will be expertly accompanied by the Livermore Valley Opera Orchestra, conducted by Music Director, Alexander Katsman. Featured artists include Bay Area native, French American soprano **Véronique Filloux**, who will be returning to the LVOpera stage as Marie, *Opera News* lauds her as "'show stopping...her dazzling coloratura and lithe stage presence [used] to piquant comedic effect" and her "expressive, lovingly shaded soprano." Last season, Filloux debuted with LVOpera as "Eve-like temptress" Curley's Wife in *Of Mice and Men*. Praised by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, "Véronique Filloux dispatched her assignment with precision and a modicum of pathos."

Tenor **Chris Mosz**, will make his LVOpera debut playing Marie's ardent lover Tonio. Tulsa, Oklahoma native, his career has been shaped by music and singing deeply rooted in his European heritage, growing up with a father from Budapest and mother who sang as a coloratura soprano. Mosz is "an audience favorite not only for his smooth and sweet-voiced lyric singing, but

also for his empathetic teddy bear persona. The world will hear more from, and about him, to be sure.” (*Opera Wire*) Beloved Romanian baritone **Eugene Brancoveanu**, returns to the LVOpera stage playing the role of Sulpice. This Tony award winner has performed with LVOpera many times including the *CELEBRATE* concert in Fall 2021; performing Renato in *Masked Ball*, in Spring 2018 and directing *The Abduction from the Seraglio* in Fall of 2018.

Lisa Chavez, making her LVOpera debut in the role of the Marquise of Berkenfield has been described as possessing a “plush storm of a voice”, “graceful stage presence” as well as being “a powerhouse both vocally and emotionally” “commanding the stage at every moment she was on it.” (*Opera Wire*). **Debra Lambert**, will join the cast as Duchess of Krachenthorp and **Gilead Wurman** will play the role of Hortensius.

Adds Mills, “Donizetti’s masterpiece is overflowing with charm and humor. (This production) holds a special place in the hearts of opera lovers worldwide. It’s endearing story of love and loyalty, coupled with Donizetti’s enchanting score, promises an evening of pure delight.”

Performance Details - *The Daughter of the Regiment* by Gaetano Donizetti

- Saturday, September 28 @ 7:30 pm, Season Opening Night
- Sunday, September 29, @ 2:00 pm
- Saturday, October 5 @ 2:00 pm (new time- matinee performance)
- Sunday, October 6 @ 2:00 pm

Pre-opera talk

Included in the ticket price are pre-opera talks held one hour prior to curtain time. LVOpera’s traditional artist’s reception is held in the lobby immediately following each performance.

Bankhead Theater

Location: 2400 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550.

Bankhead Ticket Office: Wednesday through Saturday, 12 to 6 pm.

Open 2 hours prior to a performance and 30 minutes after start time.

Buy Tickets: Online at www.LVOpera.com, or call 925-373-6800

Free Parking: Available in garage directly across the street from the theater on Railroad Avenue.

Ticket Pricing

Adults \$25-\$110. Tickets can be purchased through the LVOpera website at www.LVOpera.com.

Special ticket pricing: \$25 for age 20 and younger; \$45 for ages 21 to 40.

Special Event: Season Opening Night Dinner at Uncle Yu’s at the Vineyards

Come celebrate the opening of LVOpera’s 33rd season on September 28. Enjoy a welcome reception with appetizers at 4:00 pm followed by a four-course dinner at Uncle Yu’s at the Vineyard in downtown Livermore at 4:30 pm. All dishes will be paired with award-winning wines from sponsor Cellar 13 Winery, a dining experience that sets the mood for an uplifting Season Opening Night of *The Daughter of the Regiment* at the nearby Bankhead Theater. Tickets for the Season Opening Night Dinner must be purchased separately (\$130 per person) and are available online at www.livermorearts.org.

About Livermore Valley Opera

Livermore Valley Opera (LVOpera) strives to enrich its community by producing world-class operas and fostering the careers of professional opera singers. LVOpera encourages a wider appreciation of opera and the associated arts through its thriving Education and Community Engagement Program for students, families and seniors in the Tri-Valley region. Founded in 1992, Livermore Valley Opera presents fully-staged operas in the spring and fall at the Bankhead Theater, conveniently located in the heart of downtown Livermore, just 45 miles east of San Francisco. This intimate 500-seat venue features excellent lines of sight and acoustics, which also helps LVOpera to attract talented singers and stage directors. To achieve the highest level of artistic excellence, LVOpera combines the talents of professional musicians, stage directors, singers, and designers with the dedication and practical abilities of volunteers to fill critical roles.

LVOpera is a professional opera company and a 501(c) 3 non-profit charitable arts organization. For more information, visit LVOpera.com.

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