



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **OPERA COLORADO 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA & SINGLE TICKETS FOR PATTI LuPONE CONCERT** *One Night Only - Saturday, November 3*

**Denver, Colo.**— In less than two weeks, Opera Colorado will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary season. **Saturday, November 3, 2007** features a special one-night only concert performance by Broadway superstar **Patti LuPone**. Tables, Couples Packages, and Individual tickets are available for purchase now. Single tickets for the *concert-only* portion of the event are also on sale. The full evening package includes cocktails and dinner in the Seawell Ballroom, tickets to the concert, and a post-performance dessert and dancing party the Opera House. For gala details and reservations visit [www.operacolorado.org/getinvolved](http://www.operacolorado.org/getinvolved) or call 303-778-7086.

Patti LuPone performs  
***COULDA, WOULD, SHOULD***

Conceived and directed by Scott Wittman  
Musical Arrangements by Dick Gallagher  
Musical Direction by Chris Fenwick

***COULDA, WOULD, SHOULD:***

Tony and Olivier Award winner **Patti LuPone** in her concert ***COULDA, WOULD, SHOULD***, performs songs from musicals which she could have played, should have played, did play and will play. The list of shows includes *Hair, Bye, Bye Birdie, Funny Girl, West Side Story* and *Peter Pan* and, of course, from her award winning performances in *Evita* and *Anything Goes*.

While universally admired as a music theater luminary, Patti LuPone's career has included roles in film, television, opera and the recording industry as well. Known for her charismatic stage presence in such hits as *Sweeney Todd, Evita, and Sunset Boulevard*, she also recently made her Los Angeles Opera debut as Leocadia Begbick in Kurt Weill's *The Rise and Fall of Mahogany*.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary season, marking Opera Colorado's third year in the Ellie Caulkins Opera House, will open with this special gala concert one week prior to the opening night performance of *La Traviata* on November 9. Proceeds from the 2007-2008 Season Opening Gala will support the artistic, education, and community outreach programs of Opera Colorado, serving over 25,000 youth and adults throughout Colorado. The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season offerings also include *La Traviata, Don Pasquale, The Flying Dutchman* concert opera, and *Nixon in China*.

**Tickets**

Concert-Only Tickets: \$25 - \$57, 303-357-ARTS or [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

Gala Tickets are available for purchase at 303-778-7086 or [www.operacolorado.org/getinvolved](http://www.operacolorado.org/getinvolved)

Gala Tables: \$5,000, \$10,000, and \$25,000

Gala Couples Package: \$3,000

Gala Individual Ticket: \$400

(more)

### **Event Details**

**What:** Opera Colorado 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Concert with Patti LuPone

**Where:** Seawell Ballroom and the Ellie Caulkins Opera House, Denver, Colorado

**When:** November 3, 2007

**Time:** Concert begins at 8:30 p.m. / Gala events begin at 6:00 p.m.

**Beneficiary:** Opera Colorado's artistic and education programs

**Co-Chairs:** Kalleen Malone and Marcia Robinson

**Corporate Committee Chairs:** Walter and Christie Isenberg

### **Patti LuPone**

Patti LuPone recently received rave reviews for her performance as Rose in a new production of the Jules Styne-Stephen Sondheim-Arthur Laurents musical *Gypsy*, directed by the show's author, Mr. Laurents, at New York's City Center. Last season she made her debut with the Los Angeles Opera in the company's new production of Weill-Brecht's *Rise and Fall of the Mahagonny* and appeared in the world premiere of Jake Heggie's new opera *To Hell and Back* with San Francisco's Baroque Philharmonia Orchestra.

Miss LuPone's recent stage credits include Mrs. Lovett in John Doyle's award winning Broadway production of Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*, the title role in the Marc Blitzstein's *Regina*, a musical version of Lillian Hellman's *The Little Foxes* at Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center, a critically acclaimed performance as Fosca in a concert version of Stephen Sondheim's *Passion*, which was also broadcast on PBS' Live From Lincoln Center and a multi-city tour of her critically acclaimed theatrical concert *Matters of the Heart*, presented by Clear Channel Entertainment. She has toured *Matters of the Heart* throughout the United States and internationally, including runs at Australia's Sydney Festival, London's Donmar Warehouse Theatre and New York's Lincoln Center Theater. Her CD recording, based on this concert, was named one of 1999's best recordings by both The Times of London and Time Out/New York.

In addition to *Matters of the Heart*, Miss LuPone also performs two other solo concerts *Coulda, Woulda, Shoulda* and *The Lady With The Torch*. She made a triumphant solo concert debut at New York's Carnegie Hall in *Coulda, Woulda, Shoulda* resulting in a sold-out encore performance at Carnegie Hall, and performs the concert with major symphony orchestras around the country. *The Lady With The Torch* is the basis for Miss LuPone's latest solo CD, on Ghostlight Records. Conceived and directed by Scott Wittman, *The Lady With The Torch* features musical direction by Chris Fenwick and a 10 piece band performing an eclectic selection of torch songs, orchestrated by Jonathan Tunick

Patti LuPone's other recent New York stage appearances include performances as La Mome Pistache in the City Center Encores! production of Cole Porter's musical *Can-Can* at New York's City Center, as The Old Lady in the New York Philharmonic's concert production of Leonard Bernstein's *Candide*, and performances on Broadway in the hit revival of Michael Frayn's *Noises Off*, in David Mamet's *The Old Neighborhood*, Terrence McNally's Tony Award-winning play *Master Class* and in her own concert *Patti LuPone On Broadway*, for which she won an Outer Critics Circle Award. Over the past six consecutive summers, she's appeared in the Ravinia Festival's critically acclaimed Sondheim series, starring as Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*, as Desiree in *A Little Night Music*, Fosca in *Passion*, Cora Hooper in *Anyone Can Whistle*, Rose in *Gypsy* and was featured in two different roles in *Sunday in the Park with George*.

After completing her training with the first class of the Drama Division of New York's Juilliard School, she began her career as a founding member of John Houseman's The Acting Company playing a variety of leading roles, both on and off-Broadway and on tour throughout the United States. Her subsequent New York dramatic credits include Dario Fo's *Accidental Death of An Anarchist*, David Mamet's *The Water Engine*, *Edmond* and *The Woods* and Israel Horowitz' *Stage Directions*. Miss LuPone's memorable performances on the New York musical stage include Vera Simpson in the City Center Encores! production of *Pal Joey*, Reno Sweeney in *Anything Goes*, (1988 Drama Desk Award, Tony nomination, Best Actress in a Musical), *The Cradle Will Rock*, Nancy in *Oliver!*, *Evita* (1980 Tony and Drama Desk Awards- Best Actress in a Musical), *Working* and Rosamund in *The Robber Bridegroom* (1976 Tony and Drama Desk Award nominations, Best Featured Actress in a Musical).

In London, she created the role of Fantine in the RSC production of *Les Miserables*, a role she subsequently played on the West End. For that performance, as well as the reprise of her performance in the London production of *The Cradle Will Rock*, she won an Olivier Award for Best Actress in a Musical. Miss LuPone created the role of Norma Desmond in *Sunset Boulevard* (1994 Olivier nomination, Best Actress in A Musical), and recreated her Broadway performance of Maria Callas in the West End production of *Master Class*.

Film: *City By The Sea*, David Mamet's *Heist* and *State and Main*; *Just Looking*, *Summer of Sam*, *The 24 Hour Woman*, *Family Prayers*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Witness*.

TV: NBC's *Will & Grace* (as herself), PBS Great Performances,' *Candide*, *Oz*, the TNT film *Monday Night Mayhem*, PBS' *Evening At The Pops* with John Williams and Yo Yo Ma, *Falcone*, *Bonanno: A Godfather's Story* (Showtime); *Frasier* (1998 Emmy nomination); *Law & Order*, *An Evening with Patti LuPone* (PBS), the NBC movie *Her Last Chance*, Showtime's ACE Award and Emmy nominated *The Song Spinner* (Daytime Emmy nomination, Best Actress), *The Water Engine*, *L.B.J.*, AMC's *Remember WENN* and ABC's *Life Goes On*.

Recordings include: *Sweeney Todd* (both the 2006 Broadway revival cast recording and 2000 live performance recording on NY Philharmonic's Special Editions Label); *Pal Joey* (DRG); *Heatwave* with John Mauceri and the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra (Phillips Classics); *Sunset Boulevard* (Polygram); *Patti LuPone Live* (RCA Victor).  
[www.pattilupone.net](http://www.pattilupone.net).

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Opera Colorado's mission is to entertain our audience by creating the passion, excitement and art of grand opera and to promote opera to the widest possible audience through educational and cultural activities. Opera Colorado is committed to presenting the highest quality live performances of grand operas in their original languages.  
Opera Colorado exists to feed the spirit.