

CALENDAR RELEASE

HoustonGrandOpera



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<http://www.houstongrandopera.org/pressmedia/login.aspx>

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ATTENTION CALENDAR EDITORS:
HOUSTON GRAND OPERA PRESENTS
THE WORLD PREMIERE OF ANDRE PREVIN'S
Brief Encounter
PERFORMANCES MAY 1-9, 2009

WHO: Houston Grand Opera (HGO)

WHAT: HGO presents its 39th world premiere with André Previn's second opera *Brief Encounter*, an opera in two acts, based on the play *Still Life* and the screen play to the 1945 David Lean film *Brief Encounter*, both by Noël Coward. *Brief Encounter* opens May 1, 2009 with performances through May 9.

An honest and compassionate look at emotional infidelity, *Brief Encounter* stars **Elizabeth Futral** and **Nathan Gunn** as Laura and Alec, the couple torn between love and honor, and **Kim Josephson** as Laura's bewildered husband. HGO's production of *Brief Encounter* is directed by **John Caird**. Houston Grand Opera Musical Director, **Patrick Summers** conducts the Houston Grand Opera Orchestra. Sets and costumes are designed by **Bunny Christie**. Lighting Design is by British designer, **Paul Pyant**.

Commissioned by **Houston Grand Opera**

WHEN: Friday, May 1, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 3, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 7, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 9, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Wortham Theater Center's Brown Theater, Texas Avenue at Smith Street, Houston, Texas.
(713)-228-OPERA

ARTISTS:

Laura Jesson **Elizabeth Futral**, soprano
 Alec Harvey..... **Nathan Gunn**, baritone
 Fred Jesson **Kim Josephson**, bass-baritone
 Dolly Messiter **Rebekah Camm**, soprano
 Myrtle Bagot **Meredith Arwady**, contralto*
 Albert Godby..... **Robert Orth**, baritone
 Dr. Graves **James J. Kee**, baritone
 Mary Norton..... **Jamie Barton** mezzo-soprano
 Beryl..... **Alicia Gianni**, soprano
 Mrs. Rolandson **Faith Sherman**, mezzo-soprano
 Stanley **Adam Cioffari**, bass

Conductor **Patrick Summers**
 Director..... **John Caird***
 Set and Costume Designer **Bunny Christie***
 Lighting Designer..... **Paul Pyant**
Houston Grand Opera Orchestra

* Houston Grand Opera debut

LANGUAGE: *Brief Encounter* will be sung in English with English supertitles.

TICKETS: Single tickets for *Brief Encounter* (inclusive of all city surcharges), start at \$20. For tickets and general information, go to www.houstongrandopera.org or call **(713)-228-OPERA** or **1-(800)-62-OPERA** 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. Monday–Friday and 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saturday.

Brief Encounter was commissioned by Houston Grand Opera. The commission is supported by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. The production of *Brief Encounter* received funding from OPERA America's *Opera Fund*.

Guarantor

Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation

Grand Underwriter



Underwriters



Lynn Wyatt

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