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**ATTENTION CALENDAR EDITORS:**  
**HOUSTON GRAND OPERA PRESENTS**  
**FREE PUBLIC PERFORMANCES OF *RIGOLETTO***  
**AT MILLER OUTDOOR THEATER**  
**PERFORMANCES MAY 15 AND 16, 2009 AT 8:30 P.M.**

**WHO:** Houston Grand Opera (HGO)

**WHAT:** **Houston Grand Opera (HGO)** reprises performances of its much acclaimed production of Verdi's *Rigoletto* – with free public performances on May 15-16, 2009 at the Miller Outdoor Theatre.

Houston Grand Opera presents Verdi's distinguished tragedy where a bitter court jester pits himself against his master, the Duke of Mantua, in a hopeless effort to protect his daughter, Gilda's, fortune.

**WHEN:** Friday, May 15, 2009 at 8:30 pm  
Saturday, May 16, 2009 at 8:30 pm

**WHERE:** Miller Outdoor Theater, 100 Concert Drive, Houston, TX 77030 (Hermann Park)

**ARTISTS:** Rigoletto.....**Hector Vásquez**, baritone  
Gilda.....**Albina Shagimuratova**, soprano  
Duke of Mantua.....**Eric Cutler**, tenor  
Sparafucile.....**Raymond Aceto**, bass  
Count Monterone.....**Tommy Ajai George**, bass-baritone  
  
Conductor.....**Eric Melear**  
Original Director.....**Lindy Hume**  
Miller Director.....**Tara Faircloth**  
Original Set Designer.....**Michael Yeargan**  
Costume Designer.....**Peter J. Hall**  
Lighting Designer.....**Michael C. Clark**  
Chorus Master.....**Richard Bado**  
Orchestra.....**Houston Grand Opera Orchestra**  
Chorus.....**Houston Grand Opera Chorus**

**LANGUAGE:** *Rigoletto* will be sung in Italian with English surtitles.

**TICKETS:** For information and tickets, contact Miller Outdoor Theatre at 281-FREE FUN (281-373-3386) or <http://www.milleroutdoortheatre.com>. Free tickets for covered seating are available day of performance from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Miller Theatre Box Office, limit 4 per person. Free lawn seating is available on a first come-first-served basis. Rather than driving to the Theatre, why not catch the MetroRail? Visit <http://www.ridemetro.org> for more information.

Guarantors

**The Honorable Peter and Anne S. Brown**

**The City of Houston through Miller Theatre Advisory Board**



Underwriter

**The Rockwell Fund**

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HGO's performances of *Rigoletto* at Miller Outdoor Theatre are part of the NEXUS Initiative, which is made possible through the generosity of :

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Since its inception in 1955, Houston Grand Opera has swiftly grown from a small regional organization into an internationally renowned opera company. The company has a reputation for commissioning and producing new works (39 world premieres and six American premieres since 1973) as well as for reaching out to new audiences. HGO has toured extensively, including trips to Europe and Asia, and it is the only opera company to have won a Tony, two Grammy awards, and two Emmy awards. Houston Grand Opera's productions are broadcast nationally and internationally over National Public Radio's *World of Opera*, the WFMT Radio Network, New York City's WQXR, the European Broadcasting Union, and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.