

## CALENDAR RELEASE

HoustonGrandOpera



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High-resolution production photos and headshots can be found at  
[www.houstongrandopera.org/PressPhotos/PressPhotos.aspx](http://www.houstongrandopera.org/PressPhotos/PressPhotos.aspx)

**HOUSTON GRAND OPERA PRESENTS**  
**BRITTEN'S *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM***  
**PERFORMANCES JANUARY 23-FEBRUARY 6, 2009**

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

**WHAT:** HGO continues its multi year Benjamin Britten cycle and its 2008-2009 season with Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, opening January 23, 2009 with performances through February 6.

Benjamin Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, based on Shakespeare's play is performed by a superb ensemble cast led by Houston favorite soprano **Laura Claycomb** as Tytania and Welsh countertenor **Iestyn Davies**, in his company debut, as Oberon. Also appearing are HGO Studio alums; tenor **Norman Reinhardt** as Lysander, baritone **Liam Bonner** as Demetrius, bass **Ryan McKinney** as Theseus, and mezzo-soprano **Maria Lenormand** as Hermia. Making their Houston Grand Opera debuts are soprano **Katie van Kooten** as Helena, bass-baritone **Matthew Rose** as Bottom, tenor **Peter Wedd** as Flute, and actor **Jon Michael Hill** as Puck. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is a new production directed by Australian **Neil Armfield**. Houston Grand Opera Musical Director, **Patrick Summers** conducts the Houston Grand Opera Orchestra and Chorus. **Richard Bado** is the chorus master. Sets and costumes are designed by **Dale Ferguson**. Lighting Design is by **Damien Cooper**.

**WHEN:** Friday, January 23, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, January 25 at 2:00 p.m.  
Saturday, January 31, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, February 4, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, February 6, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

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

**ARTISTS:**

Oberon.....**Iestyn Davies**, countertenor \*  
 Tytania.....**Laura Claycomb**, soprano  
 Lysander.....**Norman Reinhardt**, tenor  
 Demetrius.....**Liam Bonner**, baritone  
 Hermia.....**Maria Lenormand**, mezzo  
 Helena.....**Katie van Kooten**, soprano \*  
 Bottom.....**Matthew Rose**, bass baritone \*

Conductor.....**Patrick Summers**  
 Director.....**Neil Armfield**  
 Set and Costume Designer.....**Dale Ferguson** \*  
 Lighting Designer.....**Damien Cooper** \*  
 Chorus Master.....**Richard Bado**  
 Orchestra.....**Houston Grand Opera Orchestra**  
 Chorus.....**Houston Grand Opera Chorus**

\* Houston Grand Opera debut

**LANGUAGE:** *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* will be sung in English with English supertitles.

**TICKETS:** Single tickets for *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (inclusive of all city surcharges), start at \$20. For tickets and general information, go to [www.houstongrandopera.org](http://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.

**Guarantors**

**Mr. and Mrs. Eugene M. Isenberg**



**Underwriters**



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