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June 2008

**LA Opera's Celebrates Puccini's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
and the Final Performances of the 2007/08 Season**  
**Giacomo Puccini's**  
***La Rondine***

***Soprano Patricia Racette and Tenor Marcus Haddock***  
***Return to LA Opera***  
***Marta Domingo Directs and Keri-Lynn Wilson Conducts***

**What:** Celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Giacomo Puccini, LA Opera presents *La Rondine*, which includes some of the composer's most rhapsodic music, including the famous aria "Il bel sogno di Doretta." *La Rondine* tells the poignant tale of a beautiful courtesan's first taste of true love. A romance sweeps her away from a glamorous but shallow existence in Paris to the intoxicating French Riviera. But just as a swallow must eventually take flight to fulfill its destiny, Magda's disreputable past dictates the outcome of her rapturous illusion. **Marta Domingo** directs a sumptuous production of this rare Puccini gem, which may be the composer's most heartbreaking opera.

**Who:** Soprano **Patricia Racette** and tenor **Marcus Haddock**, who appeared together in the leading roles of LA Opera's 2006 production of *Madama Butterfly*, will reunite as the courtesan Magda and as Ruggero, the young man who captures her heart. The cast also includes bass **David Pittsinger** as Rambaldo, **Amanda Squitieri\*** as Lisette and **Greg Fedderly** as Prunier. **Keri-Lynn Wilson\*** conducts. The designer is **Michael Scott** and the choreographer is **Kitty McNamee**.  
\* *LA Opera debut*

**When:** **Opening Night Performance: Saturday, June 7, 2008 at 7:30pm**  
Evening Performances: June 12, 19, 25, 28 at 7:30pm  
Afternoon Performances: June 15, 22 at 2pm

**Where:** **Dorothy Chandler Pavilion**, 135 N. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Admission:** Tickets to *La Rondine* range from \$20 to \$238, and are on sale at the LA Opera Box Office, by phone at (213) 972-8001 or online at [www.laopera.com](http://www.laopera.com). For disability access, call (213) 972-0777 or e-mail [wehelpyou@laopera.com](mailto:wehelpyou@laopera.com).

Artist headshots can be found on the LA Opera Press Gallery:

<http://media.laopera.com/photo/?level=collection&id=2>

Synopsis can be found on the LA Opera website:

<http://www.laopera.com/productions/0708/larondine/index.htm>

*La Rondine* will be sung in Italian with English supertitles projected above the stage.

This is an LA Opera original production

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