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OPERA ♥'s LA
\$20 for All Seats to
Designated Performances of
Porgy and Bess* and *The Merry Widow

\$20 Tickets Go on Sale April 25 to the
May 18 *Porgy and Bess* and May 20 *The Merry Widow*

Los Angeles, CA (April 24, 2007) – “For the first time in LA Opera’s 21-year history,” announced Plácido Domingo, the Eli and Edythe Broad General Director, “we will offer \$20 tickets for every seat in the house at two designated performances of *Porgy and Bess* and *The Merry Widow*. I have always believed that it is very important for us to make opera accessible to as many people as possible, and I am certain that our special \$20 tickets will cultivate new fans for opera and give many a chance to experience the drama and passion of this classic art form. If this proves a success, we hope to again offer an introduction to opera in our upcoming seasons.” Both the Friday, May 18, 7:30pm performance of *Porgy and Bess* and the Sunday, May 20, 8:00pm performance of *The Merry Widow* will be available to all at only \$20 per ticket.

Opera ♥'s LA is a new community-focused initiative that invites new audiences to experience opera first-hand by making great seats available to all for an unprecedented price of just \$20 each. “*Porgy and Bess* and *The Merry Widow* are a perfect fit to introduce new fans to the genre of opera and operetta,” said LA Opera’s Chief Marketing and Communications Officer

Hope Boonshaft. “Not only are these well-known works sung in English, but *Porgy and Bess* boasts some of George Gershwin’s best known tunes while Franz Lehár’s *The Merry Widow* is a lighter operetta that entertains with opulent staging and beautiful waltzes. These two productions are some of the most accessible in the repertoire today. Though LA Opera does sell select seats at most performances for an affordable \$30, these special performances where tickets are only \$20 each, give our audiences a chance to try out new seats anywhere in the house.”

Opera ♥'s LA \$20 tickets to *Porgy and Bess* (May 18, 7:30pm) and *The Merry Widow* (May 20, 8pm) go on sale Wednesday, April 25 at www.LAOpera.com and are subject to availability. Tickets can also be purchased in person at the Los Angeles Opera Box Office during regular business hours (Monday-Saturday, 10am-6pm).

Regular priced tickets to performances of *The Merry Widow* (April 28, May 3, 9, 12, 23 and 26 at 7:30pm, May 6 at 2pm and May 19 at 1pm) and *Porgy and Bess* (May 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 15, 17 at 7:30pm, May 19 at 8pm, May 13, 16 at 2:00pm and May 20 at 1:00pm) ranging from \$30 to \$220 are on sale now. All performances take place at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Music Center, 135 North Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

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