

OPERA ORCHESTRA OF NEW YORK

FREE CONCERT BY OPERA ORCHESTRA OF NEW YORK TO OPEN VERDI SQUARE FESTIVAL SEASON, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 5:00 p.m.

New York, NY— Artists of The Opera Orchestra of New York will perform a free concert at Verdi Square, on the north side of the 72nd Street MTA Subway (Nos. 1, 2 and 3 lines) station, Sunday, September 9, 5:00 p.m., to open the 2007 Verdi Square Festival of the Arts season.

The program, led by Music Director Eve Queler, will feature an all-star roster of vocal soloists, including sopranos Amy Orsulak, Collette Boudreaux, Julianna DiGiacomo and Ellie Dehn, tenors William Lagundino and Luke Grooms, bass-baritone Daniel Mobbs, and bass Steve Gaertner. Selections will include Verdi's "Il Balen" and a duet from *Il trovatore*, "Poison Aria" from Gounod's *Romeo et Juliette*, Donizetti's "Spirito Gentil" from *La Favorita* and a duet from his *Don Pasquale*, and duets from Bizet's *Les Pêcheurs de Perles*. This concert will be performed with piano, and is made possible by neighborhood music lovers who banded together last year to create the Verdi Square Festival of the Arts in close collaboration with the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation

About Verdi Square Festival of the Arts

The **Verdi Square Festival of the Arts** is an open air music festival held in September in historic Verdi Square (in Manhattan's Upper West Side at Broadway & 72nd street). The Festival presents outstanding young artists from the city's conservatories and other local arts groups in free one hour Sunday afternoon concerts in a mini-park frequented by legendary figures Enrico Caruso, Fyodor Chaliapin, Arturo Toscanini, and the Gershwin brothers, among others.

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For more information on the Verdi Festival of the Arts, contact:

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