

Los Angeles Opera Media Contacts:
Gary W. Murphy, Director of Communications and Public Relations
gmurphy@laopera.com / 213.972.7554
Kimberly Henshaw, Press Assistant
khenshaw@laopera.com / 213.972.7347

ONE-NIGHT-ONLY

Saturday, October 3, 2009 at 7:30 PM

Superstar Baritone Thomas Hampson Returns to LA Opera in Recital

(LOS ANGELES, CA) September 14, 2009 – Baritone Thomas Hampson returns to LA Opera for a one-night-only recital, at 7:30pm on Saturday, October 3, 2009, at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. The recital will be accompanied by Romanian pianist Vlad Ifinca. This will be Mr. Hampson's first appearance with the Company since his 1987 LA Opera debut as Marcello in *La Bohème*. He will perform German Lieder as well as selections drawn from his "Song of America" project, a program that he developed in collaboration with the Library of Congress, drawn from the unparalleled collection of American songs housed there. Mr. Hampson will perform 12 "Song of America" recitals throughout the United States this season, commemorating the 250th anniversary of what is recognized to be the first song written by an American, "My Days Have Been So Wondrous Free," composed by Philadelphian Francis Hopkinson in 1759. There will be an exhibit in the theater of facsimiles from the music archives of the Library of Congress. Immediately following the performance, audience members will have the opportunity to meet Mr. Hampson at a CD signing in the lobby of the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion.

One of the most celebrated singers on the stage today, Thomas Hampson has recorded dozens of America's songs, presented a PBS special, and given master classes on American song—all the while maintaining his position as a preeminent singer of opera and art songs in many languages, and as an expert on and editor of Gustav Mahler's songs in particular. He was born, raised and educated in the United States before moving to Europe to broaden his singing career, and has recently taken up residence in his home country once again. In the 2009/10 season, he will be the New York Philharmonic's first Artist in Residence, appearing as soloist in three programs, touring with the orchestra through Europe, and giving a recital in Alice Tully Hall.

Thomas Hampson in Recital will be presented one-night-only, Saturday, October 3 at 7:30pm, at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Los Angeles Music Center, 135 North Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Tickets range from \$25 to \$100, and can be purchased at the LA Opera Box Office, by phone at (213) 972-8001 or online at www.laopera.com. For disability access, call (213) 972-0777 or e-mail wehelpyou@laopera.com.

Artist headshots can be found on the LA Opera Press Gallery:
<http://media.laopera.com/photo/?level=album&id=69>

Rolex is the Official Timepiece of LA Opera
Silversea is the Official Cruise Line of LA Opera

###