Bellini se 'Romeo en Juliet'-opera open in Pretoria

Thys Odendaal

Séfan Louw sing Tebaldo in Bellini se opera *I Capuletti e i Montecchi* in die Staatsteater.

Bellini se opera na Shakespeare se liefdesdrama *Romeo and Juliette*, getitel *I Capuletti e i Montecchi*, beleef sy Suid-Afrikaanse première vanaand in die Opera van die Staatsteater in Pretoria, nagenoeg 175 jaar nadat dit vir die eerste keer in Venesië se beroemde La Fenice opgevoer is.

Met dié voorstelling span Opera Africa Sondag om 15:00 saam met Return to Roots Africa vir 'n liefdadigheidsopvoering van dié melodieryke opera. Kaartjies vir die opvoering kos R300, en elkeen wat dié geleentheid bywoon ontvang 'n geskenkbewys van Yves St. Laurent ter waarde van R400. Die kaas en wyn word geborg en bedien deur die Tivoli-restaurant in Village Walk, Sandton.

Die Return to Roots-stigting is 'n organisasie om verkragtings in Suid-Afrika te bekamp, en die opera-liefdadigheidsinsameling is deel van sy projek van 16 dae om dié euwel in die gemeenskap onder die publiek en gesaghebbendes se aandag te bring.

'n Klomp sepie-persoonlikhede van *Egoli, place of gold* is ook in die Staatsteater om handtekeninge uit te deel.

Opera Africa het 'n indrukwekkende rolbesetting vir dié opera byeen gebring, met die Suid-Afrikaanse mezzo-sopraan Michelle Breedt, 'n solis by die Weense Staatsopera, as Romeo, en die opwindende koloratuur-sopraan van Korea, Francesca Park, as Juliet. Stéfan Louw is Tebaldo, Kaiser Nkosi sing Lorenzo en Rouel Beukes is Capellio. Die brit Jeremy Silver dirigeer, en die Amerikaner Laurence Dale is die regisseur.

Die *Capuletti*-speelvak duur tot 12 November. Die Bulgaars gebore Kaapstadse mezzo Violina Anguelov neem op 7 November oor by Breedt.

Kaartjies vir die Sondag-opvoering is skaars, sê me. Addi Lang van RRA, en kan net deur haar e-pos bespreek word – addi@netactive.co.za – of skakel haar by ☎ 082 559 6702.

Setting the stage for healing

OPERA Africa and Return to Roots Africa are hosting one charity performance of *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* (*Romeo and Juliet*), in support of the Return to Roots Foundation, which deals with rape prevention in South Africa and the 16 Days of Activism Campaign.

* **Where**: South African State Theatre, Pretoria.

* **When**: Sunday October 29 (Fundraiser – Networking through Opera).

* **Programme**: Registration 11am - 11.45am. 12pm - 1pm: Networking and business linkage.

1.15pm - 2.15pm: Guest speaker Aubrey Pieterse (co-founder of Return to Roots Foundation), a safety and security specialist. 3pm: Performance.

* **Cost**: R300 per person

* Each guest will receive a gift voucher valued at R400 from Yves Saint Laurent.

This year marks the 16th anniversary of the international 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence campaign.

Since 1991, the 16 Days Campaign has worked to increase the visibility of violence against women as a human rights violation.

The campaign has been utilised by groups all over the world to demand support services for survivors, enhance prevention efforts, press for legal and judicial reform, and use international human rights instruments to address human rights violation, a public health crisis and a threat to human security and worldwide peace.

This year, the campaign honours human rights defenders who have suffered intimidation and violence for their efforts, and for those who gave their lives fighting for gender equality.

While there has been progress in the struggle to end violence against women, many challenges still persist, and here we include issues such as armed conflict, war, poverty, HIV/Aids, globalisation and general challenges to human rights.

For more details, contact Addi Lang on 082-5596-702 or at *addi@netactive.co.za*.