



**Press release**

## **THE ARMENIAN NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE OPERA AND ORCHESTRA TO PERFORM TWO STUNNING PRODUCTIONS IN SEPTEMBER 2018**

**Dubai UAE, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018** – Dubai Opera is delighted to announce The Armenian National Academic Theatre Opera and Orchestra is set to bring two opera favourites, *Carmen* and *The Magic Flute* to the Dubai Opera stage in September 2018.

The first of the productions, *Carmen*, directed by Naire Stepanyan, will be performed over three consecutive nights on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018. *Carmen* tells the tragic tale of Don José, who falls hopelessly in love with femme fatale, Carmen. José loses Carmen's love to the matador, Escamillo, only to end in José killing her in a jealous rage.

Written by French composer Georges Bizet, *Carmen* premiered in Paris in 1875 after suffering negative reviews. Disconsolately, Bizet died during the preliminary performances, never to come to know that *Carmen* would rightly become one of the most renowned operas of all time.

Audiences at Dubai Opera can expect spectacular costumes designed by Cristine Avetisian and awe-inspiring set designs by Avetis Barseghian to augment the truly brilliant performance of *Carmen*, which will be performed in French with English surtitles.

The second production, *The Magic Flute*, by one of the most celebrated composers of all time, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, will debut the following week, also for three consecutive nights on the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

*The Magic Flute* is a tale which illustrates the resplendent power of love, art and music, transporting audiences into a wonderful fantastical realm. The Opera tells the story of Tamino, a young hero, sent on a quest by the Queen of Night to rescue her daughter, Pamina, from the wicked wizard, Sarastro. Full of beautiful melodies and enchanting characters, Mozart's beloved and final opera will be performed in German with English surtitles.

Audiences will be thrilled by the beautiful, intricately detailed costumes and magnificent set design by Davide Broccoli, who also serves as the director of The Armenian National Academic Theatre Opera and Orchestra's rendition of *The Magic Flute*.



Tickets will go on sale for *Carmen* and *The Magic Flute* on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018, with prices starting from AED 350. There is also an early Bird offer of 20% off all tickets (except boxes) on the individual shows until 5pm 28<sup>th</sup> February. And for opera lovers, there is the chance to save even more and see both operas with a buy four tickets for the price of three package.

**Jasper Hope, Chief Executive at Dubai Opera,** commented: “ *In Bizet’s Carmen and Mozart’s Magic Flute, Dubai audiences can enjoy two of the greatest operas ever written this September. Carmen is synonymous with passion and fiery tempers whilst the Magic Flute offers audiences utterly beautiful music set around a comic fairy tale - two wonderful autumn treats for everyone to enjoy*”.

## ENDS

For more information and ticket purchase, please visit [www.dubaiopera.com](http://www.dubaiopera.com)

6th Sept. Carmen – Performance at 8pm  
7th Sept. Carmen – Performance at 8pm  
8th Sept. Carmen – Performance at 4pm  
13th Sept. The Magic Flute – Performance at 8pm  
14th Sept. The Magic Flute – Performance at 8pm  
15th Sept. The Magic Flute – Performance at 4pm

### **Note to Editors**

#### **About Dubai Opera:**

Dubai Opera is a truly unique venue and the city’s first purpose built multi-format performing arts theatre, situated in the heart of Downtown Dubai. With an iconic dhow shaped design rooted in Emirati heritage, Dubai Opera offers the ultimate flexibility of a proscenium arch theatre, an acoustic concert hall and a 2000m<sup>2</sup> flat floor event space, and is the definitive destination for quality entertainment productions and performances. Dubai Opera's stage hosts an incredible array of world-class talent, with opera, ballet and classical music concerts and productions at the core, Dubai Opera also stages musical theatre, fashion shows, jazz, comedy, family shows and a full range of live entertainment.

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