



Press release

The critically acclaimed play *Othello*, reimagined and directed by Richard Twyman, will be performed in January 2019 for the first time at Dubai Opera.

Dubai UAE, 23 September 2018 – Dubai Opera is delighted to announce that for the first time, a play will be performed on the Dubai Opera stage from 31 January - 2 February 2019, *Othello*, an English Touring Theatre, Oxford Playhouse and Shakespeare at the Tobacco Factory Production.

Following a critically acclaimed tour and London run, Richard Twyman's vital production of *Othello* will be performed over three consecutive days on the 31st January and the 1st and 2nd February 2019, with a matinee and evening performance on the Friday and Saturday.

Othello is one of Shakespeare's most startlingly contemporary plays - a masterful depiction of a life torn apart by prejudice. Venice; a western colonial power employs the newly-married *Othello*, a Muslim general, to lead their army against the impending Turkish invasion. In a society torn apart by discrimination and fear, *Othello*'s life quickly unravels. Manipulated by *Iago*, he turns on everything he holds dear.

"Richard Twyman's *Othello* breaks new ground by demonstrating how disturbingly relevant and profound the play is to our times. It shows us the political, social, cultural and religious fault lines that we are contending with today and offers a searing critique of xenophobia and patriarchy, empire and privilege" - Creative Advisor, Abdul-Rehman Malik.

Written by English playwright William Shakespeare, *Othello* was first performed in 1604. Through the centuries, there have been myriad interpretations of *Othello* across the globe suggesting the drama transcends the time in which it was written.

Jasper Hope, Chief Executive at Dubai Opera, commented: "Shakespeare may have written *Othello* 400 years ago but the story is nonetheless completely contemporary in so many regards. I am so excited to announce that our first play at Dubai Opera will be the English Touring Theatre's critically acclaimed production of this great tragedy and that world-class theatre can now be added to our terrific range of outstanding live performance."

Tickets go on sale on Tuesday 25th September at midday with prices starting from AED 150. There is also an Early Bird Offer of 20% on the top three seat categories until 9th October.



ENDS

For more information and ticket purchase, please visit www.dubaiopera.com

Thursday 31st January - 8pm

Friday 1st February - 3pm and 8pm

Saturday 2nd February - 3pm and 8pm

‘One of the best I have seen’



The Observer

‘Director Richard Twyman’s riveting production excels at depicting the racial and religious tensions underlying Othello and Desdemona’s peril’



The Guardian

‘An astute and powerful production’



The Times

‘Articulate, dynamic and thrilling’



The Stage

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 2000m2 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.

For more information, please contact:

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