

Murder, Mayhem, Madness... LA Opera's Macbeth Starring Plácido Domingo

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LA Opera

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Murder is afoot in Los Angeles. The slayings are politically motivated and serial in nature. The man behind the ghastly homicides? Plácido Domingo. No, the LA Opera's general director hasn't turned to a life of crime. Instead, he's serving double-duty by stepping into the leading role of *Macbeth*. The drama unfolds during the 30th anniversary of the LA Opera, with seven performances at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion from September 17 through October 16.

Giuseppe Verdi's classic operatic adaptation of the Shakespeare tragedy comes to life with LA Opera's production of *Macbeth*. This will be Domingo's first time playing Macbeth in the U.S., and his 28th role onstage with the LA Opera. The Spanish tenor maestro will be playing *Macbeth* as a baritone. Russian mezzo-soprano Ekaterina Semenchuk joins him as the conniving Lady Macbeth. Claiming Scotland's throne becomes the power-hungry couple's ambition after a bevy of witches relay their vision of a royal future for the military leader. What transpires next are a string of murders committed in an effort to hasten this prophecy to fruition.

The production brings a number of other luminaries with its creative team. In his 10th season with the LA Opera, music director James Conlon will conduct *Macbeth*. Tony Award-winning Darko Tresnjak takes his fifth directorial turn for the LA Opera. Emmy Award-winning Suttirat Anne Larlarb contributes her talents to costume design.

Can't make it downtown? On October 13, Los Angeles residents are invited to pack a picnic and settle in for free, live simulcast performances via Opera at the Beach and Opera at the Park. Now in its third year, Opera at the Beach will be hosted at Santa Monica Pier. It's joined by the inaugural event of Opera at the Park, held at South Gate Park's Large Quad.

Murder, mayhem, and madness. A captivating evening of opera is definitely in store.