

# Livermore Valley Opera NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 7, 2022

### ***Livermore Valley Opera's 31<sup>st</sup> Season Opens with "The Elixir of Love" Donizetti's Comic Opera Set to Livermore's Wine Region***

LIVERMORE, CALIF. – The Tri-Valley's own professional opera company, the Livermore Valley Opera, opens its 31<sup>st</sup> season with Donizetti's comic opera ***The Elixir of Love*** (*L'elisir d'amore*), on October 1 at the Bankhead Theater. Stage Director Robert Herriot's unique staging for this opera will be set in a Livermore vineyard, a first for an LVO opera.

Tickets are available for four performances at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore. Details and other special events are as follows:

#### ***The Elixir of Love* by Gaetano Donizetti**

- October 1, 7:30pm; Opening night
- October 2, 2pm
- October 8, 7:30pm
- October 9, 2pm
- Opening Night Dinner at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard, 4:00pm. (Separate ticket purchase required.)

#### **About *The Elixir of Love* (*L'elisir d'amore*)**

Love potion or snake oil? When poor Nemorino fails in his attempt to woo the lovely and wealthy Adina, he turns to quack Dr. Dulcamara, purveyor of phony potions, who assures him that his brew will do the trick. But when it comes to love, the couple learns that the real thing – love that is – beats any elixir the doctor can concoct. Donizetti's beloved comic opera will charm audiences with laughs and memorable music.

Stage director Robert Herriot returns to LVO to direct a stellar cast including tenor **Christopher Bozeka**, soprano **Elena Galván** and bass-baritone **Samuel Weiser**. The performances will be expertly accompanied by orchestra, conducted by LVO's maestro, Alex Katsman. Sung in Italian with English supertitles.

"*Elixir* is a charming story with wonderful music featuring one of the greatest tenor arias in the repertoire, *Una furtiva lagrima*," says Erie Mills, LVO Artistic Director. "It's the perfect opera for first-time opera-goers or aficionados."

## Special Events

## **Opening Night Dinner at Uncle's Yu's at the Vineyard, October 1**

Opening Night Dinner event at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard is conveniently located one-half block from the Bankhead Theater. Tickets are \$95, and are available through Bankhead Theater box office. Opera performance tickets are a separate purchase.

The welcome reception with wine and appetizers begins at 4:00pm and dinner seating at 4:30 pm. All dishes will be accompanied by wine provided by the event sponsor Las Positas Vineyards.

### **Pre-opera talk**

Included in the ticket price are pre-opera talks held one hour prior to curtain time. LVO's traditional artist's reception is held in the lobby immediately following each performance.

## **2nd Saturday Casual Oct. 8**

LVO introduces a new event for the October 8th performance called **2nd Saturday Casual** when you can dress up, or dress down in your favorite jeans.

After the performance, stop by the nearby **The Beer Baron** for an after party. Bring your opera ticket to get your first "elixir" (beer) on us! Must be over 21. The Beer Baron is located at 2223 First St, downtown Livermore.

### **Ticket Pricing**

Adults \$20-\$98. Tickets can be purchased through the LVO website at [www.LVOpera.com](http://www.LVOpera.com). Special ticket pricing: \$20 for age 20 and younger; \$40 for age 40-20.

### **Performance & Box Office Location:**

Bankhead Theater  
2400 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550  
Bankhead Ticket Office: 925-373-6800

### **About LVO**

Livermore Valley Opera was founded in 1992, and presents fully-staged operas at Livermore's Bankhead Theater in the spring and fall. This gem of a theater features excellent lines of sight and acoustics, helping the opera to attract talented singers and stage directors for their performances.

LVO's Artistic Director Erie Mills was awarded the 2022 Distinguished Artist of The American Prize in recognition of an outstanding career which evidences "sustained artistic excellence." In 2021, LVO was named the winner of The American Prize in the Professional Opera division for its March 2020 double-bill performances of Zemlinsky's *A Florentine Tragedy* and Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*. The American Prize is the nation's most comprehensive series of non-profit competitions in the musical and theater arts.

LVO's mission is to enrich the community by producing world class operas and fostering the careers of professional opera singers. LVO encourages a wider appreciation of opera and the associated arts through community outreach and educational programs for youth in schools.

LVO is a professional opera company and a 501(c) 3 non-profit charitable arts organization. For more information, visit [LVOpera.com](http://LVOpera.com).

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