



68 Main Street, Torrington, CT 06790 www.warnertheatre.org (860) 489-7180

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Contact:

Steve Criss
Marketing Director
(860) 489-7180, x.125
scriss@warnertheatre.org

or

Lynn Gelormino
Public Relations Coordinator
860-489-7180 x 157
lgelormino@warnertheatre.org

Warner brings *La Boheme* to the Big Screen

"An intimate staging of Puccini's tragic love story, which nevertheless retains the feel of a live performance and shows why Anna Netrebko and Rolando Villazón are currently considered two of opera's biggest stars."

-Independent (London)

Torrington, CT – Through a unique partnership with Emerging Pictures, the Warner Theatre will present *La Boheme* on Saturday, September 26 at 3pm and again on Tuesday, September 29 at 7:30pm. This is the first in a series of world-renowned opera and ballet classics to be presented in HD, 5.1 Dolby Surround Sound at the theatre's Nancy Marine Studio Theatre.

About *La Boheme*

Anna Netrebko, who has graced silver screens for the past three years in *The Met: Live In HD* broadcasts, returns to movie theaters across America this September, when **Emerging Pictures** releases a feature film version of Puccini's *La Bohème*, starring the Russian soprano alongside Mexican tenor **Rolando Villazón**. London's *Times* calls the film "starry and sumptuous," while according to **Classic FM** magazine, "The lavish sets and special effects give rise to an extraordinary theatrical opera film."

The movie, which was filmed in 2008 in Vienna is directed by Oscar- and Emmy-nominated director Robert Dornhelm. In an article appearing in the Wall Street Journal on September 18th, the director discussed the challenge of combining the two art forms of opera and film. As the article explained, both leading lady, Anna Netrebko and the director "were eager to set their version of Puccini's classic apart from live transmissions of stage shows, a format made popular in recent

years by the Metropolitan Opera's Live in HD series. Planned as a feature film from the start, 'La Bohème' features 360-degree camera movements, black-and-white flashback sequences and a budget of about \$6 million to \$7 million, including a subsidy of roughly \$1.5 million from the Austrian government for filming in Vienna. In the U.S., digital theater network Emerging Pictures is distributing the film in select cities starting Wednesday". Tickets for this extraordinary presentation at the Warner Theatre are only \$12.

To purchase tickets for this event or for more information regarding the Warner Theatre's Digital Cinema Series, please call the Warner box office at 860-489-7180 or visit our website at www.warnertheatre.org

The theatrical trailer for *La Bohème* can be viewed at <http://labohemethemovie.com/trailer.htm>.
To arrange an interview with director Robert Dornhelm, please contact: Josh Green, Emerging Pictures, tel: 212.245.6767 or josh@emergingpictures.com.

About the 2009-2010 DIGITAL OPERA SERIES

Puccini's La Boheme (a film by Robert Dornhelm)

Sat, Sept 26 | 3pm & Tues, Sept 29 | 7:30pm | \$12

Verdi's Rigoletto (from Italy's Best; Performed at Teatro Regio, Parma)

Thurs, Oct 1 | 7:30pm & Sun, Oct 4 | 3pm | \$20

Mozart's Don Giovanni (from Salzburg)

Sun, Nov 8 | 3pm & Tues, Nov 10 | 7:30pm | \$20

Mozart's Cosi Fan Tutte (from Salzburg)

Sun, Nov 15 | 3pm & Tues, Nov 17 | 7:30pm | \$20

Swan Lake (ballet from the Mariinsky Theatre)

Tues, Dec 1 at 7:30pm & Sun, Dec 6 at 3pm | \$15

Monteverdi's L'Orfeo (from La Scala)

Tues, Dec 15 at 7:30pm & Sun, Dec 20 at 3pm | \$20

Verdi's Don Carlo (from La Scala)

Tues, Jan 5 at 7:30pm & Sat, Jan 30 at 3pm | \$20

Gounod's Romeo et Juliette (from Salzburg)

Tues, Jan 19 at 7:30pm & Sat, Jan 23 at 3pm | \$20

Don Quixote (ballet from the Mariinsky Theatre)

Tues, Jan 26 at 7:30pm & Sat, Jan 31 at 3pm | \$15

Verdi's Otello (from Salzburg)

Tues, Feb 2 at 7:30pm & Sun, Feb 7 at 3pm | \$20

The Warner's Digital Programming is sponsored in part by the Warner Theatre Opera & Ballet Society. To become a member of the Society and learn more about its benefits, contact the Development Department at (860) 489-7180, ext. 189

ABOUT THE WARNER THEATRE

Built by Warner Brothers Studios and opened in 1931 as a movie palace (1,772 seats), the Warner Theatre was described then as "Connecticut's Most Beautiful Theatre." Damaged extensively in a flood, the Warner was slated for demolition in the early 1980s until the non-profit Northwest Connecticut Association for the Arts (NCAA) was founded and purchased the theatre. The Warner reopened as a performing arts center in 1983, and restoration of the main lobbies and auditorium was completed in November 2002. In 2008, the new 50,000 square foot Carole and Ray Neag Performing Arts Center, which houses a 300 seat studio theatre, 200 seat restaurant and micro-brewery and expansive school for the arts, was completed. Today, the Warner is in operation year-round with more than 160 performances and 100,000 patrons passing through its doors each season. Over 10,000 students, pre K—adult, participate in arts education programs and classes. Together, with the support of the community, the Warner has raised close to \$17 million to revitalize its facilities. NCAA's mission is to preserve the Warner Theatre as an historic landmark, enhance its reputation as a center of artistic excellence and a focal point of community involvement, and satisfy the diverse cultural needs of the region. To learn more about the Warner Theatre, visit our website: www.warnertheatre.org.