



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BOSTON LYRIC OPERA GALA LAUNCHES NEW SEASON IN GRAND FASHION**  
***Company takes over two theaters for one theatrical evening***

**Boston, MA**— Boston Lyric Opera (BLO) kicks off its “Unforgettable Season of Leading Ladies” on Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup> with a truly grand and exciting approach to its annual Gala supporting Boston Lyric Opera and its work with Emerging Artists. The evening begins with a sumptuous dinner at the Citi Performing Arts Center<sup>SM</sup> Wang Theatre which will be transformed into an extension of the set for BLO’s *La Traviata*, opening that night across the street at the Citi Performing Arts Center<sup>SM</sup> Shubert Theatre.

The seamless theatrical experience continues after the performance at an After-Party back at the Wang Theatre featuring a sparkling and unique celebration with the cast.

BLO’s artistic team for *La Traviata* has worked closely with vendors such as: A Catered Affair, ALPS, AV Presentations, Be Our Guest, Amy Kimball Events and Winston Flowers to evoke the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the time period of the Company’s new production, with a few contemporary touches. Elegant linens, floral tablescapes and creative dinnerware will complement a menu that nods to choice dishes of the era served over vintage frames that mirror those seen throughout the opera.

toUch Performance Art will provide talent during the Gala and After-Party to emulate the Paris World’s Fair in 1900 and the world of the Moulin Rouge. This multi-sensory immersion into the opera’s atmosphere reflects the Company’s renewed vision of creating musically and theatrically compelling events. BLO is also partnering with Uber to ensure a five-star experience for its guests.

“I am extremely excited for the opening of this year’s BLO season,” notes Lynn Dale, Gala Chair and BLO Overseer. “The opportunity to collaborate with so many of our gala vendors and the creative genius that brings the opera to life is unique and will give our guests the most memorable opening night. By combining the gala with our opening production we really showcase, in its true form, all that is Boston Lyric Opera. With this inventive format, beginning with dinner on stage at the Wang, punctuated with music and theatrics as only the BLO can present, and followed by *La Traviata* on stage at the Shubert, opera lovers will have a razor sharp presentation of the talent of the company and the stars that are our Emerging Artists.”

Governor Deval L. Patrick is the Honorary Chair, and Barbara Winter Glauber is the Vice Chair of a generous committee that is making this vision a reality.

The Opera Gala supports Boston Lyric Opera and its work with Emerging Artists, all seven of whom will appear in *La Traviata*. “There is never-ending career support, coachings, and wonderful singing opportunities,” says BLO Emerging Artist Michelle Trainor. “But the most important thing has been the enormous change in my self-confidence! Being an Emerging Artist has changed my life.”

### **BLO's 2014 Opera Gala**

- **When:** Friday, October 10, 2014, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- **Where:** The Citi Performing Arts Center<sup>SM</sup> Wang Theatre
- **Tickets:** Single tickets are \$750 per person and sponsorships start at \$5,000. Tickets include admittance to the opera and the After-Party.

### **Opening Night Performance of *La Traviata***

- **When:** Friday, October 10, 2014, from 8 – 11 p.m.
- **Where:** The Citi Performing Arts Center<sup>SM</sup> Shubert Theatre
- **Tickets:** Single tickets start at \$30 and can be purchased at [citicenter.org/latraviata/](http://citicenter.org/latraviata/) or via the Citi Performing Arts Center<sup>SM</sup> Box Office from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday at (866) 348-9738 or in-person at 270 Tremont Street, Boston, MA. Special rates available for students, groups and Prima members; season subscriptions also available. Details at blo.org.
  - **For press tickets please contact Goodwin Group PR at 508-404-1745 or email [jojo@goodwinpr.com](mailto:jojo@goodwinpr.com).**

### **Opening Night After-Party**

- **When:** Friday, October 10, 2014, from 11 p.m. – 1 a.m.
- **Where:** The Citi Performing Arts Center<sup>SM</sup> Wang Theatre
- **Tickets:** \$150 for one, or \$275 for two. Tickets can be purchased at [ticketing.blo.org](http://ticketing.blo.org). Special pricing for BLO's Prima group for Young Professionals. Contact Erica Leung, Audience Services Coordinator, for Prima tickets at [eleung@blo.org](mailto:eleung@blo.org) or 617.542.4912 x235.

For additional details about the Gala and After-Party, contact Heather Coulter, Institutional Advancement Manager, at [hcoulter@blo.org](mailto:hcoulter@blo.org) or 617.542.4912 x229.

### **ABOUT BOSTON LYRIC OPERA**

Boston Lyric Opera is the largest opera company in all of New England. Now in its 38th season, BLO celebrates the art of the voice through its mission of building curiosity, enthusiasm and support for opera by creating musically and theatrically compelling productions, events, and educational resources for the Boston community and beyond. Since its founding in 1976, the company has staged world premieres, U.S. premieres, co-productions and co-commissions of note with organizations such as The Royal Opera, Covent Garden and Scottish Opera, and continues to be a destination for some of the leading artists, conductors, directors and designers from around the world.

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