

PRESS RELEASE

6 JUNE 2011

The countdown begins for the 2nd International Istanbul Opera Festival

The 2nd International Istanbul Opera Festival will take place between July 1-21, 2011 with the sponsorship of DenizBank. During the festival, besides the Gala Concert to be performed by globally known artist Elina Garanca at Hagia Irene, 8 prominent operas will be staged in 6 places 18 times. Tickets are on sale for the festival.

With the main sponsorship of **DenizBank** which is acting with the mission to support Turkey's culture and art life, the 2nd International Istanbul Opera Festival will be held between July 1-21, 2011 by the **Directorate General of State Opera and Ballet**. The 2nd International Istanbul Opera Festival will create a bond between Istanbul's historical places with art, as it did the previous year. During July 2011, Hagia Irene, Yıldız Palace, Topkapı Palace, Rumelian Castle, Sütlüce Haliç Congress Center and Cemil Topuzlu Open Air Theatre will host the beautiful pieces of opera. Among performances to be staged during the 2nd International Istanbul Opera Festival are The Abduction from the Seraglio, Fatih Sultan Mehmet, Zaide, Murad IV, Aşk-ı Memnu (The Forbidden Love) which have the theme of Turkish culture and life and they will be staged with original historical décor.

Elina Garanca Gala Concert is on July 13th

The festival will last for 4 weeks and unforgettable moments will be experienced with 19 performances of 8 different opera productions and one Gala Concert. Besides productions of Ankara, İstanbul, İzmir, Mersin, Antalya and Samsun State Opera and Ballet, world's most important and prestigious art institutions such as Karlsruhe Badisches State Theater and Munich Gärtnerplatz Theatre from Germany will perform the best examples of opera as guest artists. Moreover, gala concert by the globally known mezzosoprano Elina Garanca will be realized on July 13th at Hagia Irene. The famous artist will be accompanied by Istanbul State Opera and Ballet Orchestra. The Maestro will be Karel Marc Chichon, who is the artist's spouse. Furthermore, in the other productions of the Festival, important names of international classical music arena will be on stage as guest artists together with Turkish and foreign artists.

Tickets are on sale on Biletix from June 3rd

Festival tickets are on sale on Biletix on Friday, June 3rd. Ticket prices vary between TL 20-300.

FESTIVAL PROGRAM

DATE

1 July 2011
2 - 3 July 2011
4 July 2011
6-7 July 2011
8-9-10-11-12 July 2011
13 July 2011
15-16-17 July 2011
18-19-20 July 2011
21 July 2011

PERFORMANCE

Fatih Sultan Mehmet
Murat IV
Tosca
Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny
The Abduction from the Seraglio
Elina Garanca Gala Concert
Aşk-ı Memnu (The Forbidden Love)
Zaide
The Italian Girl in Algiers

VENUE

Cemil Topuzlu Open Air Theater
Topkapı Palace
Cemil Topuzlu Open Air Theater
Rumelian Castle
Yıldız Palace
Hagia Irene
Yıldız Palace
Topkapı Palace
Sütlüce Congress Center