

**PRESS RELEASE****18 June 2014**

## **5<sup>th</sup> Istanbul International Opera Festival where all performances were sold out has ended**

**5<sup>th</sup> Istanbul International Opera Festival organized by State Opera and Ballet General Directorate with the support of DenizBank has ended after two weeks of a feast of art that attracted great attention. The festival where 11 thousand viewers attended with interest closed with a Gala concert by world famous Russian baritone Dmitri Hvorostovsky.**

**5th Istanbul International Opera Festival** organized by **State Opera and Ballet General Directorate** with the mission of offering opera and ballet to all walks of life with the support of **DenizBank** that aims to support arts as a mission, on June 17, 2014 with the gala concert of Dmitri Hvorostovsky. The program that offered operas inspired by Turkish-Ottoman cultures performed at historical venues of Istanbul in its 5<sup>th</sup> year attracted great interest from art lovers.

5th Istanbul International Opera Festival which opened with "Atilla" on June 3, 2014 at Zorlu Center PSM, offered an extremely prominent organization with "Fatih Sultan Mehmet" and "Dmitri Hvorostovsky Gala concert", "Die Entführung aus dem Serail" at İstanbul Archeology Museum Gardens, "Birjan ve Sara" and "Lüküs Hayat" at Bakırköy Leyla Gencer Opera Hall ve "Beklenmedik Karşılaşma" at Kadıköy Süreyya Opera Hall.

With its rich program fit for Istanbul, the 5th Istanbul International Opera Festival that has met art lovers for 5 years at historical venues of Istanbul got full marks from views with Ankara, İstanbul, Mersin, Samsun State Opera and Ballet besides Salzburg State Opera and world famous baritone Dmitri Hvorostovsky's incredible performance.

### **The Festival added color to art life for 2 weeks**

The festival that lasted 2 weeks offered a total of 10 performances with 6 opera productions and a gala concert under art directorship of Yekta Kara. The gala concert that was performed at Zorlu Center PSM at closing was marked by the performance of world famous baritone Dmitri Hvorostovsky. Istanbul State Opera and Ballet Orchestra accompanied Dmitri Hvorostovsky besides Maestro Constantine Orbelian and Soprano Ana Maria Martinez.

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