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# MidAmerica Productions, Inc.

Peter Tiboris, General Director

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From the Offices of MidAmerica Productions and MidAm International in New York

## **General Music Director Peter Tiboris and Eilana Lappalainen, Artistic Director of Opera Productions, Announce the Opera for the 14th Annual International Festival of the Aegean: Rossini's comedy "La Cenerentola" to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Rossini's Death (1868); Performances in the Apollo Theater in Hermoupolis Syros July 16, 18, 20, 22, 2018**

**La Cenerentola, "ossia La Bontà in trionfo" (Cinderella, or Goodness Triumphant)** is an "operatic drama giocoso" in two acts by Gioachino Rossini. The libretto by Jacobo Ferretti is based on the fairy tale Cendrillon by Charles Perrault. The opera by Rossini was first performed in Rome's Teatro Valle on Jan 25 1817.

Rossini composed *La Cenerentola* when he was 25 years old, following the success of *The Barber of Seville* the year before. *La Cenerentola*, which he completed in a period of three weeks, is considered to have some of his finest writing for solo voice and ensembles.

The opera performances in Syros will be conducted by Principal Guest Conductor Giovanni Pacor of Verona and Trieste. An international cast and stage director will be announced by December 1 2017.

At the first performance, the opera was received with some hostility, but it soon became popular throughout Italy and beyond; it reached Lisbon in 1819, London in 1820 and New York in 1826. Throughout most of the 19th century, its popularity rivaled that of his *Barber of Seville* but as the role of Angelina was originally written for coloratura contralto, it became rarely performed and gradually fell from the repertoire. Later, it had great revivals where Angelina was performed by higher voices (mezzo's) and now it is, world-wide, the fifth most performed opera everywhere.

The Cast includes

- Angelina (Cenerentola)
- Prince Ramiro
- Dandini, *valet to the Prince*

- Don Magnifico, *Cenerentola's stepfather*
- Alidoro, *philosopher and the Prince's former tutor*
- Tisbe, *Don Magnifico's younger daughter*
- *Courtiers from Prince Ramiro's palace*

In this variation of the traditional Cinderella story, the wicked stepmother is replaced by a wicked stepfather, Don Magnifico. The Fairy Godmother is replaced by Alidoro, who is a philosopher and is also the Prince's tutor. Cinderella is identified not by her glass slipper but by her bracelet.

For further information about the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual International Festival of the Aegean, contact Mr. Kirk Naylor of MidAmerica Productions, [knaylor@midamerica-music.com](mailto:knaylor@midamerica-music.com), 212-239-0205 ext. 202.