## **Opera Speaks Italian at Met**

(September 17, 2012)



A surprising new feature is offered by the the Met at the end of September. The "debut" of Italian subtitles will be held at the performance of the "L'Elisir d'Amore" by G.Donizetti. The initiative is promoted by the Consulate General of Italy in New York

The 24th of September is an important date for Italian Opera in New York City. The Metropolitan Opera [2] will provide Italian subtitles on the screens of each of the seats for all the Italian opera performances. To the content of all lovers of Italian Opera, fans will now be able to better follow the original text and at the same time appreciate more the melodic nuances of the original language.

The "debut" of Italian subtitles, that will be additional to those already in existence in English,

Spanish, German and French, will be held on the 24th of September at the performance of the "L'Elisir d'Amore" by G.Donizetti.

The initiative is promoted by the <u>Consulate General of Italy</u> [3]in New York that has started the collaboration with the Met and took care of the fund-raising. The project also the aims to promote the diffusion of the Italian language in the US and therefore, in a short time, it received the support of numerous Italian and Italian-American organizations.

Noteworthy, was the backing of the project by prestigious Italian companies such as the fashion firm <a href="Dolce & Gabbana">Dolce & Gabbana</a> [4], as well as of Italian-American Associations such as <a href="NIAF">NIAF</a>. [5] <a href="Columbus Citizen Foundation">Columbus Citizen Foundation</a> [6], <a href="OSIA">OSIA</a> [7], <a href="Noiaw">Noiaw</a> [8] and other numerous personalities that wanted to contribute to this important cultural project, among them: <a href="Steve Acunto">Steve Acunto</a> [9], <a href="Frank Bisignano">Frank Bisignano</a>, <a href="Alberto Cribiore">Alberto Cribiore</a>, <a href="Jason DeSena-Trennert">Jason DeSena-Trennert</a>, <a href="Massimo Ferragamo">Massimo Ferragamo</a>, <a href="Frank Brank Guarini">Frank Guarini</a>, <a href="Lucio Noto">Lucio Noto</a>, <a href="Joseph Perella e Mariuccia Zerilli-Marimo">Joseph Perella e Mariuccia Zerilli-Marimo</a>.

"The presence of the Italian subtitles at Met is a big step that the Italian Government wanted to take to promote the diffusion of the Italian language all over the world. It has also a deeper importance because it was made by a collaboration between public and private entities that guaranteed the funding" - said Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Terzi. [10]

Giulio Terzi also underlined that the initiative overlaps with the approaching beginning of the year of the Italian Culture in the US that will start in 2013 in all the principals American cities.

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