

LOS ANGELES HOLIDAY
L.A. OPERA AND L.A. PHILHARMONIC
Thursday, October 12th through Sunday, October 15th



Frank Gehry's Walt Disney Concert Hall



Gustavo Dudamel



Placido Domingo



Liudmyla Monastyrska

Frank Gehry's Walt Disney Concert Hall: *"It is a serene, ennobling building that will give people in this city of private places a new sense of the pleasures of public space."*

Paul Goldberger

Gustavo Dudamel & L.A. Philharmonic: *"The Los Angeles Philharmonic is the most important orchestra in America. Period."*

NY Times, April '17

"The Beverly Wilshire is the queen of Beverly Hills hotels."

Haute Living Magazine

Placido Domingo: *"The world's most experienced opera singer, a stage animal, a presence."*

L.A. Times

"The smoldering, deliciously wild-toned soprano Liudmyla Monastyrska attacks the ferocious music for Abigille as if she's scaling a rock face with an ice ax."

NY Times, review of the MET's 'Nabucco'

"Nino Machaidze found depth to Mimi's yearning for love... Her singing was powerful and assured."

Seen & Heard International

"Javier Camarena has a voice that could soar over any orchestra and that is beautiful in the extreme."

The Guardian

"Surrounded by Walt Disney Hall, the Music Center and MOCA, The Broad is already an architectural landmark, with its honeycomb-like exoskeleton."

www.npr.org

During the ideal Southern California fall weather, Great Performance Tours will return to Los Angeles for an overdue long weekend. Our program is highlighted by a pair of exceptional performances by the **Los Angeles Opera** and an orchestral concert by the **Los Angeles Philharmonic**. The operas will be Giuseppe Verdi's earliest

major success – **Nabucco** – starring **Placido Domingo** and **Liudmyla Monastyrska** repeating their brilliant portrayals from this season at the MET; and Georges Bizet's exotic romance, **The Pearl Fishers**, featuring **Nino Machaidze** and today's consummate 'bel canto' tenor **Javier Camarena** as the Priestess Leila and her lover Nadir. 'Nabucco' will be conducted by Music Director **James Conlon**, who has inspired the orchestra on many of our previous visits to the city's downtown Music Center, while Domingo himself (the company's tireless General Director) will be in the pit for Bizet's lyrical score.

Our third performance will be an orchestral concert by the **Los Angeles Philharmonic**. The electric young Venezuelan Music Director **Gustavo Dudamel** has achieved cult status with the range of his musical activities in his native country and his guest appearances throughout the world. Los Angeles remains at the top of everyone's wish list following the 2003 opening of **Walt Disney Concert Hall**. This architectural gem designed by Frank Gehry has added immeasurably to the cultural prestige of the city. We have carefully planned our weekend to assure that Dudamel will be on the podium for our concert.

Art aficionados will be inspired by our visit to the city's newest downtown museum, **The Broad**. Only a couple of blocks from the Music Center, The Broad's contemporary collection is housed in a \$140 million building on So. Grand Avenue, where it opened in late 2015 to sold-out crowds and long lines of patient cultural enthusiasts. This will be our first visit to The Broad.

For our **four-night** holiday, our accommodations are again at the luxurious **Beverly Wilshire Hotel** in Beverly Hills. We have chosen this famous hotel because of its prestigious location adjacent to **Rodeo Drive**, a unique concentration of stylish designer shops and fine restaurants. There will be ample free time for you to relax at the hotel and to explore the nearby boutiques.



The Broad Museum



Beverly Wilshire Hotel

The Beverly Wilshire offers a wide range of spa facilities and a selection of dining facilities including Wolfgang Puck's gourmet **Cut**, with décor by Richard Meier; the **Boulevard** overlooking the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and Rodeo Drive; and the informal **Pool Bar & Café** and **Sidebar Lounge**. The rooms are lavishly appointed and feature unusually comprehensive amenities. Despite the premium price for the Beverly Wilshire services, we are confident that you will appreciate

the opportunity of staying in this renowned L.A. property.

IMPORTANT: For East Coast travelers who may want to arrive a day early, we will be happy to reserve your room for the additional night of Wednesday, October 11th. You should let us know NOW if you wish to arrive on Wednesday.

Early Thursday evening, October 12th, a **cocktail reception** is planned in a private area of the hotel. This will provide an opportunity to meet other members of the Tour. *No performance this evening.*

Friday afternoon, October 13th, we are fortunate to have a confirmed *guided visit* to **The Broad**. Named for philanthropist Eli Broad, the city's newest sensational museum has attracted thousands of art 'aficionados' in the wake of its September 2015 opening. The innovative building with its 'honeycomb' exterior was designed by the architectural firm of Diller Scofidio & Renfro. Among the artists exhibited at the Broad are Andy Warhol, Jeff Koons, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, and Takashi Murakami. After our initial docent tour, there will be time to explore the galleries of contemporary art on your own and to visit the unusually interesting gift shop. (Our first-ever appointment will spare you from a long wait in the standby line which stretches daily around the building.)

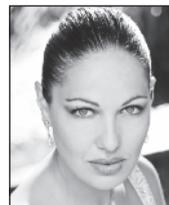
At 8:00 pm on Friday evening our first performance will be a sold-out subscription concert by the **Los Angeles Philharmonic** in Frank Gehry's spectacular **Walt Disney Concert Hall**, conducted by Music Director **Gustavo Dudamel**. This will be a vibrant program of the 'Latino' music closely identified with Dudamel and his South American heritage. Entitled *Noche di Cine* ('Nights of Cinema'), the concept is to "offer a window into the colorful music scene of Mexico City, including orchestral, jazz, pop and film music". A departure from traditional classical concerts, tonight's selections will demonstrate why Dudamel has risen to iconic leadership in today's worldwide music scene. "More than any other orchestra, it combines a commitment to the future with a fresh eye on the past." (*NY Times, April '17*)

Saturday, October 14th – and also Sunday morning – are left free for independent activities. You will want to enjoy the upscale atmosphere of Rodeo Drive and the elegant atmosphere of the hotel. For art enthusiasts, the **Los Angeles County Museum of Art** on nearby Wilshire Boulevard and the **Museum of**

Contemporary Art in downtown L.A. are both among the city's most interesting collections.

Saturday evening at 7:30 pm, we look forward to the **Los Angeles Opera's** performance of Giuseppe Verdi's **Nabucco** at the Music Center. Verdi's first major success maintains its importance in the composer's output by virtue of Abigail's challenging arias, the fully developed title role for a consummate 'Verdi baritone', and the beloved closing-act choral lament of the Hebrews ('Va pensiero'). Enthusiastic audiences usually insist on an encore of this most famous piece in all of Verdi's operas. Tonight's international cast of proven Verdi interpreters will feature the peerless **Placido Domingo** in his latest baritone assumption as King Nebuchadnezzar (Nabucco); the daunting Ukrainian soprano **Liudmyla Monastyrskya** repeating her MET triumph in the notoriously demanding role of Nabucco's usurping daughter Abigail; and the sonorous American bass **Morris Robinson** as the High Priest Zaccaria. The roles of the young lovers Ismaele and Fenena will be sung by mezzo-soprano **Nancy Fabiola Herrera** and **Mario Chang**. The conductor will be the company's Music Director **James Conlon**, and **Thaddeus Strassberger** is responsible for both the direction and the scenery. *This is a co-production with Washington, Philadelphia and Minneapolis. Sung in Italian with English titles.*

On Sunday afternoon, October 15th, we will return to the **Los Angeles Opera** at the downtown Music Center for the 2:00 matinee performance of Georges Bizet's French opera, **The Pearl Fishers**. "Heavenly perfumed music takes us to exotic Ceylon where two friends swear to forget a sarong-clad Brahmin priestess... One man will win her heart - and the other will lose his life." (*Lyric Opera*). The celebrated tenor/baritone duet 'Au fond du temple saint' and the high-tessitura arias 'Comme autrefois dans la nuit sombre' (for the soprano Leila) and 'Je crois entendre encore' (for the tenor Nadir) account for the hypnotic impact of this richly melodic opera. Premiered in Paris in 1863, 'The Pearl Fishers' has established a popular position in the repertoire over the past decade as audiences have grown familiar with Bizet's evocative score. A brilliant cast is headed by Georgian soprano **Nino Machaidze** as Leila, Mexican tenor **Javier Camarena** (the MET's current 'bel canto' tenor sensation) in the high-tessitura role of Nadir, and Mexican baritone **Alfredo Daza** as the head fisherman Zurga. American bass **Nicholas Brownlee** completes the quartet of principals as the Brahman priest Nourabad. The director is **Penny Woolcock**, and the stunning sets with special effects are designed by **Dick Bird**. The conductor will be General Director **Placido Domingo**. *This co-production with the MET and the English National Opera was the surprise hit of the MET's '15 - '16 season. Sung in French with English titles.*



Nino Machaidze



Javier Camarena

Early Sunday evening, a post-opera **dinner** will be served at **Kendall's**, the popular restaurant located on the lower level of the Music Center.

Independent departures should be on Monday morning, October 16th.

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Los Angeles Holiday

Price per person, based on double occupancy	\$ 3,150*
Single room supplement	\$ 750

*Our price reflects the opportunity to stay at the luxurious Beverly Wilshire Hotel.

Air fare NOT included.