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www.elportaltheatre.com



**Chelsea Opera of New York Presents
Amahl and the Night Visitors, Menotti's Holiday Celebration at the
historic El Portal Theatre
December 15-18 with 5 performances in English and 2 Performances in
Spanish**

**Amahl and the Night Visitors
written by Gian Carlo Menotti**

produced and presented by
Chelsea Opera of New York

In cooperation with Producer, Mavis Cordero, Cordero Communications

**Associate Producer/Technical Director: Alex Britton
Co- Producers/Founders: Lynne Hayden-Findlay and
Leonarda Priore**

**Directed and Choreographed by: Wendy Taucher
Musical Directors: Carmine Aufiero and Rafael Lamas
with the CSUN Symphony Orchestra**

Starring in the title role of Amahl:
Jamen Nanthakumar & Sean Unruh

Also starring

English Cast:

Carmine Aufiero (Conductor)

Shannon Roberts (Mother)

Peter Buchi (Kaspar)

Alex Britton (Melchior)

Justin Ryan (Melchior)

Alfred Barclift (Balthazar)

Brace Negron (Page)

Spanish Cast:

Rafael Lamas (Conductor)

Magdalena Llamas (Madre)

Eapen Leubner (Gaspar)

Alex Britton (Melchor)

Jorge Ocasio (Baltasar)

Claudio Mascarenhas (Paje)

Dates: In English

Thursday, December 15 at 8 pm

Friday, December 16 at 8 pm

Saturday, December 17 at 8 pm

Sunday, December 18 2pm and 8 pm

Performances in **Spanish - (separate cast)**

Saturday, December 17 at 2pm

Sunday, December 18 at 5pm

Where: El Portal Theatre-Mainstage

5269 Lankershim Blvd.

North Hollywood, CA 91601

For tickets: www.elportaltheatre.com

Tickets prices: \$25 and \$35

Special rates for Groups, Seniors and Students

The tender, heartwarming story of ***Amahl and the Night Visitors***, is one of the most popular of American operas. It is performed internationally every Christmas season and remains one of the most frequently performed operas of the 21st century.

Amahl and the Night Visitors was written by the Italian composer Gian Carlo Menotti who, as a young boy, became lame. The doctors had no cure for him. He was taken to be blessed at the holy Sanctuary of Sacro Monte and thereafter, miraculously, the young Menotti was cured of lameness.

In 1951 when NBC commissioned the 40 year old Menotti to write a Christmas opera he could not come up with a subject. He despaired until one day, while strolling through the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, he chanced upon and was inspired by the famous painting "The Adoration of the Magi." The idea of the Night Visitors was born and in less than two months Menotti finished the score. He wrote into it some of the magical sounds he remembered from his youth during St. Nicholas's festive visits to his mountain village in Italy where he was born.

Only an hour in length, the one-act opera "Amahl," with its beautiful score and touching

libretto, is traditionally sung in English. This production will also feature 2 performances sung in Spanish by a second New York cast. A search for a young boy singer-actor to star in the Spanish performances is currently in progress.

The opera appeals to people of all ages and musical backgrounds. It was written specifically for young imaginations which can easily relate to a child with a head full of dreams. It remains an inspiring story of how faith, charity, unselfish love and good deeds can work miracles.

Los Angeles producer Mavis Cordero has arranged to bring Chelsea Opera of New York to the San Fernando Valley's historic El Portal Theatre after the New York City performances of Amahl December 7-11. If this venture is successful, Cordero hopes to partner with Chelsea Opera for a full season at the El Portal Theatre in 2006.

Public Relations and Press:

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