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***Opera Boston Opens 2009/10 Season with Rossini's *Tancredi* Oct. 23—27***

*World Renowned Contralto Ewa Podleś makes Boston Stage Debut*

(BOSTON – Sept. 23, 2009) Opera Boston will open its 2009-10 season with Rossini's *Tancredi* at the Cutler Majestic Theatre. The performances, which take place Oct. 23 and 27 at 7:30 p.m., with a 3 p.m. matinee Oct. 25, mark the Boston stage debut of world renowned contralto **Ewa Podleś**. *Tancredi* will be sung in Italian with English titles. All performances feature a free talk one hour before curtain, and the Sunday matinee will be followed by an artist talkback. Tickets are \$29-\$132 through [Telecharge.com](http://Telecharge.com), by phone at 800-233-3123 or in person at the Cutler Majestic Theatre box office.

Legendary Polish contralto Ewa Podleś makes her Boston stage debut as the disinherited and exiled soldier Tancredi. Ms. Podleś is widely regarded as the world's foremost contralto, and is one of the few singers capable of the challenging title role. Her recent appearances include La Cieca in *La Gioconda* at the Metropolitan Opera, Baba the Turk in *The Rake's Progress* and the title role in *Tancredi* at Madrid's Teatro Real, and Maffio Orsini in *Lucrezia Borgia* at Barcelona's Liceu.

Soprano **Amanda Forsythe** returns to Opera Boston to sing the role of Amenaide, Tancredi's secret lover who is falsely accused of treason against her family when her unaddressed letter to Tancredi is intercepted and believed to be intended for the leader of the enemy faction. Ms. Forsythe's previous appearances with Opera Boston were as Iris in *Semele* in 2008 and as The Angel in 2006's *Angels in America*. Tenor **Yeghishe Manucharyan** appears as Argirio, the leader of a warring family who disowns his daughter Amenaide when she is suspected of betraying him. Mr. Manucharyan has made many appearances with Opera Boston since his company debut as Rodolfo in *Luisa Miller* (2004); he has sung the roles of Nadir in *The Pearl Fishers* in 2007, and Ivan the Lackey in 2009's *The Nose*.

**Gil Rose**, Opera Boston's Music Director since 2003 and the Founding Artistic Director of the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, will conduct. Stage Director **Kristine McIntyre** makes her Boston debut with this production. Since making her directorial debut in 1994, Ms. McIntyre has staged revivals of *La Traviata*, *Luisa Miller*, and *Il barbiere di Siviglia* for the Metropolitan Opera, and has directed new productions of diverse repertoire for companies such as Portland Opera, Dallas Opera, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, and Pittsburgh Opera Center.

Opera Boston is Boston's most innovative opera company. Founded in 1980, the company has presented more than 70 operas, including 34 regional and two world premieres. In addition to its critically acclaimed, award-winning mainstage productions, Opera Boston offers a range of programs, including frequent public concerts, a popular informal cabaret series and an extensive educational program in Boston's schools. Opera Boston can be found on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/operaboston](http://www.twitter.com/operaboston), and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/opera.boston](http://www.facebook.com/opera.boston). For more information about Opera Boston, visit [www.operaboston.org](http://www.operaboston.org), or call (617) 451-3388.

High resolution image of Ewa Podles available on request.

### ***Tancredi***

Gioacchino Rossini

Libretto by Gaetano Rossi and Luigi Lechi (revised "Ferrara" ending) after Voltaire  
World Premiere: February 6, 1813, Teatro La Fenice, Venice.

Tancredi: Ewa Podleś, contralto (debut)

Amenaide: Amanda Forsythe, soprano

Argirio: Yeghishe Manucharyan, tenor

Conducted by Gil Rose

Directed by Kristine McIntyre (debut)

Scenic & Costume Design by Carol Bailey (debut)

Lighting Design by Christopher Ostrom

Friday, October 23 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, October 25 at 3:00 pm

Tuesday, October 27 at 7:30 pm

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