

Pinchgut Opera
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No Risk Opera Experience

Sydney's Pinchgut Opera is offering to refund the ticket price to any first-time opera-goer (or "**opera virgin**") who does not like its up-coming production of Mozart's Idomeneo.

Liz Nielsen, Chair of Pinchgut, said, "If you haven't been to one of our shows before and give Idomeneo a try but don't like it, we'll give you a full refund".

Pinchgut Opera was set up 5 years ago to present operas that are not well known, but should be. Liz Nielsen said, "We want to attract opera lovers, especially those who like baroque opera, and also people who thought that they did not like opera. Our productions are true to the music but are also fun and enjoyable to modern audiences. We realize that some might consider it a risk to try opera for the first time so we will reduce that risk by making the money-back offer. But I don't think we will have to make many refunds. I am sure most people will enjoy it".

Pinchgut says that it believes that this it is the first opera company to make the money-back offer by an opera company anywhere in the world.

Idomeneo was Mozart's own favourite opera and he requested that the sublime quartet be played at his funeral. Pinchgut's production will be directed by Lindy Hume, Artistic Director of the Perth International Arts Festival. Antony Walker will conduct the Orchestra of the Antipodes, which will use authentic instruments of the early classical period and Cantillation will be the chorus.

Opera Makes Money-Back Offer

Pinchgut Opera presents Idomeneo: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

City Recital Hall, Angel Place, Sydney

4 performances: 6, 8, 9 & 10 December 2006

Mark Tucker Idomeneo; Martene Grimson Ilia; Fiona Campbell Idamante; Penelope Mills Elettra; Paul McMahon Arbace; Brett Weymark High Priest

Conductor: Antony Walker

Director: Lindy Hume

Costume Designer: Hamish Peters

Lighting Designer: Bernie Tan Hays

Chorus: Cantillation

Orchestra: Orchestra of the Antipodes

Booking: City Recital Hall, Angel Place (02) 8256 2222; Tickets from \$45 to \$95

www.pinchgutopera.com.au

For phone interviews with Liz Nielsen, photos, please contact:

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