

The Little Match Girl Opera

Performances

The Little Match Girl Chamber Opera is a unique, special, and extraordinary musical experience, moving in performance and message and uplifting in both its history and projected future.

A unique and special opera. Written 40 years before its premiere performance, **The Little Match Girl Opera** is unique in both history and as an opera. Two special qualities that contribute significantly to its unique character are the facts that: (1) it can be produced and presented at considerably lower cost than any other full length opera and (2) its special emphasis extolling the central character of the grandmother. Operas, like most musical entertainment, emphasize youth, while **The Little Match Girl Opera** focuses on the critical role of the grandmother, and really all grandparents, in bringing meaning to our world. This story of a child, ultimately uplifted by her grandmother, gives the Opera great and special appeal to both children and senior citizens.



Paris World Premiere. The enthusiastic response to the Paris World Premiere by a distinguished, standing-room-only international audience on June 20, 2013 recognized **The Little Match Girl Opera** for the musical tour de force that it is. Sponsored and introduced by Mme Rachida Dati, the best known female political leader in France, the premiere was held in the Salle de Mariages of the Mairie of 7eme Arrondissement in the heart of downtown Paris and the shadow of the Eiffel Tower. Mme Dati is the Mayor of Arrondissement 7, a Deputy in the European Parliament, and a former Minister of Justice. The Opera was produced by produced by Adrian Harrington Brown, a distinguished French businessman and educator. It was performed by Soprano Anne-Chantal Carrière as the Little Match Girl and Mezzo Soprano Véronique Bauer as the Grandmother.

Community presentation, Northern California, USA. **The Little Match Girl Opera** was written by William Byron Webster, in the Northern California city of East Palo Alto, a minority community in a very well to do area, where he has spent a lifetime leading efforts to improve residents' living conditions and quality of life. At the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the incorporation of the City, a video of the Paris premiere was presented together with live performances of excerpts including numbers in Spanish and Tongan. The wide social appeal of the Opera was demonstrated by the very enthusiastic and positive response from the local audience.

Future productions. A new production of the **The Little Match Girl Opera** is currently in the early planning stages. The great success of the World Premiere performance has also generated international interest. Parties interested in learning about future performances or in the possibility of producing the Opera should contact the composer, Mr. William Byron Webster: williamsbwebster@gmail.com

