FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Verdi's "Il Trovatore" At the Cohan Center Feb. 11

San Luis Obispo --According to the Star Ledger, "Teatro Lirico D'Europa has become the vendor of choice for touring opera... Simply grand!" The acclaimed company will bring their full-scale production of Giuseppe Verdi’s classic grand opera, "Il Trovatore" to the Christopher Cohan Center on Wednesday, February 11, 2004, at 8 p.m.

Cal Poly Arts proudly presents the return engagement of Teatro Lirico D’Europa, the only opera company touring the United States with productions featuring an orchestra of 50 musicians, a professional chorus of over 40 trained singers, and experienced soloists from around the world.

"Teatro Lirico D’Europa has arrived with ‘Il Trovatore’ to remind us that big voices singing big music never really goes out of style." (Boston Herald)

"Il Trovatore" is a celebration of the human voice, famous for its many beautiful arias, choruses, and a fascinating tale that blends romantic agony with gothic horror.

"The story plays on our primal fears: parental death, infanticide, the betrayal of one’s brother, the loss of one’s beloved. And at the center is the repeated image of fire, both literal (the graphic burning at the stake) and the figurative ‘spark’ and ‘flame’ of desire and passion, images of destruction and self-destruction." (Boston Phoenix)

Teatro Lirico D’Europa has completed several highly successful tours of Verdi’s "Il Trovatore" and the current third run is Teatro Lirico’s largest American tour to date.

The performance will be sung in Italian with English supertitles.

Created in Europe in 1986, Teatro Lirico D’Europa has completed over
3,000 performances worldwide, performing in over 200 theaters throughout France, Belgium, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Japan, Denmark, Portugal, and Spain.

The company has also been presented by several international opera festivals and their CD recordings have been sold throughout Europe since 1990.

A pre-performance lecture will be presented by Cal Poly Music Dept. faculty member Jacalyn Kreitzer at 7 p.m. in the Philips Recital Hall.

Tickets for the performance range from $36 - $48, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088. Order on-line at www.pacslo.org.

The performance is sponsored by John and Anna Fleming, Alexandra Moore Gerardo, La Cuesta Inn, and KCBX 90.1 FM.

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- 30 -