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### **Teatro Lirico Brings Grand Opera "Rigoletto" to Cal Poly Feb. 13**

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA - After last season's triumphant performance of "Madama Butterfly," Teatro Lirico D'Europa returns to San Luis Obispo with their grand-scale production of Guiseppe Verdi's classic opera, "Rigoletto" Thursday, Feb. 13, at 8 p.m. at the Christopher Cohan Center.

Cal Poly Arts presents the international cast of established principal soloists performing with a 45-member chorus and an orchestra of 50. Verdi's tale of treachery, intrigue, and passion features some of the most glorious music written for the operatic voice.

The Boston Herald claimed, "(The company) sings like they've got opera deep in their bones...extraordinary." The full-length opera will be sung in Italian, with English supertitles.

Teatro Lirico D'Europa, founded in 1986 by Artistic Director Giorgio Lalov, has completed over 3,000 performances worldwide and their live CD recordings are distributed throughout Europe.

Teatro Lirico D'Europa's production of "Rigoletto" has enjoyed several critically-acclaimed tours throughout Western Europe since its debut in 1992. The production made its U.S. debut last year to outstanding reviews from critics and audiences across the country.

Teatro Lirico's productions have been presented by more American regional opera companies in the last three years than any other opera touring company performing in the United States.

The company's professional reputation within the industry has also led to Teatro Lirico awarding over 300 contracts to American singers and conductors to perform with the company in the states and abroad.

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 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

This performance is sponsored by Eugene and Ethel Lenz.

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit [www.calpolyarts.org](http://www.calpolyarts.org).

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