



**FOR IMMEDIATE
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Ricardo Llorca's *Las Horas Vacias* debuts in NYC

PRODUCTION PREMIERES AT UNITED NATIONS IN NOVEMBER

New York—New York Opera Society and the United Nations Department of Management proudly announce the NYC premiere of *Las Horas Vacias* by Spanish composer, Juilliard faculty, and Guggenheim fellow Ricardo Llorca, with professional orchestra led by Uruguayan conductor Pablo Zinger, the Manhattan Choral Ensemble led by Thomas Cunningham and featuring Puerto Rican soprano Laura Rey and Spanish actress Carlotta Bosch. This production, part of the New York Opera Society's new works performance platform devoted entirely to contemporary opera, premieres on November 17, 2008 at the United Nations' Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium to celebrate the General Assembly's proclamation of 2008 as the International Year of Languages: "That genuine multilingualism promotes unity in diversity and international understanding". This opera is emblematic of the canon of Spanish classical music and has been chosen to represent the Spanish language at this curated celebration for the Spanish Speaking Permanent Missions.

Las Horas Vacias - a one hour and fifteen minute opera/monodrama for soprano/actress, chorus, piano and string orchestra- is a work about a lonely woman, addicted to the internet, who lives in her own fantasy world. *Las Horas Vacias* is an attempt to explore a psychological process, so common in our contemporary world: the loneliness and the increasing feeling of emptiness in developed Western societies.

With *Las Horas Vacias*, the New York Opera Society continues its mission to help its public gain understanding, acquire knowledge, and develop appreciation for living in a globally interdependent and culturally diverse world.

This production has been sponsored in part by The Argosy Foundation Contemporary Music Fund, the Spanish Consulate, Setmana de Musica Sacra de Benidorm, Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana Benjamin Carrion, The Permanent Mission of Ecuador, The Consulate of Ecuador, and Meet the Composer's MetLife Creative Connections Program New York.

PROMOTIONAL VIDEO CLIP: http://youtube.com/watch?v=OZyLbdS3_jY