



**FROM:**  
Magda Krance (mkrance@lyricopera.org)  
Jack Zimmerman (jzimmerman@lyricopera.org)  
LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO  
20 North Wacker Drive  
Chicago, IL 60606  
312-332-2244

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
Tues., Aug. 25, 2008

**Lyric Opera of Chicago  
seeks German-speaking actor  
to portray Pasha Selim in new production of Mozart's  
*Abduction from the Seraglio***

**Auditions to be held Friday, Sept. 26, 5-7 p.m.  
at the Civic Opera House**

Lyric Opera of Chicago is auditioning performers for the German-speaking role and understudy of Pasha Selim in its upcoming production of *The Abduction from the Seraglio* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. This new production will be staged by Chas Rader-Shieber and performed in German.

**Auditions will be held on Friday, Sept. 26 beginning at 5 p.m. at the Civic Opera House, 20 N. Wacker Dr.** Rehearsals begin Mon., Feb. 2, with nine performances between March 2 and 28, 2009.

**This role requires the ability to perform extensive dialogue in German.** Native speakers are preferred, but performers who have experience with other languages will be considered. German - language coaching is available for non-native speakers. **This is a non-singing role.**

The character of Pasha Selim is strong, handsome, masculine, sexy, and dignified – a leading-man type. Ideally, candidates for the role should be between the ages of 40 and 55, and six feet tall or taller. In addition to being able to deliver dialogue in German, **strong acting ability is essential.**

In this tale of romantic intrigue, three Europeans have been captured by pirates and sold to Pasha Selim: the Spanish noblewoman Konstanze (soprano **Erin Wall**), her feisty English maid Blonde (soprano **Aleksandra Kurzak**, debut), and Blonde's beloved Pedrillo (tenor **Steve Davislim**), who is also the servant of Konstanze's fiancé, Belmonte (tenor **Matthew Polenzani**). The Pasha is in love with Konstanze, who does not return his affections. Arriving in Turkey to rescue Konstanze, Belmonte manages to enter the Pasha's palace with Pedrillo's assistance and despite the objections of the Pasha's overseer, Osmin (bass **Andrea Silvestrelli**). Belmonte's plan to abduct Konstanze is

thwarted by Osmin, and disaster looks imminent until the Pasha's innate nobility ensures a happy ending – at least for the two couples.

Lyric Opera's new *Abduction* will be conducted by Music Director **Sir Andrew Davis** and directed by **Chas Rader-Shieber**, with sets and costumes by **David Zinn**. **Christopher Akerlind** (debut) is lighting designer.

The role is fit with an AGMA contract with a minimum weekly salary of \$2,064.50 (the understudy will receive \$1710.50 per week). Candidates must have an appointment to audition. *Walk-ins will not be seen.*

To be considered for an audition, please email your picture and résumé to:  
[soloaud@lyricopera.org](mailto:soloaud@lyricopera.org) with **PASHA AUD** in the subject line.

###