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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, November 18, 2008

**Due to unprecedented demand,  
Lyric Opera of Chicago adds performance of  
the Gershwins' *Porgy and Bess*  
Tuesday, December 16, 7:30 p.m.  
Call 312-827-5600 for tickets in all price ranges, \$32 to \$185  
14 performances total Nov. 18-Dec. 19  
Greatest number of tickets sold for any production  
in Lyric's 54-year history!**

**William Mason**, general director, Lyric Opera of Chicago, announced Tuesday that the company will add an evening performance of the Gershwins' *Porgy and Bess* on Tuesday, Dec. 16, due to unprecedented demand.

*Porgy and Bess* opened on Tuesday, Nov. 18, in its Lyric Opera premiere, conducted by **John DeMain** and directed by **Francesca Zambello**, who created the production for The Washington National Opera in 2005. **Gordon Hawkins** and **Morenike Fadayomi** performed the title roles on Tuesday, with **Lester Lynch** as Crown.

"Tickets are nearly sold out for the 13 scheduled performances of this magnificent opera, and the phones have been ringing nonstop," said Mason. "We are delighted to be able to add an additional performance of *Porgy and Bess* with **Gordon Hawkins** portraying Porgy, **Morenike Fadayomi** as Bess, and **Lester Lynch** as Crown."

Tickets are available in all price ranges for the added performance on Tuesday, Dec. 16, from \$32 to \$185. Limited tickets are still available at the higher price levels for the previously scheduled performances.

To reserve tickets and for more information, call 312-827-5600, or go to [www.lyricopera.org](http://www.lyricopera.org).