

ADELMO GUIDARELLI Operation Adelmo: The Clown Prince of Opera Don't Tell Mama, NYC, March 27, 2010

Adelmo Guidarelli is not a vocally challenged comedian poking fun at opera, but a legit baritone—poking fun at opera. With all the props of the barber in *Sweeney Todd* for his "Figaro" number, he is assisted voluptuously by Ruby Laurance—stunning in her sequined gown.

The heart of the show was the *Medley of Opera Melodies* highlighting some "abuse" of operatic music in various settings, such as the classic Wagnerian, "Kill the Rabbit", to the side-splitting "No More Rice Krispies" TV commercial, as set to the tragic "Vesti la Guibba" from *I Pagliacci*, give Adelmo kudos for pointing out that the best music in *The Phantom of the Opera* was lifted by Lloyd Webber almost note for note from Puccini's *La Fanciulla del West*.

Guidarelli delivered a few straight opera arias ["Toreador Song"] that showed off his able baritone. When all is said and done, a diverse group of people should be able to find much humor in this show, be they opera lovers or fans of rap/hip-hop's ("Baby's Got Back") Sir Mix-A-Lot!

--Melody Breyer-Grell (Cabaret Scenes, May 2010 Issue)