## **LOVE ME** (Translation of the Louis Pomey's Poem, *Aime-Moi*)\*

## Yelena Dudochkin\*\* Lyric Soprano, Opera Boston

You command that we forget thee, I have a very hard time obeying; But so goes my love, His desire is my desire

Really, really my desire, Really, really my desire,

When happy, I throw myself You blush and want to flee me My love is an offence, Why then do you remember it?

But what! Tears my beauty Listen, calm yourself; No more mad quarrels, I adore you, love me,

La...

You command that we forget thee, I have a very hard time obeying; But so goes my love, His desire is my desire.

When happy, I throw myself You blush and want to flee me My love is an offence, Why then do you remember it?

And what! Tears, my beauty. Listen, calm yourself, It's useless to quarrel, I love you, be mine!

<sup>\*</sup> This translation was originally included into the program of the concert, "Salute to Frédéric Chopin on his Bicentennial" that was performed at the Jordan Hall of New England Conservatory on January 24th, 2010. Ms. Dudochkin, soprano, sang *Aime-Moi* (Mazurka in D Major, Op.33, No. 2, music of Frédéric Chopin, poem of Louis Pomey) at this concert.

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**\*\* YELENA DUDOCHKIN, soprano** burst onto the opera scene as "a welcome change of pace" this past year. She debuted with *Opera Boston* as Podtochina's Daughter in their New England premier production of **The Nose** February 2009 with great success, and recently won First Prize in the *American Fine Arts Festival* competition, subsequently performing in the winner's concert at *Carnegie Hall, Weill Recital Hall*. She has also performed as a soloist to much acclaim, in numerous prestigious venues such as *Alice Tully Hall* in New York, *Jordan Hall* at the New England Conservatory, *Mikkeli Hall* in Finland, *Palazzo di Boncompagni* in Italy, and *The Russian Consulate* in New York. Major gala concert performances include: the Salute to Dmitry Shostakovich; Tribute to Michail Glinka; Celebration of Elgar and Chaminade; and Salute to Puccini on his Centennial at *Jordan Hall*.

Yelena was born into a musical home in the Ukraine, starting with piano at age three, and grew up doing homework at her mother's rehearsals at the Kiev Conservatory. She continued her studies at *New England Conservatory Preparatory School*, winning national and international competitions. She was graduated from Columbia University while studying piano with Oxana Yablonskaya at *Julliard* and voice at *Manhattan School of Music* with Lynne Owen. A favorite soprano soloist, she performed in numerous recitals throughout New York, including such notable venues as *Alice Tully Hall*. After graduation she studied conducting at Julliard School of Continuing Education, jazz improvisation and opera scenes at the New England Conservatory of Music School of Continuing Education.

Yelena was chosen for the summer program of *The Mariinsky Opera Academy for Young Singers*, where she was encouraged by Elena Obraztsova and Larisa Gergieva to pursue a career in opera. She was invited to join their young artist program part time where she worked on roles such as Linda (Linda di Chamounix), Marfa (Tsar's Bride) Lucia (Lucia di Lammermoor), Norina (Don Pasquale), Musetta (La Boheme), Pamina (Magic Flute), Julietta (Romeo and Juliette) and Swan Princess (Tsar Sultan). Yelena's principal teachers include Galina Nikonovskaya (Boston, USA), Makvala Kasrashvili (Moscow, Russia), Grayr Khanedanian, Margarita Alaverdian , Elena Obraztsova, Larisa Gergieva (St Petersburg, Russia), and Vladimir Atlantov (Vienna, Austria).

In fall 2009 Yelena has returned from studying with Mirella Freni in Vignola, Italy to perform in several opera concerts. January 2010 includes Chopin Bicentennial gala at Jordan Hall as well as Italian arias with Freisinger Chamber Orchestra in Boston.