

**Gramophone announces its winner of the prestigious Opera Recording of the Year
with Gregory Kunde in the title role (October 1 2005)**

WE HAVE A WINNER!

From Laureto Rodoni, independent critic, November 2002, on *Benvenuto Cellini*
"Optimum was the tenor Gregory Kunde in the title role: a most beautiful timbre, a secure technique, and phrasing varied and fluent."

Classics Today.com, January 2005, on *Benvenuto Cellini*
"The American tenor Gregory Kunde, under-recorded 10-and-more years ago when he was a superb, agile, clear-voiced Rossinian, stunningly and scrupulously obeys Berlioz's dynamic markings, even when they seem outlandish--phrases floating pianissimo up to and around high B-flats and higher--and his French style and class are on a par with Nicolai Gedda's: quite a compliment. His Cellini is of the highest order."

From Opera News, January 2003, on *Benvenuto Cellini*
"As Cellini, Gregory Kunde sang and acted with youthful ardor, meeting the challenges of the part -- speedy passagework and stratospheric high notes -- with sunny radiance."

Local resident and internationally renowned tenor Gregory Kunde has been awarded one of the classical music industry's highest honors. Gramophone has just announced that *Benvenuto Cellini* on Virgin Classics label has won **Opera Recording of the Year**. In the title role, Mr. Kunde portrayed the mercurial personality of the rival of Michaelangelo with the perfect blend of elegance and passion. The famed Berlioz work was presented in concert at Radio France last November with John Nelson conducting the Orchestre de Radio France and singers Patricia Ciofi and Joyce DiDonato with Mr. Kunde.

Mr. Kunde returns from concerts in Sydney to Rochester and intense rehearsals for the **premiere concert of the seventh season of the Gregory Kunde Chorale**, entitled "THE BRITISH ARE COMING! THE BRITISH ARE COMING!" featuring William Byrd's 16th century *Mass for Five Voices*, Ralph Vaughan Williams' legendary *Toward The Unknown Region*, and highlights from *The Mikado* and *Pirates of Penzance* of the famed duo of Gilbert and Sullivan. The Chorale will perform on **Sunday, October 16th at Saint Louis Church on Main Street in the village of Pittsford at 2:00PM**. Don't miss this most enjoyable program and the opportunity to **hear the Chorale's conductor and world renowned tenor Gregory Kunde**. Advance tickets for \$10 are available at Parkleigh (215 Park Avenue) and by calling the Chorale Information Line at **585.377.7568**. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Admission for children under 12 is free and students with ID will be admitted for \$8. For every ticket purchased, the Chorale will donate \$1 to the American Red Cross. Additionally, The Chorale will match the entire amount raised at this first concert and send that donation to the relief efforts on behalf of The Chorale and the Rochester community. Please help us to help those in need.