Regina, a character inspired by Sandra Ávila Beltrán known as “The Queen of the Pacific,” prays in an American prison cell, asking the patron saint of drug dealers, to protect her. Suddenly, the shrine comes to life. La Santa Muerte guides Regina on a journey through her past, forcing her to relive the tragic sequences of death and treason that led to her crowning as the queen of organized crime, and ultimately, her downfall and imprisonment.

Commissioned by American Lyric Theater in 2012, La Reina is an electro-acoustic opera with text in Spanish and English. Drawing its narrative from the drug trade in Mexico and the United States, the opera is inspired by some of the most vivid real life players in this increasingly violent war from the past and present. Composer Jorge Sosa’s music blends classically trained voices with a chamber orchestra of acoustic and electronic forces, and powerfully conveys a gripping libretto, written jointly by Laura Sosa Pedroza and Jorge Sosa.

**CAST AND PERFORMANCE FORCES**
Regina (Mezzo-Soprano)
La Santa Muerte (Soprano)
Young Regina (Soprano)
El Pozolero (Tenor)
El Gobernador/Guard 1 (Tenor)
Reporter/D.E.A Agent/ Jefe de Sicarios/Priest (Tenor)
El Gringo (Baritone)
El Señor del Norte/Guard 2 (Bass-Baritone)
Don Neto/Warden (Bass-Baritone)
NO CHORUS. Principals double as ensemble in parts of the opera. Total cast of singers is 9 principals.

ORCHESTRA (14 Musicians): fl(pic,afl), ob(Eng hrm), cl(bcl), bn(cbn) / tpt, tbn / perc / pf / vn1, vn2, va, vc, db (Electric Bass); Laptop for electronic cues.
Duration: 125’

HISTORY
Commission: September 2012
Under the auspices of the Composer Librettist Development Program at American Lyric Theater

- Libretto Workshop & Reading: January 2013
- Piano/Vocal Workshops & Concert: June 2013
- Orchestral Workshop & Concert: January 2016 presented in partnership with the PROTOTYPE Festival

NEXT STEPS
Seeking Co-Producers for World Premiere Consortium

ABOUT THE WRITERS

JORGE SOSA is a Mexican-born composer currently residing in New York. He joined American Lyric Theater’s Composer Librettist Development Program in 2008. His first full-length opera, La Reina, commissioned by ALT, was selected for the Fort Worth Opera 2015 Frontiers Festival. Recent premieres include Enchantment and Stray Birds at the Difrazzione Festival in Florence, an operatic setting of Man Ray’s film L’Etoile de Mer with Black House Collective in Kansas City, and Psalm of David at The Stone in NYC. His Trés Sonetos de Quevedo for soprano and guitar quartet were recently recorded by the Cuarteto de Guitarras de la Ciudad de México and were selected to be performed at the Foro de Música Nueva Manuel Enriquez in Mexico City. Jorge is currently Assistant Professor of music at Molloy

LAURA SOSA PEDROZA is a bilingual Mexican screenwriter who has worked primarily in film and television. She joined American Lyric Theater’s Composer Librettist Development Program in 2010. She is co-writer of En el país de no pasa nada, selected as the winner of the Best Movie category by the OCIC jury in Guadalajara’s Film Festival in 2000. Laura was head writer for Gitanas, a soap opera awarded best adaptation by the international FyMT in 2004, and was the story producer of the first season of Capadocia (HBO-Argos), nominated for best drama series in 2009 at the International Emmy Awards. In recent years, she has participated in several TV shows for Telemundo, as En otra piel as head writer and as librettist in El señor de los Cielos first season, which has been awarded as Non-English Language US Primetime Program at the International Emmy Awards.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT AMERICAN LYRIC THEATER:

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