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News Release

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LIVE INTERVIEW WITH ZANDRA RHODES

Watch the live streaming interview with Zandra Rhodes on
Art Rocks 247 Online TV & Radio Show

Thursday, April 15 at 8 p.m. PST

CLICK HERE TO LAUNCH THE VIDEO PLAYER

<http://www.sdonlineradio.com/shows/art-rocks>

The Athenaeum Music & Arts Library is pleased to present a unique opportunity to meet celebrated fashion designer, **Zandra Rhodes**, in the comfort of your own home! Zandra will be a featured guest on the popular San Diego based online TV and radio show, Art Rocks 247, on **Thursday, April 15 at 8 p.m. PST**. Viewers will be able to listen online and watch live streaming video in high definition as Zandra interacts with audiences through a live video chat session.

In her latest forte as costume and set designer for Giuseppe Verdi's grand opera *Aida*, the internationally acclaimed fashion extraordinaire shares her bold, technicolor vision of Egyptian-inspired designs. A onetime exhibition, ***Verdi's Aida Through the Eyes of Zandra Rhodes***, comprised of sketches, costumes, and drawings from *Aida* are on view in the Athenaeum's Main and Rotunda Galleries, April 10 through May 15.

Originally produced by the Houston Grand Opera, *Aida* opened to critical acclaim at the English National Opera in 2007, with an encore production in 2008. The San Francisco Opera recently announced a gala opening performance of *Aida*, featuring Zandra's designs, in September 2010. The Athenaeum's sneak preview highlights a portion of the more than 150 costumes that took Zandra over two and a half years to complete. Costumes, banners, and headdresses in the Athenaeum's exhibition have been kindly provided by the San Francisco Opera, on loan until they make their debut again to opera audiences later this year.

Recognized as one of the new wave of British designers who put London at the forefront of the international fashion scene in the 1970s, Zandra's designs have always been clear, creative statements, dramatic but graceful, bold but feminine. Zandra has designed for the late Diana, Princess of Wales, and continues to design for the royal family and celebrities around the world. A longtime friend of the Athenaeum, Zandra features limited edition sketches of her designs as part of the library's permanent collection.

The Athenaeum Music & Arts Library is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. For further information, please call 858.454.5872 or email jpyun@ljathenaeum.org. Visit our website at www.ljathenaeum.org.

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