

Opera Atelier posts surplus, celebrates an outstanding year

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Toronto, ON (September 26, 2008) ...Jane Hargraft, general manager for Opera Atelier, reported the company closed its 2007/08 season with a \$64,000 surplus posted on an annual operating budget of \$2.4 million. Ms. Hargraft attributed the successful year-end results in particular to record-breaking ticket sales for *Idomeneo* and a significant increase in development revenue (+ 28 %).

“We continue to build on the momentum generated last season,” said Ms. Hargraft. “Our subscription revenues are 14% ahead of last year and we are forging exciting new partnerships with donors and sponsors.”

Opera Atelier launches its 2008/09 season with a new production of Mozart’s *The Abduction from the Seraglio* (November 8 – 15, 2008) followed by *The Coronation of Poppea* (April 25 - May 2, 2009) at the Elgin Theatre. The company is pleased to announce that male soprano **Michael Maniaci** has been cast in the role of Nero and Canadian mezzo-soprano **Kimberly Barber** will make her Opera Atelier debut in the role of Ottavia.

Subscriptions for Opera Atelier’s 2008/09 season are on sale now and may be purchased by calling **416-703-3767 ext. 24**. Single tickets range from \$30-\$135 and can be purchased by calling Ticketmaster at 416.872.5555 or at www.ticketmaster.ca . For more information visit www.operaatelier.com .

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Opera Atelier is Canada’s premier baroque theatre company, producing opera, ballet and drama from the 17th and 18th centuries. While drawing upon the aesthetics and ideals of the period, Opera Atelier goes beyond “reconstruction” and infuses each production with an inventive theatricality that resonates with modern audiences. Over the past two decades, under the direction of founders Marshall Pynkoski and Jeannette Zingg, Opera Atelier has garnered acclaim for its performances at home as well as in the United States, Europe and Asia.