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**Costume Designer Martha Mann Wins Dora Award for
Opera Atelier's *The Marriage of Figaro***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Toronto, ON (June 29, 2010) ... Acclaimed costume designer **Martha Mann** received her first Dora Mavor Moore Award yesterday for Outstanding Original Costume Design for Opera Atelier's production of *The Marriage of Figaro*.

"Working with Martha Mann on *The Marriage of Figaro* was a thrill for the entire creative team," said OA's co-artistic director **Marshall Pynkoski**. "We are delighted that her superb artistry has been celebrated in her debut production with Opera Atelier."

The Dora Mavor Moore Awards recognize the outstanding achievements of Toronto's performing arts industry annually in five categories: General Theatre, Independent Theatre, Dance, Opera, and Theatre for Young Audiences.

Martha Mann is a Gemini award-winning costume designer whose television credits include *Anne of Green Gables*, *Road to Avonlea*, *Glory Enough for All* and she has designed costumes for Boston Lyric Opera, New York City Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, Washington National Opera, The Stratford Shakespeare Festival, The National Arts Centre and The Kennedy Center.

The Marriage of Figaro received a nomination for best opera of the year. Also receiving Dora nominations for their work in *Figaro* were David Fallis for Musical Direction and Carla Huhtanen for Outstanding Performance.

The Marriage of Figaro was directed by **Marshall Pynkoski**, with choreography by **Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg**, set design by **Gerard Gauci** and lighting design by **Bonnie Beecher**. **David Fallis** conducted Tafelmusik Orchestra.

Opera Atelier is Canada's premier baroque theatre company, dedicated to 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. For more than two decades, under the direction of founders Marshall Pynkoski and Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg, Opera Atelier has garnered acclaim for its performances at home as well as in the United States, Europe and Asia.

This new production of *The Marriage of Figaro* was sponsored by Scotiabank.