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ADVANCE RELEASE

January 21, 2010

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Opera Atelier unveils a new production of Mozart's popular comedy *The Marriage of Figaro*

DATES: April 24, 25, 27, 28, 30 and May 1, 2010.
TIMES: 7:30 P.M. (*with exception of Sunday matinee at 3 P.M.)
TICKET PRICES: \$35 to \$150
Operatix are \$20 and may be purchased by people under age of 30 with valid I.D. in person at the Elgin Theatre Box Office (subject to availability). Group discounts (15 people +) are available by calling 416.703.3767 ext. 22.
VENUE: The Elgin Theatre (189 Yonge Street, Toronto)
BOX OFFICE: Ticketmaster at 416.872.5555 or at www.ticketmaster.ca
WEB PAGE: www.operaatelier.com

In April, Opera Atelier unveils a new production of Mozart's popular comedy *The Marriage of Figaro*. Based on the 1784 Beaumarchais play, Mozart's racy tale of love, betrayal and forgiveness is a hilarious and subversive social commentary about a world on the brink of revolution.

Sung in English with English SURTITLES™, this is the third new Mozart production of OA's ambitious "Mozart Six" plan, which includes *Idomeneo* (2007) and *The Abduction from the Seraglio* (2008).

Gemini award-winning costume designer **Martha Mann** makes her company debut. Ms. Mann's 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 Opera, The Stratford Festival, The National Arts Centre and The Kennedy Center. The creative team for this production also includes director **Marshall Pynkoski**, choreographer **Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg**, set designer **Gerard Gauci**, and lighting designer **Bonnie Beecher**. Conductor **David Fallis** leads the incomparable **Tafelmusik Orchestra**.

Baritone **Olivier Laquerre** makes his role debut as the incorrigible Figaro, manservant to Count Almaviva with soprano **Carla Huhtanen** as his fiancée, Susanna. Acclaimed Canadian baritone **Phillip Addis** makes his OA debut as Count Almaviva and American soprano **Peggy Kriha Dye**, a favourite with OA audiences, sings the role of Countess Almaviva. Bass-baritone **Curtis Sullivan** sings the role of Dr. Bartolo and mezzo-soprano **Laura Pudwell** brings her comic talent to the role of Marcellina. The production features the full corps of **Artists of Atelier Ballet** along with mezzo-soprano **Wallis Giunta** in her OA main stage debut as the young love-struck page Cherubino, soprano **Cavell Wood** as Barbarina, baritone **Vasil Garvanliev** as the gardener

Antonio, and tenor **Patrick Jang** in his company debut as the music master Basilio and the judge Don Curzio.

2009/10 Season Sponsor: Sun Life Financial

***The Marriage of Figaro* New Production Sponsor:** Scotiabank

2009/10 Major Sponsors: BMO Financial Group, TD Canada Trust Music, The Dominion of Canada General Assurance Company

Opera Atelier also gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of The Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, the City of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council, and the Creative Trust.

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.