



****MEDIA ADVISORY: Thursday, January 14, 2010****

**Cineplex Entertainment's 2009-10 *The Met: Live in HD* Season
Continues with Bizet's *Carmen* on Saturday, January 16th
Montreal native Yannick Nézet-Séguin conducts**

WHAT: Toronto, ON (CGX.UN): Cineplex Entertainment is pleased to announce that the fourth season of the very popular *The Met: Live in HD* continues with an afternoon transmission of Bizet's *Carmen* this Saturday, January 16th at 1 pm ET hosted by acclaimed soprano Renée Fleming.

Carmen marks the sixth performance of the season as part of *The Met: Live in HD* series and will be transmitted live from New York via satellite in High-Definition into more than 90 Cineplex Entertainment theatres across the country.

One of the most popular operas of all time, *Carmen* "is about sex, violence, and racism—and its corollary: freedom," says Olivier Award-winning director Richard Eyre about his new production of Bizet's drama. "It is one of the inalienably great works of art. It's sexy, in every sense. And I think it should be shocking." Elīna Garanča sings the seductive gypsy opposite Roberto Alagna as the obsessed Don José. Barbara Frittoli sings Micaëla and Mariusz is the toreador Escamillo in other leading roles.

This opera will be conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin, one of the hottest young conductors in the world. A native of Montreal, where he studied piano at the Conservatoire, he completed his studies by master classes with renowned conductors, including the great Italian Maestro Carlo Maria Giulini. As the Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of Montreal's Orchestre Métropolitain since March 2000, Yannick has dramatically raised the orchestra's standards and popularity, sharing with his musicians rigor and passion for music of different styles. In September 2008, he was unanimously chosen by the musicians to succeed Valery Gergiev as Music Director of the prestigious Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra. The same year, he became the Principal Guest Conductor of the London Philharmonic Orchestra. In August 2008, he made his acclaimed debut at the Salzburg Festival conducting the Mozarteum's Orchestra in a new production of Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette* starring Rolando Villazon and Nino Machaidze. This new production of Bizet's *Carmen*, already acclaimed by the public as well as the critics of New York, marks Yannick Nézet-Séguin's debut on December 31st, 2009 conducting *Carmen* at The Metropolitan Opera of New York.

An encore performance of *Carmen* will be shown in select theatres on Saturday, March 13th.

WHEN: Saturday, January 16th at 1 pm ET

WHERE: For more information, participating locations and to purchase tickets, visit www.cineplex.com/events.

For more information, contact:

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