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Cineplex Entertainment announces schedule for *The Met: Live in HD*

Front Row Centre Events bring the world's greatest operatic performances to Canadian cinemas

Toronto, ON, August 16, 2012 (TSX: CGX) – Canadian music lovers can experience the world's greatest operatic performances live at participating movie theatres beginning this fall, following an announcement made today by Cineplex Entertainment's Front Row Centre Events.

The 2012-13 season of *The Met: Live in HD* brings performances from New York's famed Metropolitan Opera to the big screen with crystal clear images and unmatched Dolby digital 5.1 surround sound.

The season begins October 13, 2012, with *L'Elisir d'Amore*.

"We're pleased to provide Canadians access to one of the world's most important opera companies, live from the comfort and convenience of their local theatre," said Pat Marshall, Vice President, Communications, Cineplex Entertainment. "With stunning close-up visuals and unbelievable sound, our guests say this is a great way to experience the opera."

Tickets for 2012-13 season of *The Met: Live in HD* are available to SCENE and qualified Met Opera members beginning Wednesday, August 22, 2012, at 8:00 a.m. local time. The on-sale date for the general public is Tuesday, September 4, 2012, at midnight (12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, September 5, 2012).

Individual tickets are available at a participating theatre box office and online. Guests can also purchase the entire 2012-13 season online at discounted rates. Visit cineplex.com/events for more information, including a list of participating theatres and showtimes.

Discounted rates are available for groups of 20 or more. For information about group rates, please call 1-800-313-4461 or email corporatesales@cineplex.com.

The Met: Live in HD – 2012-13 Schedule

- **October 13, 2012 – *L'Elisir d'Amore* (Encores: November 17 and 19, 2012)**
Anna Netrebko and Matthew Polenzani star in Bartlett Sher's new production of one of the greatest comic gems in opera, as the fickle Adina and her besotted Nemorino. Mariusz Kwiecien is the blustery sergeant Belcore and Ambrogio Maestri is Dulcamara, the loveable quack and dispenser of the elixir. Maurizio Benini conducts.

- **October 27, 2012 – *Otello* (Encores: November 24 and December 3, 2012)**
Verdi's Shakespearean masterpiece returns to the Met with Johan Botha in the title role opposite the acclaimed Desdemona of star soprano Renée Fleming. Semyon Bychkov conducts.
- **November 10, 2012 – *The Tempest* (Encore: January 12, 2013)**
Composer Thomas Adès conducts the Metropolitan Opera premiere of his 2004 work, which has been widely praised as a modern masterpiece. Director Robert Lepage recreates the interior of 18th-century La Scala, including the hidden workings underneath the stage, where Prospero, the banished Duke of Milan, practices his otherworldly arts. The magnetic baritone Simon Keenlyside stars as Prospero, a role he has sung to great acclaim in London.
- **December 1, 2012 – *La Clemenza di Tito* (Encores: January 21 and 26, 2013)**
The virtuosic Elina Garanca sings Sesto in Mozart's drama set in ancient Rome. Giuseppe Filianoti is the noble Tito and Barbara Frittoli is Vitellia, in this handsome revival of one of the composer's final masterpieces. Harry Bicket conducts.
- **December 8, 2012 - *Un Ballo in Maschera* (Encores: February 9 and 11, 2013)**
Director David Alden's dreamlike setting provides a compelling backdrop for this dramatic story of jealousy and vengeance. Marcelo Álvarez stars as the conflicted king; Sondra Radvanovsky is Amelia, the object of his secret passion; and Dmitri Hvorostovsky is her suspicious husband. Kathleen Kim is the page Oscar, and Stephanie Blythe sings the role of the fortune-teller Ulrica. Fabio Luisi conducts.
- **December 15, 2012 – *Aida* – (Encores: February 23 and 25, 2012)**
The Met's unforgettable production of Verdi's ancient Egyptian drama stars Liudmyla Monastyrskya as the enslaved Ethiopian princess caught in a love triangle with the heroic Radamès, played by Roberto Alagna, and the proud Egyptian princess Amneris, sung by Olga Borodina. Fabio Luisi conducts.
- **January 5, 2013 - *Les Troyens* (Encore: March 9, 2013)**
The Met offers a rare opportunity to witness Berlioz's vast epic, last performed at the Met in 2003. Deborah Voigt, Susan Graham, Marcello Giordani, and Dwayne Croft lead the starry cast, portraying characters from the Trojan War. Met Principal Conductor Fabio Luisi marshals the large-scale musical forces.
- **January 19, 2013 – *Maria Stuarda* (Encores: March 18 and 23, 2013)**
Mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, one of the world's most exciting singers, takes on the virtuosic bel canto role of the doomed Mary, Queen of Scots. Director David McVicar turns to the second opera of Donizetti's Tudor trilogy, which explores regal characters at fateful moments of their lives. Elza van den Heever sings Elizabeth I, and Maurizio Benini conducts.
- **February 16, 2013 – *Rigoletto* (Encores: April 6, 8 and 24, 2013)**
Director Michael Mayer has placed his new production of Verdi's towering tragedy in Las Vegas in 1960. In this production, inspired by the antics of the Rat Pack, Piotr Beczala is the womanizing Duke of Mantua, Željko Lucić is his tragic sidekick, Rigoletto, and Diana Damrau is Rigoletto's daughter, Gilda.

- **March 2, 2013 – *Parsifal* (Encore: April 20, 2013)**
 Jonas Kaufmann stars in the title role of the innocent who finds wisdom in François Girard's new vision for Wagner's final masterpiece. His fellow Wagnerian luminaries include Katarina Dalayman as the mysterious Kundry, Peter Mattei as the ailing Amfortas, Evgeny Nikitin as the wicked Klingsor, and René Pape as the noble knight Gurnemanz. Daniele Gatti conducts.
- **March 16, 2013 – *Zandonai* (Encore: May 4, 2013)**
 Zandonai's compelling opera, inspired by an episode from *Dante's Inferno*, returns in the Met's ravishingly beautiful production, last seen in 1986. Dramatic soprano Eva-Maria Westbroek and tenor Marcello Giordani are the doomed lovers. Marco Armiliato conducts.
- **April 27, 2013 – *Handel* – (Encores: June 1 and 3, 2013)**
 The opera that conquered London in Handel's time comes to the Met in David McVicar's lively production. The world's leading countertenor, David Daniels, sings the title role opposite Natalie Dessay as an irresistibly exotic Cleopatra. Baroque specialist Harry Bicket conducts.

About Front Row Centre Events (FRCE)

Brought to you by Cineplex Entertainment, Front Row Centre Events bring world class entertainment to your local Cineplex Entertainment theatre and other participating locations. Presented in high-definition with digital surround sound, guests can experience the best in original one-night only and series-based programming. With the Metropolitan Opera's Live in HD series, Broadway productions, live broadcasts direct from the stage of London's National Theatre, Bolshoi Ballet performances, classic films, concerts, live sporting events and documentaries, Front Row Centre Events put you in the centre of the action on the big screen.

About Cineplex Entertainment:

Cineplex Inc. ("Cineplex") is the largest motion picture exhibitor in Canada and owns, leases or has a joint-venture interest in 134 theatres with 1,445 screens, serving approximately 66 million guests annually. Headquartered in Toronto, Canada, Cineplex operates theatres from British Columbia to Quebec and is the exclusive provider of UltraAVX™ and the largest exhibitor of digital, 3D and IMAX projection technologies in the country. Proudly Canadian and with a workforce of approximately 10,000 employees, the company operates the following top tier brands: Cineplex Odeon, Galaxy, Famous Players, Colossus, Coliseum, SilverCity, Cinema City and Scotiabank Theatres. Cineplex shares trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX) under the symbol "CGX". For more information, visit www.cineplex.com.

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