



For Immediate Release

Cineplex Entertainment Presents the Fifth Season of the Popular *The Met: Live in HD*

Tickets go on sale for SCENE and Met Opera Members on August 27th and to the general public on September 10th

TORONTO, ON, August 26, 2010 (CGX.UN) – Cineplex Entertainment is pleased to present the Peabody and Emmy-Award winning series *The Met: Live in HD* for a fifth season. Beginning on Saturday, October 9, 2010 with Wagner’s *Das Rheingold*, the season includes a dozen performances from The Metropolitan Opera in New York shown live via satellite and in high-definition at more than 100 Cineplex theatres across the country.

“This past season of *The Met: Live in HD* was the most successful season to date for Cineplex Entertainment and we are pleased to once again bring these performances to our guests,” said Pat Marshall, Vice President, Communications and Investor Relations, Cineplex Entertainment. “This year, we have expanded the number of locations and performances and have also added encore presentations on Monday evenings in addition to Saturday afternoons for guests to enjoy.”

Individual and season tickets for the 2010-2011 performances go on sale only at participating theatre box offices beginning Friday, August 27th and are available exclusively to SCENE and Met Opera members.

Beginning Friday, September 10th individual tickets are available to the general public online at www.cineplex.com/events as well as at participating theatre box offices. Season tickets offer a special discounted rate and can be purchased in person only at any of the participating theatres. Admission prices vary by theatre location.

Membership in the SCENE program is free and guests can apply online at www.scene.ca. A special group rate is also available for groups of 20 or more. For more information on group rates, call 1-800-313-4461 or email corporatesales@cineplex.com.

For information on The Met Opera in New York or to obtain tickets or membership information, visit www.metopera.org/hdlive or call 1-800-Met-Opera (1-800-638-6737).

Beginning Saturday, October 9th, the following performances will be shown live from New York at 1 pm EST at select Cineplex Entertainment theatres:

Saturday, October 9, 2010: *DAS RHEINGOLD* – Two unparalleled artists join forces to create a groundbreaking new *Ring* for the Met: Maestro James Levine and director Robert Lepage. The cycle launches with *Das Rheingold*, the prologue to Wagner’s epic drama. “The *Ring* is not just a story or a series of operas, it’s a cosmos,” says Lepage, who brings cutting-edge technology and his own visionary imagination to the world’s greatest theatrical journey. Bryn Terfel sings the leading role of Wotan for the first time with the company, heading an extraordinary cast.

Saturday, October 23, 2010: *BORIS GODUNOV* – René Pape takes on one of the greatest bass roles in a new production by Stephen Wadsworth. Valery Gergiev conducts Mussorgsky’s epic spectacle

that captures the suffering and ambition of a nation. Aleksandrs Antonenko, Vladimir Ognovenko, and Ekaterina Semenchuk lead the huge cast.

Saturday, November 13, 2010: DON PASQUALE – Anna Netrebko revives her sensational turn in this sophisticated bel canto comedy, opposite Matthew Polenzani, Mariusz Kwiecien, and John Del Carlo in the title role. Music Director James Levine conducts. When Otto Schenk’s production premiered in 2006, the *New York Times* called it “brilliant” and “wonderful.”

Saturday, December 11, 2010: DON CARLO – Director Nicholas Hytner makes his Met debut with this new production of Verdi’s profound, beautiful, and most ambitious opera. Roberto Alagna leads the cast, and Ferruccio Furlanetto, Marina Poplavskaya, Anna Smirnova, and Simon Keenlyside also star. Yannick Nézet-Séguin, back after his triumphant debut leading *Carmen*, conducts. “I think *Don Carlo* is the quintessential Verdi opera,” Hytner says. “Right through this opera there is, on the one hand, an implacable expression of impending doom and, on the other hand, a succession of the most gloriously open-throated arias, the most fantastically determined music.”

Saturday, January 8, 2011: LA FANCIULLA DEL WEST – Puccini’s wild-west opera had its world premiere in 1910 at the Met. Now, on the occasion of its centennial, all-American diva Deborah Voigt sings the title role of the “girl of the golden west,” starring opposite Marcello Giordani. Nicola Luisotti conducts.

Saturday, February 12, 2011: NIXON IN CHINA – “All of my operas have dealt on deep psychological levels with our American mythology,” says composer John Adams, who conducts the Met premiere of his most famous opera. “The meeting of Nixon and Mao is a mythological moment in world history, particularly American history.” Acclaimed director and longtime Adams collaborator Peter Sellars makes his Met debut with this groundbreaking 1987 work, an exploration of the human truths beyond the headlines surrounding President Nixon’s 1972 encounter with Communist China. Baritone James Maddalena stars in the title role.

Saturday, February 26, 2011: IPHIGÉNIE EN TAURIDE – Susan Graham and Plácido Domingo reprise their starring roles in Gluck’s nuanced and elegant interpretation of this primal Greek myth. Tenor Paul Groves also returns to Stephen Wadsworth’s insightful production, first seen in 2007. Patrick Summers conducts.

Saturday, March 19, 2011: LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR – Natalie Dessay triumphed as the fragile heroine of Donizetti’s masterpiece on opening night of the Met’s 2007–08 season in Mary Zimmerman’s hit production. Now she returns to the role of the innocent young woman driven to madness, opposite Joseph Calleja, who sings her lover Edgardo.

Saturday, April 9, 2011: LE COMTE ORY – Rossini’s vocally dazzling comedy stars bel canto sensation Juan Diego Flórez in the title role of this Met premiere production. He vies with mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, in the trouser role of Isolier, for the love of the lonely Countess Adèle, sung by soprano Diana Damrau. Bartlett Sher, director of the Met’s hit productions of *The Barber of Seville* and *The Tales of Hoffmann*, describes the world of the opera as, “a place where love is dangerous. People get hurt. That can be very funny and very painful. Rossini captures both—with the most beautiful love music Rossini ever wrote.”

Saturday, April 23, 2011: CAPRICCIO – On opening night of the 2008–09 season, Renée Fleming dazzled audiences when she sang the final scene of Strauss’s wise and worldly meditation on art and

life. Now she performs the entire work, in which the composer explores the essence of opera itself. Joseph Kaiser and Sarah Connolly also star, and Andrew Davis conducts.

Saturday, April 30, 2011: *IL TROVATORE* – David McVicar’s stirring production of Verdi’s intense drama premiered in the 2008–09 season. James Levine leads this revival, starring four extraordinary singers—Sondra Radvanovsky, Dolora Zajick, Marcelo Álvarez, and Dmitri Hvorostovsky—in what might be the composer’s most melodically rich score.

Saturday, May 14, 2011: *DIE WALKÜRE* – A stellar cast comes together for this second installment of Robert Lepage’s new production of the *Ring* cycle, conducted by James Levine. Bryn Terfel is Wotan, lord of the Gods. Deborah Voigt adds the part of Brünnhilde to her extensive Wagnerian repertoire at the Met. Jonas Kaufmann and Eva-Maria Westbroek star as the twins, Siegmund and Sieglinde, and Stephanie Blythe is Fricka.

Cineplex Entertainment will also be showing encore presentations on Saturdays and Mondays at select theatre locations for guests who may not be able to attend the live transmission or who simply want to watch it again. The encore presentation schedule is as follows:

Saturday, November 20, 2010 & Monday, November 29, 2010 – Wagner’s *Das Rheingold*

Saturday, November 27, 2010 – Mussorgsky’s *Boris Godunov*

Saturday, December 4, 2010 & Monday, January 17, 2011 – Donizetti’s *Don Pasquale*

Saturday, January 22, 2011 & Monday, February 14, 2011 – Verdi’s *Don Carlo*

Saturday, February 19, 2011 – Puccini’s *La Fanciulla Del West*

Saturday, March 12, 2011 – Adams’ *Nixon in China*

Saturday, March 26, 2011 – Gluck’s *Iphigénie en Tauride*

Saturday, April 2, 2011 – Donizetti’s *Lucia Di Lammermoor*

Saturday, May 7, 2011 & Monday June 13, 2011 – Rossini’s *Le Comte Ory*

Saturday, May 21, 2011 & Monday, June 27, 2011 – Strauss’ *Capriccio*

Saturday, June 4, 2011 – Verdi’s *Il Trovatore*

Saturday, June 18, 2011 & Monday, July 11, 2011 – Wagner’s *Die Walküre*

For a complete list of more than 100 participating theatres, visit www.cineplex.com/events

About *The Met: Live in HD*

As part of its efforts to reinvigorate opera and reach out to a broader public, in December of 2006 the Metropolitan Opera launched *The Met: Live in HD*, a series of opera performances transmitted live in high-definition to movie theaters around the world. From its inaugural season, the series has enjoyed critical acclaim and global box office success, growing from 248 venues in 8 countries in the 2006-07 season to more than 1350 theaters in 45 counties today; from paid attendance of 325,000 to 2.4 million last season; and from six transmissions in the first season to twelve in the upcoming fifth season.

Robotic cameras and state-of-the-art technology are used to capture the action, giving a bird’s-eye view and interesting perspectives on the productions. Opera stars such as Plácido Domingo, Renée Fleming, Natalie Dessay, Susan Graham, Thomas Hampson, and Deborah Voigt have served as hosts for the shows, conducting live interviews with cast and crew and introducing behind-the-scenes features; altogether the worldwide HD audience is given an unprecedented look at what goes into the staging of an opera at one of the world’s great houses.

The Met: Live in HD series is made possible by a generous grant from the Neubauer Family Foundation. Bloomberg L.P. is the global corporate sponsor of *The Met: Live in HD*. The HD broadcasts are supported by Toll Brothers, America's luxury home builder®.

About Front Row Centre Events (FRC)

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. From *The Met: Live in HD* and The National Theatre's *NT Live* to 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

As the largest motion picture exhibitor in Canada, Cineplex Entertainment LP owns, leases or has a joint-venture interest in 129 theatres with 1,342 screens serving approximately 70 million guests annually. Headquartered in Toronto, Canada, Cineplex Entertainment 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. The units of Cineplex Galaxy Income Fund, which owns approximately 99.7% of Cineplex Entertainment LP, are traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange (symbol CGX.UN). For more information, visit www.cineplex.com.

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