

Media Contact: Karen Lorenowicz
KL Strategic Communications
T: 416-243-0168 E: karen.l@sympatico.ca

Opera Atelier Sets Box Office Record with *Idomeneo*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Toronto, ON (May 6, 2008)...Opera Atelier has set a company box office record of \$642,000 in ticket sales for six performances of their new production of Mozart's *Idomeneo*. More than 8,500 people attended the production, which played to capacity crowds from April 26 to May 3, 2008 at Toronto's Elgin Theatre. Average attendance was 96 per cent for the entire run, with 100 per cent attendance at the closing performance.

Universally praised by critics and audiences alike, *Idomeneo* exceeded the company's previous box office gross revenue and attendance record set in 2001 with an eight-performance run of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*.

Idomeneo featured Croatian tenor **Kresimir Spicer** in the title role, American male soprano **Michael Maniaci** as his son Idamante, American soprano **Peggy Kriha Dye** as Idamante's love interest Ilia, and Canadian **Measha Brueggergosman** as Elettra. The production was recorded by CBC Radio 2 and will be broadcast on "Saturday Afternoon at the Opera" on May 31, 2008.

Subscriptions are now on sale for Opera Atelier's 2008/09 season featuring the company premiere of Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio* and the revival of the OA production of Monteverdi's *The Coronation of Poppea* and can be purchased by calling 416-703-3767 ext. 28.

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Ms Brueggergosman's appearance generously underwritten by Jerry and Joan Lozinski