

Mozart's *The Magic Flute* is an adventure for the whole family!

- Production will tour to two locations in the U.S. following Toronto run -

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 19, 2013 (Toronto, ON) – Opera Atelier's 2012-2013 season continues with Mozart's ***The Magic Flute* (April 6-13, 2013)**, an enchanting romp through a fairy-tale land in which dragons and spirits roam and perseverance is rewarded by true love. Following its Toronto run at the Elgin Theatre, *The Magic Flute* will embark on a U.S. tour to Penn State University (April 18) in Pennsylvania and Opera Columbus (April 27 & 28) in Ohio. A magical tale that delights audiences of all ages, *The Magic Flute* is a wonderful adventure for the whole family.

"We are delighted to be returning to our beloved *Magic Flute*, which we first presented in 1991," says Opera Atelier Co-Artistic Director Marshall Pynkoski. "This is a piece of music theatre that will appeal to children and adults, first-time opera-goers and aficionados alike."

One of the most-performed operas worldwide, *The Magic Flute* is perhaps Mozart's greatest popular success. It tells the tale of a prince, Tamino, who is sent by The Queen of the Night to rescue her daughter Pamina from her nemesis Sarastro. Accompanied by the endearingly incorrigible Papageno and with the aid of a magic flute, the besotted Tamino ventures into Sarastro's temple and quickly finds that all is not as it seems.

The Magic Flute will reunite several of the cast members from Opera Atelier's 2006 production, including **Colin Ainsworth** as Tamino and **Olivier LaQuerre** as Papageno. They will be joined by **Laura Albino** as Pamina, **Ambur Braid** as The Queen of the Night, **Carla Huhtanen** as First Lady and Papagena, and **João Fernandes** as Sarastro, as well as **Aaron Ferguson**, **Cassandra Warner**, **Laura Pudwell** and **Curtis Sullivan** with the full corps of the **Artists of Atelier Ballet**.

The creative team includes director **Marshall Pynkoski**, choreographer **Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg**, set designer **Gerard Gauci**, and lighting designer **Bonnie Beecher**. In Toronto and Pennsylvania, Music Director **David Fallis** conducts the **Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra and Chamber Choir**. In Ohio, David Fallis will conduct the Opera Columbus Chorus and Columbus Symphony. *The Magic Flute* runs **April 6, 7, 9, 10, 12 and 13, 2013** at the **Elgin Theatre** in Toronto and will be sung in English with English Surtitles.

Tickets for *The Magic Flute* start at \$35 and can be purchased through Ticketmaster at **1-855-622-ARTS(2787)** or www.ticketmaster.ca, or at the Elgin Theatre Box Office (189 Yonge Street). \$20 Operatix tickets may be purchased by patrons under 30 in person at the Elgin Theatre Box Office or online with the code OPERATIX. (Subject to availability. Valid I.D. required at pick-up.) Group discounts (10+ people) are available by calling 416-703-3767 x222. For more information, visit www.operaatelier.com.

2012-2013 Season Sponsor: Sun Life Financial

***The Magic Flute* Production Sponsor:** Scotiabank

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

Opera Atelier is Canada's premier period opera/ballet company, specializing in 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. Since 1985, led by founding artistic directors 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.