THE ATLANTA OPERA

DENNIS HANTHORN - *Zurich General Director*

IO-II NEWS

Media Contacts:
Cristina Vásconez Herrera
cvherrera@atlantaopera.org
404-881-9194

Laura D. Soldati
lsoldati@atlantaopera.org
404-591-2931

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Atlanta Opera Presents Mozart's *Così fan tutte* at the Cobb Energy Centre

The final opera in the Atlanta Opera's 2010-2011season is *Così fan tutte*, Mozart's brilliant comedic masterpiece about two officers who boast of their girlfriends' faithfulness, only to have a clever friend put it to the test. Disguises, charades, mischief, and heartbreak result, but in the end, all are much wiser in the ways of love. Metropolitan Opera conductor Kazem Abdullah makes his Atlanta Opera debut and will lead The Atlanta Opera Orchestra, Chorus and cast. *Così fan tutte* will be sung in Italian with English supertitles projected above the stage. Performances are April 9, 12, 15 and 17, 2011 at the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre.

Soprano Keri Alkema will perform the role of Fiordiligi, and University of Georgia graduate mezzo-soprano Jennifer Holloway will sing Dorabella. Soprano Kiera Duffy, who recently appeared on the Atlanta Opera stage in *Akhnaten,* sings Despina, and tenor Matthew Plenk sings the role of Ferrando. Both Duffy and Plenk are featured in the Metropolitan Opera's behind-the-scenes documentary, "The Audition." Baritone Phillip Addis, who last appeared on the Atlanta Opera stage in the 30th anniversary season opener *The Elixir of Love*, sings Guglielmo, and the scheming Don Alfonso will be sung by bass Jason Hardy. Jose Maria Condemi will direct.

The Atlanta Opera also will offer **Atlanta Opera Extras**, community outreach initiatives that entertain and educate audiences about music and themes in *Così fan tutte*. A complete listing of upcoming events is below.

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COSÌ FAN TUTTE

Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte

Sung in Italian with English Supertitles
Sets from The Atlanta Opera

Previous Atlanta Opera Performances: 1987, 2000
Approximate Running Time: 3 hours

Four Performances at the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre
Saturday, April 9, 2011 at 8 pm
Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 7:30 pm
Friday, April 15, 2011 at 8 pm
Sunday, April 17, 2011 at 3 pm

Creative Team

Conductor	Kazem Abdullah*
Stage Director	Jose Maria Condemi*
Set Designer	Peter Dean Beck
Lighting Designer	Ken Yunker

Cast

Fiordiligi	Keri Alkema*
Dorabella	Jennifer Holloway*
Despina	Kiera Duffy
Ferrando	Matthew Plenk*
Guglielmo	Phillip Addis
Don Alfonso	Jason Hardy

Description
Two soldiers test the faithfulness of their fiancés on a dare. Pretending they are called away to duty, the men leave -- only to return as foreigners in disguise to woo the assumed two-timing women. Mischief and heartbreak result, but a happy ending is certain! This brilliant Mozart opera is a masterpiece of comedy and a favorite the world over.

*Denotes Atlanta Opera debut.

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TICKET INFORMATION

Single Tickets
$25 -$140 plus tax, convenience and venue fees
Online -- Visit www.atlantaopera.org
By Phone -- Call 404-881-8885 or 1-800-35-OPERA (Mon-Fri, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.)
In-person – Visit the Bank of North Georgia Box Office at the Cobb Energy Centre (Mon-Fri, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; and one hour prior to a performance on day of show).

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ATLANTA OPERA EXTRAS

Mozart, *Così fan tutte*, and the End of the Enlightenment
Tuesdays, March 22 – April 12 @ 7 p.m.
Emory University Center for Lifelong Learning
Tuition: $200 (includes performance ticket)

Carter Joseph's popular Evening at Emory class will explore the musical and social influences in Mozart's *Così fan tutte*. On April 12, the class will attend The Atlanta Opera's production of this comedic masterpiece.

Atlanta Opera Master Class with Kiera Duffy
Tuesday, March 22, 2011 @ 11 a.m.
Georgia State University
Helen M. Aderhold Learning Center
Room 430
Free and open to the public
www.music.gsu.edu

Featuring soprano Kiera Duffy, who will be performing the role of Despina in the Atlanta Opera's production of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*.

Opera Chat
Monday, March 28, 2011 @ 7 p.m.
Barnes & Noble Buckhead
2900 Peachtree Road NE
Suite 310
Atlanta, GA
Free and open to the public

Select members of the cast, artistic and production crews will discuss the multi-faceted roles they play in mounting the Atlanta Opera's upcoming production of *Così fan tutte*.

Opera 101
Monday, April 4, 2011 @ 7 p.m.
The Atlanta Opera Center
1575 Northside Drive, Bldg. 300, Suite 350
Atlanta, GA 30318
Free and open to the public

A multimedia presentation by opera aficionado and Atlanta Opera Board Member Carter Joseph/ Audiences learn about the history, background, and story line of *Così fan tutte* through a combination of lecture, audio and video samples. Reservations are requested; email education@atlantaopera.org or call 404-343-7016.

Pre-Opera Talk
Saturday, April 9, 2011 at 7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.
Friday, April 15 2011 at 7 p.m.
Sunday, April 17, 2011 at 2 p.m.
Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre
Free to ticketholders

Pre-Opera Talks are held one hour prior to each performance inside the John A. Williams Theatre at the Cobb Energy Centre and provide opera attendees a free sneak peek into the opera they are about to see.

Atlanta Opera Costume Exhibit
Saturday, April 9, 2011
Tuesday, April 12, 2011
Friday, April 15 2011
Sunday, April 17, 2011
Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre
Free to ticketholders

During the run of *Così fan tutte* audiences can experience a retrospective from the vaults of the Atlanta Opera's celebrated Costume Shop. Audiences will be able to see these incredible pieces of craftsmanship up close and personal, as well as see highlights from costumes featured in our upcoming 2011-20112 season.

La Belle Soirée: A Fun and Flirty Affair
Wednesday, April 13, 2011 @ 6:30 p.m.
At the Home of George and Dale Levert
$75/person (includes valet parking)

This "Fun and Flirty" fundraiser, featuring surprise serenades and delightful bubbly, will benefit The Atlanta Opera.

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Atlanta Opera Sponsors

AT&T is the Atlanta Opera's Season Sponsor. The Atlanta Opera is proud to recognize its other corporate partners: **The Coca-Cola Company**, the Official Beverage Sponsor of The Atlanta Opera and Opening Night Performance Sponsor; **Zurich**, the Official Insurance Sponsor of The Atlanta Opera; and **Delta Air Lines**, the Official Airline of The Atlanta Opera. Generous production support also has been provided by Dr. and Mrs. James W. Bland, Bob and Cappa Woodward, the Sara Giles Moore Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Knobloch, Jr., Martha Thompson, the Atlanta Music Festival Association, and Mrs. Harry Willson.

About The Atlanta Opera

Founded in 1979, The Atlanta Opera is one of the finest regional opera companies in the nation, drawing audiences from the entire metropolitan Atlanta area as well as from the Southeast region. Led by Zurich General Director Dennis Hanthorn, The Atlanta Opera strives to expand the experience of its patrons with memorable and exciting opera performances reflecting the highest musical and theatrical standards, while supporting community and educational programs. The company also works to attract the finest international, national, and regional singers, conductors, stage directors and designers. For the 2010-2011 season, The Atlanta Opera presents three productions with four performances each at the Cobb Energy Centre.

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