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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
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OPERA COLORADO PRESENTS PERENNIAL FAVORITE "MADAMA BUTTERFLY"

Denver, Colo.— Puccini's soaring tale of passion, devotion and honor comes to Denver! The world-famous story of a Japanese geisha betrayed by her American husband plays for four performances in November at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House.

Performance Details

- *Madama Butterfly* plays on Nov. 8, 11 and 14 at 7:30 pm; Nov. 16 at 2:00 pm
- Single tickets on sale and range from \$29-162. Tickets are nearly sold out.
- Tickets available by calling 303-357-ARTS or visiting www.operacolorado.org or www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets are also available at Ticketmaster retail locations. Season tickets available at www.operacolorado.org or 303-468-2030.
- Group tickets (10 or more) are available by calling 303-468-2024.

Highlights

- **Ron Daniels**, the originating director, comes to Denver for this production from San Francisco; costumes and sets were designed by **Michael Yeargan**. Opera Colorado favorite **Stephen Lord** conducts.
- Tenor **Michael Fabiano** (Pinkerton) was a 2007 winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council.
- This will be **Adina Nitescu's** second U.S. appearance.
- This production originated at San Francisco Opera to rave reviews.

Cast

Adina Nitescu, soprano | Cio-Cio San | Opera Colorado debut.
Performed with: Nederlandse Opera, Deutsche Opera Berlin, Teatro San Carlo.

Mary Ann McCormick, mezzo-soprano | Suzuki | Opera Colorado debut: Olga, *Eugene Onegin*, 2002.
Performed with: Theater St. Gallen, Teatro Regio di Torino, Teatro alla Scala.

Michael Fabiano, tenor | B. F. Pinkerton | Opera Colorado debut.
Performed with: Stadttheater Klagenfurt, New Jersey Opera Theater, Opera Orchestra of New York.

Anthony Michaels-Moore, baritone | Sharpless | Opera Colorado debut.
Performed with: Bavarian State Opera, Metropolitan Opera, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

Read the full release and download images at www.operacolorado.org/press/

**FULL RELEASE:
OPERA COLORADO ANNOUNCES PUCCINI'S "MADAMA BUTTERFLY"**

* = Opera Colorado Debut

Denver, Colo.— Opera Colorado's 2008-2009 season opens with Giacomo Puccini's world-famous story of a Japanese geisha betrayed by her American husband, which plays for four performances, **November 8, 11, 14 and 16** at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House. Tickets are selling out quickly for this soaring tale of passion, devotion and honor set in early twentieth-century Japan.

Madama Butterfly will feature an internationally-recognized cast. In her second U.S. appearance, Romanian soprano **Adina Nitescu*** (Nederlandse Opera, Deutsche Opera Berlin) sings the role of Cio-Cio San and is known for her Puccini heroines. Mezzo-soprano **Mary Ann McCormick** (*Eugene Onegin*, 2002) returns to portray Suzuki, Butterfly's faithful maid. Tenor **Michael Fabiano*** (Austria's Stadttheater Klagenfurt, New Jersey Opera Theater), a 2007 winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council, sings the role of Butterfly's husband, Pinkerton. British opera star and baritone **Anthony Michaels-Moore*** (Metropolitan Opera, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden) sings the US Consul, Sharpless.

Ron Daniels* (San Francisco Opera, Houston Grand Opera), the original director for the San Francisco production, comes to Denver to direct this visually stunning work. Sets and costumes designed by Tony Award-winner **Michael Yeargan***, whose work is often seen on Broadway. Opera Colorado favorite **Stephen Lord** (*La Traviata*, *Don Pasquale*) conducts. This production originated at San Francisco Opera. Opera Colorado is proud to feature the Colorado Symphony Orchestra and the Opera Colorado Chorus.

All performances take place at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House at the Denver Performing Arts Complex in downtown Denver, 14th and Curtis Streets. Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees begin at 2:00 p.m. For ticketing details, visit www.operacolorado.org or call **303-357-2787**. This production will be sung in Italian with subtitles provided on every seatback in English or Spanish. *Madama Butterfly* will be performed in two acts with one intermission.

***Madama Butterfly* is sponsored by:**

CIBER, Inc.; The Colorado Trust – Dr. and Mrs. William Maniatis; Hilja K. Herfurth; Joy and Chris Dinsdale; Hugh A. Grant and Merle C. Chambers

Tickets – Tickets are on sale now and are available through Ticketmaster via www.operacolorado.org, by phone at **303-357-ARTS**, or at a variety of walk-up locations posted on the Opera Colorado website. Ticket prices range from \$29 - \$162. Discount rates are available to groups of 10 or more by calling 303-468-2024.