

NEWS RELEASE

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BECOME "FRIENDS" WITH NEW JERSEY OPERA THEATER'S SUMMERFEST

PRINCETON, NJ- In addition to the many wonderful fully-staged operas and masterclasses featuring international presenters being offered during New Jersey Opera Theater's SummerFest 2006, there will also be a set of Arias and Ensembles concerts entitled "Mozart and Friends" and "Puccini, Verdi and Friends" performed at McCarter's Berlind Theatre in Princeton.

"Mozart and Friends" will take place on Saturday, July 15 at 2pm and "Puccini, Verdi and Friends" will occur the following week on Saturday, July 22 at 2pm.

Featured in these concerts will be New Jersey Opera Theater's talented Studio Artists from the 2006 SummerFest season with piano accompaniment. On the program for "Mozart and Friends" will be such favorites as the Act Four Finale from Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* as well as a portion of Rossini's rarity *Il Viaggio a Reims*. The "Puccini, Verdi and Friends" concert will feature beloved sections of Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* and *La bohème*, Verdi's *La traviata* as well as Bizet's *Carmen*.

Tickets for both concerts are \$12 and \$16 and may be purchased through the McCarter Theatre Ticket Office at 609-258-2787 or online at www.mccarter.org.

About New Jersey Opera Theater

New Jersey Opera Theater, founded in 2002 and based in Princeton, seeks to be nationally recognized as a leader among regional opera companies – providing opera for all and arts education for a lifetime. Through high quality opera performances, sustainable education programs and related activities, NJOT will (1) stimulate, promote and satisfy interest in opera in the community, (2) create new and sustained audiences for the art form of opera and (3) foster the development of emerging artists.

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