

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Tenor Michael Fabiano to Make Triumphant Return in Opera New Jersey 2008 Summer Season**

PRINCETON, NJ – **Opera New Jersey** (OperaNJ) is pleased to announce the return of tenor Michael Fabiano for the Summer Season 2008 production of Verdi's *La traviata*, where he will sing the lead role of Alfredo opposite Elizabeth Caballero as Violetta. Opera New Jersey patrons will remember Mr. Fabiano as Nemorino in their 2006 Summer Season production of Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore*, where he continually brought down the house in such arias as "Una furtiva lagrima."

The previously announced Alfredo, Ryan MacPherson, had withdrawn from the production for personal reasons.

"We are delighted that Michael was available for this production," said Scott Altman, General Artistic Director of Opera New Jersey. "Having to replace a singer at the last minute is not an uncommon occurrence in the opera world," Mr. Altman continued, "but it helps when an exceptional replacement is available – especially when he is such a friend of this organization."



Since his debut with OperaNJ, Mr. Fabiano has made an impressive splash in the opera world, debuting at La Scala, Milan's famed opera house, as Rinuccio in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and winning the 2007 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. Upcoming engagements find Mr. Fabiano in intense demand internationally, performing with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Semperoper Dresden, the Deutsche Oper Berlin and the Paris Opera.

Opera New Jersey's Summer Season begins in June with a series of free concerts and masterclasses in the Princeton area. In addition to *La traviata*, OperaNJ will present Rossini's *La Cenerentola* (Cinderella) and Lehár's *The Merry Widow* during the 2008 Summer Season, which opens on July 11 at McCarter Theatre in Princeton. Tickets (\$59, \$65 and \$90) are available through McCarter Theatre at (609) 258-2787 or online at [www.mccarter.org](http://www.mccarter.org). Further information may be obtained from Opera New Jersey at (609) 799-7700 or online at [www.Opera-NJ.org](http://www.Opera-NJ.org).

*Photo: Michael Fabiano as Alfredo in La traviata. Photo by Paul Sirochman, courtesy of the Academy of Vocal Arts, Philadelphia.*

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## Michael Fabiano: Opera New Jersey - continued

### **About Opera New Jersey**

**Opera New Jersey** (OperaNJ, formerly New Jersey Opera Theater) is earning national recognition as a leader among regional opera companies, providing high quality opera performances, exceptional educational offerings and related activities. OperaNJ seeks to stimulate, promote and satisfy interest in opera, build a strong and diverse audience base for the art form and foster the development of emerging artists. **Opera New Jersey** recently received its second straight prestigious Citation of Excellence from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts (NJSCA). The Citation is NJSCA's highest honor and recognizes arts organizations that "exhibit the highest standards of excellence in artistry, operations, governance, public benefit and fulfillment of areas of Council priority." OperaNJ received its first citation in 2006, during their first year of eligibility.

This season is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

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