



FROM: Susan Mathieson Mayer
Magda Krance (mkrance@lyricopera.org)
Jack Zimmerman (jzimmerman@lyricopera.org)
LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
20 North Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606
312-332-2244

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Holly Gilson (hgilson@wttw.com)
98.7WFMT
5400 N. St. Louis
Chicago, IL 60625
773-509-5424

**Lyric Opera of Chicago 2009/10 season preview
to air live on 98.7WFMT Saturday, March 28, 9 – 11 a.m.
William Mason/general director, Sir Andrew Davis/music director,
and Roger Pines/dramaturg discuss upcoming season and musical highlights
with WFMT host Lisa Flynn**

**The Bucksbaum Family Lyric Opera Broadcasts of the
2008/09 season will be rebroadcast internationally by
The WFMT Radio Network May 2 - June 20**

Lyric Opera of Chicago's general director **William Mason**, music director **Sir Andrew Davis**, and dramaturg **Roger Pines** will join 98.7WFMT program host **Lisa Flynn** on **Saturday, March 28**, between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. for musical excerpts and a lively conversation about the world-renowned opera company's eagerly anticipated 55th season.

The live broadcast will begin with music from and discussion of Puccini's *Tosca*, which opens Lyric's season Sept. 26. The preview will then feature Gounod's *Faust* – one of the season's two interpretations of the famous Faustian legend. Next up will be Verdi's *Ernani*, followed by Janáček's heartbreaking tale of *Katya Kabanova*. Lehár's effervescent operetta *The Merry Widow* will be the subject of the next segment, followed by comments on Donizetti's comic gem, *The Elixir of Love*. Attention will then turn to Berlioz's "dramatic legend" *The Damnation of Faust* – which is premiering at Lyric in a brand-new production. Excerpts and conversation on Mozart's sublime human comedy *The Marriage of Figaro* will close the program.

Opera fans who haven't already done so will be encouraged to subscribe to Lyric's 55th season by calling **312-332-2244**, or going to www.lyricopera.org.

Beginning on Saturday, May 2, and continuing every Saturday through June 20, **The Bucksbaum Family Lyric Opera Broadcasts** of the 2008/09 season will be rebroadcast internationally by The WFMT Radio Network and heard locally on 98.7WFMT. The broadcasts are on the following Saturdays:

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| <i>Manon/Massenet</i> | May 2 |
| <i>Cavalleria rusticana/Mascagni</i> <i>& Pagliacci/Leoncavallo</i> | May 9 |
| <i>Lulu/Berg</i> | May 16 |
| <i>The Abduction from the Seraglio/Mozart</i> | May 23 |
| <i>Madama Butterfly/Puccini</i> | May 30 |
| <i>Porgy and Bess/Gershwin</i> | June 6 |
| <i>The Pearl Fishers/Bizet</i> | June 13 |
| <i>Tristan und Isolde/Wagner</i> | June 20 |

Chicago-area broadcasts on 98.7WFMT begin at 12:00 p.m./noon. Check local listings for exact times and dates outside the Chicago area. The broadcasts can also be heard anywhere in the world on www.wfmt.com

The **Bucksbaum Family Lyric Opera Broadcasts** are made possible by a generous and much-appreciated gift from the **Matthew Bucksbaum Family** with matching funding provided by **The Crown Family** and **Richard P. and Susan Kiphart**.

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