

PITTSBURGH OPERA

For Immediate Release

March 31, 2009

Contact:

Kesha M. Pate, Public Relations Manager
kpate@pittsburghopera.org or (412) 281-0912 ext 248

Photos:

Allison M. Ruppert, Marketing and Community Relations Manager
aruppert@pittsburghopera.org or (412) 281-0912 ext 262

Pittsburgh Opera Announces: Master Class with Antony Walker

When: Thursday, April 16, 2009

What: Master Class with world renowned conductor Maestro [Antony Walker](#)

Where: Pittsburgh Opera, 2425 Liberty Avenue in the Strip District

Who: Maestro Antony Walker and Pittsburgh Opera's Resident Artists

*Experience is
Everything
2008-2009
Season*

Pittsburgh, PA... Internationally renowned conductor and Music Director of [Pittsburgh Opera](#), Antony Walker will host a Master Class with Pittsburgh Opera's Resident Artists on Thursday, April 16 at 7:00 PM.

Free and open to the public, this will be Maestro Walker's second Master Class at Pittsburgh Opera. Observers will have the opportunity to enjoy his expert instruction of the Resident Artists, with musical and dramatic critiques of their singing from the unique perspective of a Music Director who is also a classically trained singer.

"This is going to be a real treat," said [Christopher Hahn](#), General Director of Pittsburgh Opera. "We are very excited that our Resident Artists will have the opportunity to learn from such a multi-talented conductor, who is not only renowned for his conducting skill but also for his signing talent!"

The Master Class will be held at [2425 Liberty Avenue](#), the Bold New Home of Pittsburgh Opera in the Strip District. This new location is one of Pittsburgh's historic landmarks, originally used as George Westinghouse's air brake factory.

(more)

PITTSBURGH OPERA

Master Classes are offered several times a year and are vital to the training of the Resident Artists. In addition to Maestro Walker, recent distinguished master class teachers include soprano Pamela Armstrong and mezzo-sopranos Stephanie Blythe and Vivica Geneaux.

For more information or to reserve a seat for the April 16 class, please contact Sue at (412) 281-0912 ext. 0 (zero).

About Maestro Antony Walker

Since his debut in 1991, this exciting and prolific conductor has led companies in Europe, the United States and Australia. Currently in his third season as Pittsburgh Opera's Music Director, Maestro Walker will be returning in the upcoming 2009-2010 season to conduct [*Eugene Onegin*](#), [*Falstaff*](#) and [*Carmen*](#).

Maestro Walker is currently the Music Director for Pittsburgh Opera and Washington Concert Opera. He is also the Music Director and founder of Cantillation, Orchestra of the Antipodes & Sinfonia Australis and holds the position of co-Artistic Director for Pinchgut Opera.

His conducting schedule has included engagements with Opera Australia, Welsh National Opera, New York City Opera, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Glimmerglass Opera, Cincinnati Opera, Minnesota Opera, Vancouver Opera, the Sydney and Melbourne Symphony orchestras, Sydney Opera House Orchestra, Adelaide Chamber Orchestra, Barossa Festival Orchestra and the BBC National Orchestra of Wales.

Having recorded 26 CDs and DVDs during his career, Maestro Walker has won the ARIA award for Best Classical Music Album of 2004 for his collaboration with Teddy Tahu Rhodes and the international DVD Association Award for Music Excellence in 2005 for his DVD of Beethoven's "Emperor" Concerto.

[Pittsburgh Opera](#), now celebrating its 70th season, is one of America's leading opera companies. It produces a range of programs, from mainstage productions to free community concerts to intimate cabarets. Pittsburgh Opera's internationally renowned resident artist program is among the country's top five training centers for rising opera stars. More than 20,000 students, families and educators participate in Pittsburgh Opera educational events annually. The company's newly designed administrative and rehearsal space is housed in a 140-year-old air brake factory in the city's Strip District.

Subscriptions for as little as \$41. Single tickets for as little as \$16. For ticket information visit our website www.pittsburghopera.org or call (412) 281-0912

###

*Experience is
Everything
2008-2009
Season*