

## **Pittsburgh Opera NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Pittsburgh's Opera Lady Previews Fall Season for Wheeling Opera Guild**

Pittsburgh, PA (10/8/07) ... Beth Parker, Pittsburgh Opera's "Opera Lady" returns to Wheeling with a new operatic star on the horizon—tenor Carlos Feliciano—for a preview of Pittsburgh Opera's fall operas. Parker accompanies Feliciano in excerpts from Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* and Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love*, along with her signature lively commentaries and insider information about the stories and musical highlights of the operas. The program takes place at 8:00 PM on Monday, October 8 at Temple Shalom, Edgewood & Bethany Pike.

Feliciano is a one of six new members of the Pittsburgh Opera Center, Pittsburgh Opera's world-class training program for young opera singers. Chosen from among 600 applicants worldwide, this select group of artists is among the top international talent emerging from today's opera scene. Whether performing breathtaking operatic arias or the timeless classics of Gershwin and Cole Porter, the hot young artists of the Pittsburgh Opera Center bring to the stage the kind of singing and acting electricity that establish them as the stars of tomorrow.

A native of Puerto Rico, Carlos Feliciano makes his Pittsburgh debut this season as the Messenger in *Aida* and also covers Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*. Educated at the Manhattan School of Music (BM) and the Juilliard School (Graduate diploma), Mr. Feliciano won the top prize of the Five Towns Music & Art Foundation and was a finalist in the Violetta Dupont Competition. A specialist in light tenor roles, he has sung in *The Abduction of Seraglio* and *La Calisto* at Juilliard, *Don Giovanni* in Castres, France, the zarzuela *Doña Francisquita* and the Saint-Saëns Christmas Oratorio in Puerto Rico, and Handel's *Judas Maccabeus*, Mozart's "Coronation" Mass, and the world premiere of *Il poverello* by Santini at the Assisi Music Festival in Italy.

Beth Parker aka "The Opera Lady" provides all kinds of useful information about opera on the company's webpage at [www.pittsburghopera.org](http://www.pittsburghopera.org). On her 'Opera Made Easy' page, people can

find answers to pressing questions like ‘Do opera singers use mikes?’ (*No*) or ‘What is the best opera for children this season?’ (*The Elixir of Love*) There is also an Opera Lady section for each opera where you can read the opera’s story, and get other intriguing information and tantalizing trivia.

Pittsburgh Opera, celebrating 69 years of opera in southwestern Pennsylvania, is a member of OPERA America (the national organization for opera companies) and the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Alliance. Pittsburgh Opera’s performances are supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the PA Department of Community and Economic Development and Allegheny Regional Asset District.

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