



SEATTLE OPERA
SPEIGHT JENKINS GENERAL DIRECTOR

For Release: October 26, 2006

Press Contact: Rosemary Jones, 206-676-5559, rosemary.jones@seattleopera.org

Visuals Contact: Monte Jacobson, 206-676-5545, monte.jacobson@seattleopera.org

**Soprano Jane Eaglen Appointed Principal Vocal Instructor
for Seattle Opera's Young Artists Program**

Seattle—Soprano Jane Eaglen has joined Seattle Opera's Young Artists Program as the Principal Vocal Instructor. Eaglen had previously taught master classes for the Program, which provides training for a select number of emerging professional singers. A Seattle resident, the English-born soprano is renowned for her interpretations of Bellini's *Norma*, Wagner's *Brünnhilde* and *Isolde*, and Puccini's *Turandot*. She has appeared frequently at Seattle Opera (where she sang *Brünnhilde* in the 2001 and 2005 *Ring des Nibelungen*). Eaglen also has performed at the Metropolitan Opera, Teatro alla Scala, Royal Opera Covent Garden, and Paris Opera-Bastille, among others.

"Jane has a marvelous ability to listen to a singer and pinpoint what that singer needs to excel. She can express her opinion in a very few words. I have watched her do this, and if the singer doesn't seem immediately to understand, she can explain her ideas until they are completely clear. I have seen this process work in a very short time: the singer, after working with Jane, sounds different and better. In my opinion this can be said for very few teachers of voice. Jane can help a singer enormously in a very short period of time," said Seattle Opera General Director Speight Jenkins.

This season's Young Artists are tenor Noah Baetge from Seattle, WA; soprano Holly Boaz from Vashon, WA; mezzo-soprano Lucia Cervoni from London, Ontario; mezzo-soprano Teresa S. Herold from Fort Fairfield, ME; baritone Joshua B. Jeremiah from Myerstown, PA; baritone David Lara from Buhler, KS; baritone Jonathan Lasch from Minneapolis, MN; soprano Caitlin Lynch from Detroit, MI; soprano Ani Maldjian from Los Angeles, CA; soprano Anya Matanovic from Issaquah, WA; bass-baritone Michael Anthony McGee from Dallas, TX; and tenor Marcus Glenn Shelton from Edmonds, WA. Cervoni, Herold, and Matanovic were also in the program last season. The twelve Young Artists were chosen from approximately 500 applicants. Final auditions were held in Seattle and New York.

Further information about the Young Artists Program and performances by the Young Artists can be found on Seattle Opera's website: www.seattleopera.org.

Seattle Opera is grateful to the following organizations for their steadfast major institutional support: The Boeing Company, Microsoft Corporation, 4Culture, 98.1 Classical KING FM, ArtsFund, C.E. Stuart Charitable Trust, Kreielsheimer Endowment Fund, Mayor's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs (City of Seattle), National Endowment for the Arts, Nesholm Family Foundation, PONCHO, The James and Sherry Raisbeck Singers' Endowment, Washington State Arts Commission, Seattle Opera Guild, and Sherman Clay Pianos