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Metropolitan Opera Radio on SIRIUS to Broadcast Third Season Live from the Metropolitan Opera

SIRIUS' live broadcast of the Met's Opening Night Gala on Monday, September 22, will star Renee Fleming

The third season of Met Opera Radio on SIRIUS will feature 127 performances broadcast live from the opera house stage

NEW YORK, Sept. 18 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ --SIRIUS XM Radio (SIRI) today announced it will broadcast its third season live from the Metropolitan Opera beginning with Opening Night on Monday, September 22 and will include 127 live performances during the Met's 2008-2009 season.

(LOGO: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/19991118/NYTH125>)

The season will start with the Met's Opening Night Gala on Monday, September 22, on Metropolitan Opera Radio SIRIUS channel 78. Coverage of opening night will begin with an overview of the evening's red carpet events, backstage interviews and a season preview starting at 6 pm ET. Met Opera Radio's Opening Night Gala will star Renee Fleming performing in some of her most acclaimed roles, beginning with Act II of Verdi's *La Traviata*, conducted by Met Music Director James Levine, and continuing with Act III of Massenet's *Manon*, conducted by Marco Armiliato, and the final scene of Richard Strauss's one act opera, *Capriccio*, conducted by Patrick Summers.

Highlights of the Met Opera Radio 2008-09 schedule include every season premiere and all six of the Met's new productions: the Met premiere of John Adams's opera about the creation of the atomic bomb, *Doctor Atomic*; Berlioz's *La Damnation de Faust*; Massenet's *Thais*; Puccini's *La Rondine*; Verdi's *Il Trovatore*; and Bellini's *La Sonnambula*. Host Margaret Juntwait along with Will Berger will return to the Met Opera Radio channel.

In addition to its third season of broadcasting performances live from the Met, Met Opera Radio will air a salute to Placido Domingo's 40th year with the Met. *The Domingo Festival* on Met Opera Radio will feature a special four-day salute to the great Spanish tenor, including six archival Met broadcasts selected from the long span of his career, including *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* (1982), *Otello* (1988), *The Queen of Spades* (2004), and the SIRIUS premieres of the broadcast of *Lohengrin* (1985) and *Il Trovatore* (1975). The salute to Placido Domingo will begin Thursday, September 25 starting at 9 pm ET

Metropolitan Opera Radio broadcasts an unprecedented number of live Metropolitan Opera performances each week throughout the Met's entire season, as well as the largest collection of live recordings, newly restored and re-mastered, from the Met's 77-year broadcast history. The 24/7 channel features an average of four live broadcasts each week

throughout the Met's performance season enhanced with live interviews and dynamic intermission programs in addition to Saturday matinee performances.

A schedule of this season's Metropolitan Opera Radio broadcasts on SIRIUS is available at www.sirius.com/metropolitanoperaradio.

For more information about the Metropolitan Opera, please visit www.metopera.org

About the Met

Under the leadership of General Manager Peter Gelb and Music Director James Levine, the Met has a series of bold initiatives underway that are designed to broaden its audience and revitalize the company's repertory. The Met has made a commitment to presenting modern masterpieces alongside the classic repertory, with highly theatrical productions featuring the greatest opera stars in the world.

The Metropolitan Opera's 2008-09 season pays tribute to the company's extraordinary history on the occasion of its 125th anniversary, while also emphasizing the Met's renewed commitment to advancing the art form. The upcoming season features six new productions, 18 revivals, the final performances of Otto Schenk's production of Wagner's *Ring* cycle conducted by Levine, and two gala celebrations; the galas include the season-opening performance featuring Renee Fleming as well as a 125th anniversary celebration on March 15. New productions include the company premiere of John Adams's *Doctor Atomic* as well as the Met's first staged production of Berlioz's *La Damnation de Faust*, and Massenet's *Thais*, Puccini's *La Rondine*, Verdi's *Il Trovatore*, and Bellini's *La Sonnambula*. Future seasons include new presentations of John Corigliano's *The Ghosts of Versailles* (2009-10) and Thomas Ades's *The Tempest* (2011-12).

Building on its 77-year-old international radio broadcast history - heard over the Toll Brothers-Metropolitan Opera International Radio Network - the Met now uses advanced media distribution platforms and state-of-the-art technology to attract new audiences and reach millions of opera fans around the world.

The Met: Live in HD series reached more than 935,000 people in the 2007-08 season, more than the number of people who saw performances in the opera house. These performances began airing on PBS in March 2008, and eight of these HD performances are currently or will soon be available on DVD, on the EMI and Universal labels. In the 2008-09 season, the series expands to feature 11 live transmissions, starting with the Met's Opening Night Gala and spanning the entire season. The HD productions will be seen in over 850 theaters in approximately 30 countries around the world. Five new productions will be featured, including the Met premiere of John Adams's *Doctor Atomic*. The Opening Night transmission will be seen in the Americas only; the remaining ten high-definition productions will be shown live worldwide on Saturdays through May 9 with encores the following Wednesdays.

Live in HD in Schools, the Met's new program offering free opera transmissions to New York City schools in partnership with the New York City Department of Education and the Metropolitan Opera Guild, reached more than 7,000 public school students and teachers during the 2007-08 season. This season, *Live in HD in Schools* expands to reach schools in 18 cities and communities nationwide.

Metropolitan Opera Radio on SIRIUS channel 78 is a subscription-based audio entertainment service broadcasting both an unprecedented number of live performances each week throughout the Met's entire season, as well as rare historical performances, newly restored and remastered, spanning the Met's 77-year broadcast history.

In addition to providing audio recordings through the new *Met on Rhapsody* on-demand service, the Met also presents free live audio streaming of performances on its website once every week during the opera season with support from RealNetworks(R).

The company's groundbreaking commissioning program in partnership with New York's Lincoln Center Theater (LCT), provides renowned composers and playwrights with the resources to create and develop new works at the Met and at Lincoln Center's Vivian Beaumont Theater. The Met's partnership with LCT is part of the company's larger initiative to commission new operas from contemporary composers, present modern masterpieces alongside the classic repertory, and provide a venue for artists to nurture their work.

The Met has launched several audience development initiatives such as the company's Open House Dress Rehearsals, which are free and open to the public; two are planned for the 2008-09 season with operas and dates to be announced. The Met also presents a free performance of the Verdi Requiem on September 18, in tribute to the late Luciano Pavarotti. Other company initiatives include the Arnold and Marie Schwartz Gallery Met which exhibits contemporary visual art; the immensely successful Agnes Varis and Karl Leichtman Rush Ticket program which provides deeply discounted orchestra seats two hours before curtain time; and an annual Holiday Series presentation for families. This season's special Holiday Presentation is Julie Taymor's production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, an abridged, English-language version of the opera which is given four special matinee performances and one holiday evening performance as a way for families to celebrate the holiday season.

About SIRIUS XM Radio

SIRIUS XM Radio is America's satellite radio company delivering the "The Best Radio on Radio" to more than 18 million subscribers, including 100% commercial free music, and premier sports, news, talk, entertainment, traffic and weather.

SIRIUS XM Radio has exclusive content relationships with an array of personalities and artists, including Howard Stern, Oprah, Martha Stewart, Jimmy Buffett, Elvis, Jamie Foxx, Barbara Walters, Frank Sinatra, Opie & Anthony, The Grateful Dead, Willie Nelson, Bob Dylan, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Tom Petty, and Bob Edwards. SIRIUS XM Radio is the leader in sports programming as the Official Satellite Radio Partner of the NFL, Major League Baseball, NASCAR, NHL, and PGA Tour, and broadcasts major college sports.

SIRIUS XM Radio has exclusive arrangements with every major automaker. SIRIUS XM Radio products are available at shop.sirius.com and shop.xmradio.com, and at retail locations nationwide, including Best Buy, Circuit City, RadioShack, Target, Sam's Club, and Wal-Mart.

SIRIUS XM Radio also offers SIRIUS Backseat TV, the first ever live in-vehicle rear seat entertainment featuring Nickelodeon, Disney Channel and Cartoon Network; XM NavTraffic service for GPS navigation systems delivers real-time traffic information, including accidents and road construction, for more than 80 North American markets.

This communication contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements include, but are not limited to, statements about the benefits of the business combination transaction involving Sirius XM Radio Inc. and XM Satellite Radio Holdings Inc., including potential synergies and cost savings and the timing thereof, future financial and operating results, the combined company's plans, objectives, expectations and intentions with respect to future operations, products and services; and other statements identified by words such as "anticipate," "believe," "plan," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "will," "should," "may," or words of similar meaning. Such forward-looking statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of SIRIUS' and XM's management and are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond the control of SIRIUS and XM. Actual results may differ materially from the results anticipated in these forward-looking statements.

The following factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in the forward-looking statement: general business and economic conditions; the performance of financial markets and interest rates; the ability to obtain governmental approvals of the transaction on a timely basis; the failure to realize synergies and cost-savings from the transaction or delay in realization thereof; the businesses of SIRIUS and XM may not be combined successfully, or such combination may take longer, be more difficult, time-consuming or costly to accomplish than expected; and operating costs and business disruption following the merger, including adverse effects on employee retention and on our business relationships with third parties, including manufacturers of radios, retailers, automakers and programming providers. Additional factors that could cause SIRIUS' and XM's results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements can be found in SIRIUS' and XM's Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 and their respective Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the Quarter ended June 30, 2008, all of which are filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and available at the SEC's Internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>). The information set forth herein speaks only as of the date hereof, and SIRIUS and XM disclaim any intention or obligation to update any forward looking statements as a result of developments occurring after the date of this communication.

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