



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**AMERICAN OPERA PROJECTS PRESENTS
“SIX SCENES” OF NEW MUSIC
BY SIX EMERGING COMPOSERS**

5th annual concert represents end of year-long composition study with AOP.

NEW YORK, NY, September 2, 2008— On Friday, October 3 and Saturday, October 4, 2008 at 8:00PM **AMERICAN OPERA PROJECTS’ (AOP) Composers & the Voice Series** presents **SIX SCENES**, concert readings from six operas-in-development. Performances will be held in the Great Room at South Oxford Space in Fort Greene, Brooklyn, the home of American Opera Projects. Tickets are \$20 (\$15 for students/seniors).

Six emerging composers were chosen in 2007 by American Opera Projects to spend a year writing for the operatic voice. The **SIX SCENES** program, for voice(s) and piano, represents the final compositions created during these “Composers & the Voice” workshops — “**Antinous & Hadrian**” by **Clint Borzoni**, “**The Trickster & the Troll**” by **Kristin Kuster**, “**The Doctors’ Ward**” by **Raymond Lustig**, “**Love/Hate**” by **Jack Perla**, “**Willa Cather’s ‘Paul’s Case**” by **Gregory Spears**, and “**Peter Quince at the Clavier**” by **Andrew Staniland**.

Members of the **AOP Resident Ensemble of Singers** for the 07-08 season will perform the scenes: sopranos **Donna Smith** (Glimmerglass Opera, Skylight Opera Theatre) and **Melissa Fogarty** (New York City Opera, Seattle Baroque Opera), mezzos **Abigail Fischer** (Bronx Opera, Boston Pops) and **Jennifer Berkebile** (Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center, Eastman Opera Theater), tenors **Thomas Wazelle** (International Vocal Art Institute in Israel, Nevada Opera) and **Robert Hoyt** (DiCapo Opera, Toledo Opera), baritones **Matthew Worth** (Glimmerglass Opera, Juilliard Opera Center) and **Marcus DeLoach** (New York City Opera, Central City Opera), and bass **Matthew Curran** (Seattle Opera, Zurich Opera). Music direction and accompaniment will be by C&V Co-Music Directors **Jennifer Peterson** and **Kelly Horsted**.

Each season American Opera Projects selects six composers to work with the company’s Resident Ensemble of Singers for its nationally recognized Composers & the Voice Series. The primary focus of the Composers & the Voice Series is to give composers extensive experience working collaboratively with singers on writing for the voice. Created and led by AOP Artistic Director **Steven Osgood**, Composers & the Voice participants meet in closed sessions from November to May to present and discuss new works composed specifically for the individual voices of the Resident Ensemble. The 2008-09 season of Composers & the Voice will focus exclusively on the development and presentation of the works of C&V alumni.

Composers from the program in past seasons have gone on to receive awards from the Douglas Moore Fund for Opera, ASCAP, American Composers Forum ArtSong, as well as continued development at American Opera Projects and a major commission from AOP, **DARKLING**, which ran for 3 weeks in NYC and toured Berlin and Poland in summer 2007.

AMERICAN OPERA PROJECTS’ COMPOSERS & THE VOICE: SIX SCENES PERFORMS AT 8:00PM ON OCTOBER 3 & 4, 2008 IN THE GREAT ROOM AT SOUTH OXFORD SPACE (138 S. OXFORD ST. IN FT. GREENE, BROOKLYN). TO RESERVE TICKETS CALL AMERICAN OPERA PROJECTS M-F 10-6PM, TEL: 718-398-4024. TICKETS ARE \$20 (\$15 FOR STUDENTS/SENIORS).

Press material is available at: www.operaprojects.org. For more on *Composers & the Voice*, including a detailed history of the program and information on this year’s composers and singers, visit www.operaprojects.org/compv0708.htm.



Founded in 1988, **American Opera Projects (AOP)** has gained international recognition as an arts organization devoted to creating, developing, and presenting new American opera and experimental music theatre.

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