



For Immediate Release

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**Anchorage Opera's POWER OF LOVE
Season Opens Saturday November 7 with
*Pagliacci & Sister Angelica***

What: *Pagliacci* by Ruggero Leoncavallo and
Sister Angelica by Giacomo Puccini
Both operas sung in Italian with English supertitles
Conducted by William Todd Hunt & directed by Teresa K. Pond

When: 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7
7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11
8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13
4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15

Where: Discovery Theatre, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

Tickets: \$35-\$105. Call 263-2787 or visit www.centertix.net
Youth/Senior & Student/Military discounts available

Web: www.anchorageopera.org

(Anchorage, Alaska – October 28, 2009) Anchorage Opera (AO) opens its powerhouse 2009-10 Season The POWER OF LOVE on Saturday, November 7th with a double feature of Ruggero Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* and Giacomo Puccini's *Sister Angelica*. *Pagliacci* is one of the most touching and powerful combinations of music and theater ever to hit the stage. Theater goers will recognize the themes of love and betrayal and the music that's been featured in their favorite mafia movies. After receiving critical acclaim for his performance in AO's *Hot Spanish Nights*, Armando Mora returns to sing the lead in *Pagliacci*, a role made famous by Luciano Pavarotti.

Puccini's *Sister Angelica* is an incredible story about human weakness and struggle. A good woman's mistake brings scorn and loss but she finds salvation in super-human faith. *Sister Angelica's* stunning, passionate music will also sound familiar as it was the basis for Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera*. Alaskan Teresa K. Pond returns to her home town to direct both of these productions, bringing an excitement to the action and staging not often seen in opera.

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In addition to presenting two operas back-to-back, AO will host its first ever *Big Wild Opening Night Party* after the premiere (see attached for more information). And the *Dark Night Series* begins with the presentation of *The Audition* by Martin Kalmanoff on Tuesday, November 10 at 7pm in the Discovery Theatre.

Anchorage Opera continues its commitment to educating the community about opera and reaching out to people who are new to the world of opera. There will be several opportunities to learn more about each opera. The AO website, www.anchorageopera.org, has a wide range of information on the opera and cast, as well as *Study Guides* to download. *Brown Bag Opera* is a behind-the-scenes look at the main-stage performances, co-sponsored with Anchorage Public Library. It will be held the Friday before the shows open, at 12 noon in the Assembly Chambers at the Loussac Library. And, *Before the Opera Chat* is a 30-minute talk filled with insights about the productions and answers to your questions; *Before the Opera Chat* starts an hour before each performance in Voth Hall at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts.

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