

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vancouver Opera's International Animation Contest Returns!

OPERABOT 2.0

Second annual contest challenges animators to create opera-based short films

Vancouver, BC ~Vancouver Opera has launched **Operabot 2.0**, the second annual international contest that challenges animators to create short films based on VO productions. This year's challenge: to create a film based on Verdi's *La Traviata*.

Armed with rights-cleared music provided by VO, courtesy of **EMI Music Canada**, animators will vie for prizes that include ToonBoom animation software and Wacom tablets. All entries must be between 30 seconds and two minutes in length and will be screened at a party with judges from **Rainmaker Entertainment, Electronic Arts, Rival Schools, Nerd Corps Entertainment, and Bardel Entertainment**.

The deadline to enter is **Monday, February 28, 2011**. The screening party will be held on **Thursday, March 10, 2011** with winners announced on **Friday, April 15, 2011**.

For rights-cleared music, official rules, contest updates and details on how to enter, visit www.vancouveropera.ca/operabot.html

VO's production of *La Traviata* will be onstage at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre **Saturday, April 30**, with subsequent performances **Tuesday, May 3; Thursday, May 5; Saturday, May 7; Tuesday, May 10** and **Thursday, May 12**.

Single tickets from \$29 are available from the Vancouver Opera Ticket Centre, online at www.vancouveropera.ca, or by phone at 604-683-0222. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are accepted.

Groups: For special pricing for groups of ten or more, call 604-683-0222.

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