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Now you can Dial a Diva!  
**VANCOUVER OPERA INTRODUCES**  
**“SINGING POSTERS”**

*Tosca* comes alive on the streets of Vancouver

**Vancouver, BC** ~ The streets, buses and shops of Vancouver are alive with the sound of opera: Vancouver Opera's posters will sing for you! All you need is a cell phone. For the upcoming production of Puccini's *Tosca*, April 21 – May 1, 2007, Vancouver Opera has teamed up with **metroCode** to create “**singing posters**” at transit shelters, on bus sides, and in stores and other venues throughout the city.

From now through the month of April, 2007, for the price of a one-minute call, Vancouverites can explore the music and story of *Tosca* by using a series of nine unique “metroCodes” that you punch into your cell phone after dialing a local number. Each code takes you to an exciting episode of the dramatic *Tosca* story, with orchestral music and singing. Explore one, two, or all nine episodes and you'll be charged up for *Tosca*!

Each of Vancouver Opera's posters contains one of the nine four-digit codes, and metroCode's telephone number. You simply call metroCode at 604-638-2661 and enter the code you see on the poster.

**Try it yourself, right now.** Imagine that you are walking past a transit shelter and you see a *Tosca* poster. You notice the metroCode logo that displays a telephone number and the code 0027. Call the number, 604-638-2661 (you can use a land line too), and when prompted, enter the code. You'll hear the first of the nine episodes, narrated by CBC Television's **Gloria Macarenko**.

To hear other episodes, you'll have to hunt down other codes on posters around the city. Find all nine, and hear the entire gripping story of *Tosca*. You need not be an opera aficionado to get pulled into the cliffhanger plot of *Tosca* and to enjoy the tantalizing excerpts of its glorious arias.

Vancouver Opera will also be “hiding” the nine codes in its website, [www.vancouveropera.ca](http://www.vancouveropera.ca).

***Tosca*, in a nutshell:** In Rome, in 1800, Baron Scarpia, the monstrous Chief of Police, uses extortion and false promises to seize *Tosca*, a celebrated singer, and her lover, an enemy of the state. But instead of possessing *Tosca*, he dies at her hands, only to wreak fatal revenge on both of them from the grave. Puccini's masterful drama paints three unforgettable portraits: the fiery, pure-hearted *Tosca*, the passionate political idealist Mario, and the irredeemably depraved Scarpia. Three of the opera's arias – *Tosca*'s “Vissi d'arte” and Mario's “Recondita armonia” and “E lucevan le stele” – are among opera's most recognizable and beautiful.

The “Singing posters” have been made possible with the generous cooperation of **CBC** and with the support of **Mobile MUSE** and the **Department of Canadian Heritage**. The music excerpts are courtesy of EMI Music Canada. To learn more about metroCode, visit [www.metrocode.net](http://www.metrocode.net).

**Tickets to *Tosca* are now on sale at the VO Ticket Centre, online [www.vancouveropera.ca](http://www.vancouveropera.ca) or 604-683-0222.**