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VANCOUVER OPERA RELEASES 50TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON ARTWORK

Award-winning artist Edel Rodriguez has been featured in *The New Yorker*, *Rolling Stone* and *Time Magazine*



Norma



Nixon in China



The Marriage of Figaro



Madama Butterfly

Vancouver. BC ~ Vancouver Opera is pleased to release the poster images that will represent its 50th anniversary season. The four images, one for each of the season's mainstage productions, have been created by prominent New Jersey-based artist **Edel Rodriguez** and are now available for viewing on Vancouver Opera's multimedia website, *OperaLive!* at www.operalive.ca. For hi-res images please contact Selina Rajani, Communications Manager at 604-331-4824 or srajani@vancouveropera.ca.

The art for all four 2009-2010 productions is featured in VO's printed materials and online. Posters for the first production, *Norma*, will be visible on telephone poles, bus shelters and other public venues in Metro Vancouver beginning in October 2009. Images for the rest of the season will appear early in 2010.

Every season, VO commissions an artist to create eye-catching, vibrant posters that speak to the vitality of opera and appeal to diverse audiences across the city and around the world.

Edel Rodriguez is the recipient of Gold and Silver Medals for editorial illustration from the Society of Illustrators. Recently featured in *Communication Arts Design Annual 49*,

Rodriguez has created artwork for New York's Metropolitan Opera production of *Dr. Atomic* - John Adams' opera about Robert Oppenheimer - as well as posters for the tenth anniversary season of Toronto's Soulpepper Theatre.

Rodriguez's work has also appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Time Magazine*, *Rolling Stone*, *Playboy*, *The New York Times*, *The New Republic*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Esquire Magazine*, *Conde Naste Traveler*, *The Washington Post*, *Fortune Magazine*, *Billboard Magazine* and the *Los Angeles Times*, as well as in three children's books. A stamp he created for the United States Postal Service was released in the Summer of 2005.

The 2009-2010 poster designs have also been entered in the *Communication Arts Illustration Competition 50*, with results to appear in May 2009.

Strong, contemporary and bold, the posters bring an intriguing aesthetic to Vancouver Opera's 50th anniversary season, which anticipates VO's bright future and honours the company's illustrious past.

Full Ticket Information

The 2009-2010 season will include productions of Bellini's long-awaited ***Norma*** (November 28 – December 5, 2009), conducted by Richard Bonyngé; John Adams's stunning 1987 opera ***Nixon in China*** (March 13 – 20, 2010); Mozart's beloved ***The Marriage of Figaro*** (April 24 – May 4, 2010); and a dramatic primary-colours staging of Puccini's ***Madama Butterfly*** (May 29 – June 10, 2010), designed by internationally known Japanese-born visual artist Jun Kaneko.

Season subscriptions from \$99 are available from the Vancouver Opera Ticket Centre, by phone at 604-683-0222. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are accepted. Individual tickets will go on sale to the public on September 1, 2009.