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Attention Opera Lovers!

Considered one of Verdi's greatest accomplishments, Rigoletto will be shown in HD with digital surround sound at the Warner Theatre's, Nancy Marine Studio Theatre

Torrington, CT – Through a unique partnership with Emerging Pictures, the Warner Theatre will present Verdi's *Rigoletto* on Thursday, Oct 1 at 7:30 pm and again on Sunday, Oct 4 at 3pm. This is the second opera in a series of world-renowned opera and ballet classics to be presented in HD, 5.1 Dolby Surround Sound at the theatre's Nancy Marine Studio Theatre. Tickets are \$20.

Considered one of Giuseppe Verdi's greatest accomplishments, and certainly his most touching portrayal of a father-daughter relationship, *Rigoletto* continues to marvel audiences worldwide with its tragic plot and its trademark Arias (*La donna e' mobile, Caro nome, Cortigiani vil razza dannata*).

This production from Italy's most important Festival entirely dedicated to the genius of Verdi is conducted by Massimo Zanetti, who was voted Best Young Conductor in 1997 by "Opernwelt" and also by the "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung" in 1998. Since then, he has enjoyed an international reputation as one of the most exciting conductors of his generation.

Maestro Leo Nucci (possibly the greatest Italian baritone working today) sings the title role, a role he has played over 400 times and one that allows him to fully showcase his extraordinary talent. In January 2008, as he sang his 400th performance in Piacenza, the audience was so blown away that Maestro Nucci had to give three encores of Rigoletto's Aria *Si Vendetta, Tremenda Vendetta*.

With soprano Nino Machaidze as Rigoletto's daughter Gilda, new tenor sensation Francesco Demuro in the part of the Duca and the beautiful classic sets of the great Pierluigi Samaritani (who worked for the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala and ABT before his premature death in 1994) this certainly promises to be a production to remember.

About the 2009-2010 DIGITAL OPERA SERIES

Verdi's Rigoletto (from Italy's Best; Performed at Teatro Regio, Parma)

Thurs, Oct 1 | 7:30pm & Sun, Oct 4 | 3pm | \$20

Mozart's Don Giovanni (from Salzburg)

Sun, Nov 8 | 3pm & Tues, Nov 10 | 7:30pm | \$20

Mozart's Cosi Fan Tutte (from Salzburg)

Sun, Nov 15 | 3pm & Tues, Nov 17 | 7:30pm | \$20

Swan Lake (ballet from the Mariinsky Theatre)

Tues, Dec 1 at 7:30pm & Sun, Dec 6 at 3pm | \$15

Monteverdi's L'Orfeo (from La Scala)

Tues, Dec 15 at 7:30pm & Sun, Dec 20 at 3pm | \$20

Verdi's Don Carlo (from La Scala)

Tues, Jan 5 at 7:30pm & Sat, Jan 30 at 3pm | \$20

Gounod's Romeo et Juliette (from Salzburg)

Tues, Jan 19 at 7:30pm & Sat, Jan 23 at 3pm | \$20

Don Quixote (ballet from the Mariinsky Theatre)

Tues, Jan 26 at 7:30pm & Sat, Jan 31 at 3pm | \$15

Verdi's Otello (from Salzburg)

Tues, Feb 2 at 7:30pm & Sun, Feb 7 at 3pm | \$20

The Warner's Digital Programming is sponsored in part by the Warner Theatre Opera & Ballet Society. To become a member of the Society and learn more about its benefits, contact the Development Department at (860) 489-7180, ext. 189

ABOUT THE WARNER THEATRE

Built by Warner Brothers Studios and opened in 1931 as a movie palace (1,772 seats), the Warner Theatre was described then as "Connecticut's Most Beautiful Theatre." Damaged extensively in a flood, the Warner was slated for demolition in the early 1980s until the non-profit Northwest Connecticut Association for the Arts (NCAA) was founded and purchased the theatre. The Warner reopened as a performing arts center in 1983, and restoration of the main lobbies and auditorium was completed in November 2002. In 2008, the new 50,000 square foot Carole and Ray Neag Performing Arts Center, which houses a 300 seat studio theatre, 200 seat restaurant and micro-brewery and expansive school for the arts, was completed. Today, the Warner is in operation year-round

with more than 160 performances and 100,000 patrons passing through its doors each season. Over 10,000 students, pre K—adult, participate in arts education programs and classes. Together, with the support of the community, the Warner has raised close to \$17 million to revitalize its facilities. NCAA's mission is to preserve the Warner Theatre as an historic landmark, enhance its reputation as a center of artistic excellence and a focal point of community involvement, and satisfy the diverse cultural needs of the region. To learn more about the Warner Theatre, visit our website: www.warnertheatre.org.