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September 2008

LA Opera Presents U.S. Premiere of Howard Shore's
The Fly

David Cronenberg to Direct;
Libretto by David Henry Hwang

Plácido Domingo to Conduct

What: LA Opera presents the U.S. premiere of a new opera based on a classic horror tale, *The Fly*.

Who: *The Fly*, a highly anticipated new work commissioned by LA Opera, features music by Academy Award-winning composer **Howard Shore** and a libretto by Tony Award-winning playwright **David Henry Hwang**. A dark romantic tragedy that presents a Kafkaesque meditation on man's uneasy relationship with technology, *The Fly* will be directed by notable filmmaker **David Cronenberg** and is based on the original 1957 George Langelaan short story as well as Mr. Cronenberg's 1986 film. **Plácido Domingo** will conduct. Bass-baritone **Daniel Okulitch** stars as scientist Seth Brundle, who mutates into a hybrid of man and fly after one of his experiments goes horribly wrong. Mezzo-soprano **Ruxandra Dunose** is Veronica Quaife, a journalist caught up in the tragedy. The cast also features mezzo-soprano **Beth Clayton** and tenors **Gary Lehman** and **Jay Hunter Morris**.

The opera reunites several of the principal artistic collaborators involved in the 1986 film: director/screenwriter David Cronenberg, soundtrack composer Howard Shore, costume designer **Denise Cronenberg** and makeup and creature designer **Stephan L. Dupuis**, who won an Academy Award for his work on the movie. The set designer is Academy Award-winner **Dante Ferretti**. Makeup, creature and puppet fabrication are by **Mark Rappaport's Creature Effects, Inc.** The lighting is designed by **A.J. Weissbard**. *The Fly* is a co-production with Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris, where the opera will have its world premiere on July 2, 2008.

When: **Opening Performance: Sunday, September 7, 2008 at 2:00pm**
Evening Performances: September 10, 13, 16 and 20 at 7:30pm
Matinee Performance: September 27 at 2:00pm

Where: **Dorothy Chandler Pavilion**, 135 N. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tickets: Tickets to *The Fly* range from \$20 to \$250, and will be available for sale at the LA Opera Box Office (along with all single tickets for the 2008-09 Season) as of July 20, by phone at (213) 972-8001 or online at www.laopera.com. For disability access, call (213) 972-0777 or e-mail wehelpyou@laopera.com.

Artist headshots can be found on the LA Opera Press Gallery:

<http://media.laopera.com/photo/?level=album&id=17>

Synopsis can be found on the LA Opera website:

<http://www.laopera.com/productions/0809/thefly/index.htm>

The Fly will be sung in English, with English supertitles projected above the stage.
The Fly is an LA Opera commission, co-produced with the Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris.

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