

## For Immediate Release: November 28, 2007

### TAPESTRY POSTS SURPLUS, ANNOUNCES STUDIO COMPANY & GREAT NEW PARTNERSHIPS

TORONTO, Ontario ... November 28, 2007...Eric Adelman, President & Chair of Board is pleased to announce that Tapestry has posted a **\$66,000 surplus for its 2006-2007 fiscal year** thereby completely eradicating its deficit. By doing so Tapestry is eligible for working capital from Creative Trust, of which it is a founding member, the first instalment to be awarded in early 2008. This bodes well for the company which is enjoying a period of outstanding growth.

Wayne Strongman, Managing Artistic Director is thrilled to announce the formation of the very first **Tapestry New Works Studio Company**, which includes a talented group of singing actors, directors and répétiteurs. Tom Diamond, Resident Studio Company Director explains: *"In our New Work Studio we are evolving a new language and practice of creating opera theatre, a process that acknowledges our classical roots but freely explores the possibilities of the form in the twenty-first century. We welcome singers, coaches, designers, directors and stage managers into the process as creative partners, not merely interpreters or facilitators. They are encouraged to collaborate, explore and fully engage their artistic instincts in the developmental discovery of new music drama"*.

Led by veteran director **Diamond**, who has helmed Tapestry's groundbreaking opera *Iron Road* (by Chan Ka Nin and Mark Brownell), the company includes singers **Carla Huhtanen, Keith Klassen, Jessica Lloyd** and **Calvin Powell**, who return this season as the cast of *Opera to Go 2008*. Also on board are **Patricia O'Callaghan, Jean Stilwell** and **Theresa Tova**, Tapestry's "3-Divas". O'Callaghan starred in the 2005 remount of *Nigredo Hotel* (by Ann-Marie MacDonald & Nic Gotham), the most-produced Canadian opera in history. Stilwell was a founding member of the Tapestry Singers, the company's first incarnation and also starred in *Facing South* (by Don Hannah & Linda Catlin Smith). Tova wrote and appeared in *Still the Night*. **Alexander Dobson** and **James McLennan** round out the male singers; Dobson starred alongside O'Callaghan in *Nigredo Hotel* and McLennan has the title role in Tapestry's touring opera for children, *Elijah's Kite*. **Lynne McMurtry** and **Xin Wang** appeared together in *Opera to Go 2004* and Wang recently participated in the final workshop for *Sanctuary Song* a new opera/theatre production for people of all ages. **Christopher Foley** and **Jennifer Tung** are the company's répétiteurs and recently worked as co-music directors for *Opera Briefs 7*. Directors **Michael P. Albano** and **Liza Balkan** complete the roster. Balkan starred in Tova's *Still the Night* and has directed the last two *Opera Briefs* showcases. Albano is co-dramaturge (with Wayne Strongman) of Tapestry's annual Composer-Librettist Laboratory. Tapestry's Studio Company has been made possible with support from the George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation's Strategic Initiatives funding.

Strongman is also thrilled to announce **two new festival partnerships** for the 2007-2008 season. ***Opera to Go 2008***, which runs February 14 – 23 at the Enwave Theatre, will be presented in association with **Harbourfront Centre's World Stage 2008**. ***Sanctuary Song*** (by Marjorie Chan & Abigail Richardson) which was commissioned by **Theatre Direct Canada** and developed in partnership with Tapestry will have its world premiere as part of **Luminato, Toronto's Festival of Arts & Creativity** in June 2008 at the Berkeley Street Theatre.

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