



SEATTLE OPERA
SPEIGHT JENKINS GENERAL DIRECTOR

FOR RELEASE: August 6, 2007

Press Contacts: Hilda Cullen, 206.676.5543, hilda.cullen@seattleopera.org
Rosemary Jones, 206.676.5559, rosemary.jones@seattleopera.org
Visuals Contact: Monte Jacobson, 206.676.5545, monte.jacobson@seattleopera.org

***The Flying Dutchman* Conductor
Asher Fisch
Signs *Melba Ring* CD
Friday, August 17, at McCaw Hall**

Seattle—Conductor Asher Fisch will sign copies of the Melba recording of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* prior to the Friday, August 17, performance of Wagner's *Flying Dutchman* at McCaw Hall.

Fisch conducted Wagner's *Ring* for the first time in Adelaide, Australia, for the State Opera of South Australia in 2004. His conducting of the four operas and Melba's recording has earned such praise as "epoch-making" (*High Fidelity Review*) and "among the front-runners of recorded *Ring* conductors." (*MusicWeb International*)

Fisch is well-known to Seattle Opera audiences, having recently won a Seattle Opera Artist of the Year award for his conducting of last season's *Der Rosenkavalier* and the 2006 International Wagner Competition. He is currently conducting Wagner's *Flying Dutchman* for the company. The music director of the New Israeli Opera and a native of

Jerusalem, Fisch made his Seattle Opera debut conducting Wagner's *Parsifal* in 2003 for the company's first opera in the newly opened McCaw Hall. His many engagements include conducting operas at the Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Vienna Staatsoper, Bayerische Staatsoper, and Dresden's Semperoper. He makes his Teatro alla Scala debut in 2008.

The Amusements gift shop at McCaw Hall, 321 Mercer Avenue, will be offering the Melba recording of the Australian *Ring* for sale. Prior to the performance on August 17, Fisch will be available to autograph copies of the *Ring* CD from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Amusements gift shop is open to the public through the main lobby of McCaw Hall and tickets to the performance are not required to attend this signing.

THE FLYING DUTCHMAN
(Der fliegende Holländer)
Revival of 1989 Seattle Opera Production

Music and libretto by Richard Wagner
In German with English captions

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall
8 Performances: August 4, 8, 11, 14, 17, 19m, 22, and 25, 2007

Tickets: \$25 to \$162
Seattle Opera Ticket Office: 206.389.7676/800.426.1619
Online Orders: www.seattleopera.org

Asher Fisch CD Signing
August 17, 2007
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Amusements, McCaw Hall, 321 Mercer Avenue

The Flying Dutchman Sponsors: Poncho and the Kreielsheimer Endowment Fund.
Season Sponsors: Boeing and Microsoft.

About Seattle Opera

Founded in 1963, Seattle Opera is one of the leading opera companies in the United States. The company is recognized internationally for its theatrically compelling and musically accomplished performances, especially the Opera's interpretations of the works of Richard Wagner. Since 1975, Seattle Opera has presented 35 cycles of the *Ring* (three different productions), in addition to acclaimed productions of all the other major operas in the Wagner canon. Seattle Opera has achieved the highest per capita attendance of any major opera company in the United States, and draws opera-goers from four continents and fifty states.