



Charles B. Cossé and his wife Sandy Cossé at the North Pole. Photos courtesy of Cossé.

**For Immediate Release**

### **Seattle Opera on Top of the World: Flag Flies at the North Pole**

Seattle—At 9:30 a.m. this morning, April 13, 2006, the Seattle Opera flag was planted at the North Pole. It was planted on a ski pole by Seattle Opera trustee Charles B. Cossé, the president of Cossé International Securities and an outdoorsman with a love of adventure and a passion for opera. As soon as he planted the flag, he immediately called Seattle Opera General Director Speight Jenkins with the news. “Seattle Opera is on top of the world,” Cossé sang out.

Cossé approached Jenkins earlier this year about providing him with a Seattle Opera flag to take on his expedition to the North Pole. Jenkins, enthusiastic about the idea, was eager to cooperate. The flag, 30” x 20”, was made by Seattle Opera’s costume shop specifically for Cossé’s trip. Made of a durable nylon fabric, the flag was designed to be rolled up into a hotdog shape so that it would be easy to carry. The flag itself is black, sporting the swirl from the company’s logo in purple (a great Wagner color) and the type—SEATTLE OPERA SPEIGHT JENKINS GENERAL DIRECTOR—in white.



Seattle Opera’s flag will not be left at the Pole. Conscious of the potential impact on the environment of leaving items in the Arctic, Cossé plans to return the flag to Seattle Opera to be placed in the company’s archives.