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CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY CANCELS IN-PERSON PERFORMANCES OF PUCCINI'S *MADAMA BUTTERFLY*

Toronto - Given a continued surge of Omicron transmission across Ontario, the **Canadian Opera Company** is cancelling all live-audience performances of Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*. The production had been slated to run from **February 4 - 25, 2022** at the **Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts**, but will now be made available as a free digital presentation to current 2021/2022 COC subscription holders who are continuing to support Canadian opera through the donation, exchange, or credit of tickets.

"It's clear that cancelling in-person performances is the most responsible course of action at this time," says **COC General Director Perryn Leech**. "The safety of our audiences, artists, and staff remains our absolute top priority. However, thanks to newly-installed recording and broadcast equipment, our cast and creative teams will still be able to share their hard work and talents with subscribers in a safe, at-home viewing experience."

2021/2022 subscribers are eligible to:

- donate their tickets back for a tax receipt
- exchange their tickets into one of the COC's upcoming productions of Verdi's *La Traviata* or Mozart's *The Magic Flute*
- have their COC patron account credited with the value of their tickets, to be used toward 21/22 single tickets or the purchase of a 22/23 season subscription
- have their tickets refunded

Patrons with affected *Madama Butterfly* tickets can contact **COC Ticket Services** at tickets@coc.ca or by phone at **(416) 363-8231**.

No further productions (*La Traviata*, *The Magic Flute*) have been cancelled — and any tickets held for those shows remain valid.

For more information and the latest updates, please visit coc.ca.

ABOUT THE CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY

Based in Toronto, the Canadian Opera Company is the largest producer of opera in Canada and one of the largest in North America. General Director Perryn Leech joined the company in 2021, forming a leadership team with Music Director Johannes Debus and Deputy General Director Christie Darville. The COC enjoys a loyal audience, including a dedicated base of subscribers, and has an international reputation for artistic excellence and creative innovation. Its diverse repertoire includes new commissions and productions, local and international collaborations with leading opera companies and festivals, and attracts the world's foremost Canadian and international artists. The COC Academy is an incubator for the future of the art form, nurturing Canada's new wave of opera creators with customized training and support. The COC performs in its own opera house, the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, hailed internationally as one of the finest in the world.

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Media Contacts:

Avril Sequeira, Director of Public Relations, email: avrils@coc.ca

Davin Leivonen-Fok, Public Relations Assistant, email: davinlf@coc.ca