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LA Opera Partners with ArcLight Cinemas for Screening of David Cronenberg's 1986 Horror Film Classic *The Fly*

**Screening to take place September 3 at 8pm
at the Cinerama Dome, preceded by Q&A session
with director David Cronenberg and composer Howard Shore**

(Los Angeles, CA) August 26, 2008 – **Plácido Domingo**, LA Opera's Eli and Edythe Broad General Director, announced that the Company has partnered with ArcLight Cinemas for a screening of the 1986 horror classic *The Fly*, directed by David Cronenberg, as part of AFI's Directors Screening Series. The screening has been scheduled in connection with the upcoming U.S. premiere of a new operatic retelling of *The Fly*, commissioned by LA Opera and composed by Howard Shore, based on the film. The screening will take place on Wednesday, September 3, at 8:00pm in ArcLight Hollywood's Cinerama Dome at 6360 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA, 90028.

The Fly is an extraordinary example of Cronenberg's particular brand of "body horror" — flesh transformed by disease. Seth Brundle (Jeff Goldblum) is an eccentric scientist, whose experiments with teleportation go awry, leading to one of the horror genre's most disgusting and gory physical transformations. Ultimately, Cronenberg's version of *The Fly* — based on a short story by George Langelaan and the 1958 film that starred Vincent Price — is a dark romantic tragedy about the wasting away of a brilliant man who mutates into an insect as his loved one (Geena Davis) looks on helplessly. 20th Century Fox has struck a brand new print of the film for this screening. A question-and-answer session with Mr. Cronenberg and Mr. Shore will precede the screening. Tickets to ArcLight Hollywood are \$12, \$11 for AFI and ArcLight members. On-site parking is \$2 for four hours with validation. To order advance tickets, go to www.arclightcinemas.com, call (323) 464-4226 or visit ArcLight Hollywood's box office at 6360 W Sunset Boulevard (at Ivar).

AFI's Directors Screenings are part of the year-round "AFI at ArcLight" program. Eclectic and diverse, "AFI at ArcLight" offers film series, mini-festivals, retrospectives and exclusive advance screenings presented by AFI in conjunction with ArcLight Hollywood. "AFI at ArcLight" places classic and contemporary cinema from around the world into state-of-the-art theaters, featuring the best possible picture and sound. To complete this unique experience, after the screenings, movie lovers often have an opportunity to listen to and engage in thoughtful discussions with directors, actors and other film experts.

The new opera *The Fly*, by Academy Award-winning composer Howard Shore and Tony Award-winning librettist David Henry Hwang, 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 opera, which recently had its world premiere in Paris at the Théâtre du Châtelet, will be conducted by Mr. Domingo and by Israel Gursky (September 13, 20). *The Fly* opens on Sunday, September 7, 2008 at 2:00pm with additional evening performances on September 10, 13, 16 and 20 at 7:30pm; and a matinee performance on September 27 at 2:00 pm. Performances will be held at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, 135 North Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Tickets to *The Fly* range from \$20 to \$250, and are on sale at the LA Opera Box Office, 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.

This new production of *The Fly* is made possible by a major grant from the
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

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The James Irvine Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts

Pre-performance lectures will be hosted by John Burlingame. Pre-performance lectures are generously sponsored by the Flora L. Thornton Foundation and the Opera League of Los Angeles.

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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