



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 13, 2011

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
Darlene Ronald: (204) 255-0508
dronald84@shaw.ca

**MANITOBA OPERA PRESENTS
OSCAR, AUBREY, AND SALOME:
JEALOUSY, LUST, AND SEXUAL POLITICS IN THE 1890'S
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29**

In conjunction with the upcoming production of *Salome* (November 19, 22, 25), Manitoba Opera will be presenting **Oscar, Aubrey, and Salome: *Jealousy, Lust, and Sexual Politics in the 1890's*** on Saturday, October 29 beginning at 1:30 pm at the Manitoba Museum auditorium (doors open at 1 pm).

Guest speaker Professor Linda Zatlin, from Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia, will provide insight into the fascinating lives of writer Oscar Wilde and artist Aubrey Beardsley. Their art forms, tumultuous relationship, relevance today, and political climate of their time will be explored, and the audience will also get a rare opportunity to view Beardsley's original works on *Salome*, complete with pencil marks and tears.

The **event is free** to the public, but advance registration is preferred. To register call 942-7470; email balexander@manitobaopera.mb.ca; or go online: manitobaopera.mb.ca

Dr. Zatlin is a professor of English, with a PhD from Emory University. She specializes in art and literature of the 1890's, with a focus on Oscar Wilde and Aubrey Beardsley.

OSCAR WILDE

Oscar Wilde was a famous Irish author and playwright of the late 19th century, who wrote the play, *Salome*, upon which Richard Strauss' opera of the same name is based. Wilde was imprisoned for "gross indecency with other men" during the premiere of *Salome* in Paris in 1896. His other notable works include the novel, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, and the play, *The Importance of Being Ernest*.

AUBREY BEARDSLEY

Artist Aubrey Beardsley worked in the style of Art Nouveau in the late 19th century, but is credited by some as having planted the seeds of Art Deco. He specialized in works that were simultaneously beautiful and grotesque. His illustrations graced the original printed version of the play *Salome*, although Wilde was dissatisfied with the results.