



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MADAMA BUTTERFLY **AN ATTENDANCE CHART TOPPER**

Manitoba Opera's 2008/09 season-closing production of *Madama Butterfly* was one of the highest attended shows in the company's last decade.

Total attendance for the three performances, April 25, 28, and May 1, was 95% with two of the three shows sold out. Of the possible 6,474 seats available, 6121 were filled.

The highest-attended production in the last 10 years was *Carmen* in April, 2002 with 99% attendance, followed by *The Marriage of Figaro* in April, 2006 with 98%.

"We were thrilled to have so many people in attendance for our closing production of the 2008/09 season. This art form can touch people emotionally like none other, and that was never more evident than at *Madama Butterfly*," commented Larry Desrochers, General Director & CEO. "The combination of gorgeous music by Puccini, the artistry of the singers, and the sets and lighting all combined to move people to tears."

Critical and Audience Acclaim for *Madama Butterfly*

- "It was a privilege to attend this top-notch production..." Five out of Five Stars, Gwenda Nemerofsky, *Winnipeg Free Press*
- "...enjoying some of the best entertainment I have ever had the joy of experiencing..." Carolyn Halcrow, B.Ed., Thompson, MB
- "...I loved it!" Raquelle Lafond

2009/10 Season

Subscriptions are now on sale for the 2009/10 season which features the all-time comedy classic, *The Barber of Seville*, November 21, 24 and 27 and the passionate, tragic tale, *Carmen*, April 17, 20, and 23. Call 957-7842 to subscribe or for your free copy of the 2009/10 brochure. For more information on Manitoba Opera, go to www.manitobaopera.mb.ca

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