

MEDIA ADVISORY

**The Metropolitan Opera Comes to Singapore**

*Cinema goers in Singapore can now enjoy world-class opera in high- definition (HD) digital at Golden Village VivoCity*

**What** For the first time in Asia, outside Japan, cinema goers will be able to enjoy world-class opera in high definition (HD) digital on the big screen at GV VivoCity from 31 August 2007.

Golden Village VivoCity (GV VivoCity) will screen Metropolitan Opera's new productions of Tan Dun's *The First Emperor* and Mozart's *The Magic Flute* in high definition (HD) digital format on the cinema screens.

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Please see attached Met @ GV VivoCity fact sheet for more details.

**When** *Mozart's The Magic Flute*.....31 August - 9 September 2007  
*Tan Dun's The First Emperor*.....20 – 26 September 2007

**How** Tickets will be priced at \$15 each and can be purchased at GV Box Offices or online.

Full ticketing information will be available online from 9 August 2007 at [www.gv.com.sg](http://www.gv.com.sg).

**Where** GV VivoCity, No 1, Harbourfront Walk, VivoCity, #02-30, Singapore 098585

**Partner** The Metropolitan Opera  
Singapore Lyric Opera

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***For more information, please contact:***

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Met @ GV VivoCity Fact Sheet

	<i>The Magic Flute</i>	<i>The First Emperor</i>
<b>Location:</b> GV VivoCity <b>Ticket Prices:</b> \$15		
	<b>Dates:</b> 31 August – 9 September 2007	<b>Dates:</b> 20 – 26 September 2007
	<b>Director and Producer:</b> Julie Taymor <b>Composer:</b> Mozart <b>Duration:</b> 1hr 40min	<b>Director:</b> Zhang Yimou <b>Composer:</b> Academy Award winner Tan Dun <b>Duration:</b> 3hr 10min
<b>Synopsis</b>	<i>The Magic Flute</i> is a romantic comedy about a prince falling in love with a princess and his quest to win her heart. This family-friendly opera sees the prince testing his courage, virtue and wisdom in his quest.	The story of <i>The First Emperor</i> is centered around China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, and explores the limits of love and friendship through the trials following a newly-unified China.
<b>First Opened in</b>	Year 2006 - Metropolitan Opera	Year 2006 - Metropolitan Opera
<b>Stellar Cast/Crew</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Ying Huang</b> as Princess Pamina</li> <li>▪ Production by <b>Julie Taymor</b>, who also designed and directed the Broadway hit <i>The Lion King</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tenor <b>Plácido Domingo</b> (<i>Three Tenors</i>) as Emperor Qin</li> <li>▪ Conductor - <b>Tan Dun</b></li> </ul>
<b>Interesting Facts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Last opera written by Mozart</li> <li>▪ Romantic comedy featuring creative and colour costumes and puppetry.</li> <li>▪ New family-friendly, abridged version.</li> <li>▪ <i>The Magic Flute</i> 100 min duration is family holiday version specially commissioned by Met and well suited for family viewing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Co-production of the Metropolitan Opera and Los Angeles Opera</li> <li>▪ Tan Dun's 3<sup>rd</sup> opera</li> </ul>
<b>Accolades</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Magically delicious"- <b>Time Out New York Kids</b></li> <li>2. "Judging by the masses of smiling children who streamed out after Mozart's <i>The Magic Flute</i>, opera may have just gotten an influx of younger fans." <b>The Washington Post</b></li> <li>3. "Flute has Taymor's magic" <b>Newsday.com</b></li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ "A vivid experience"- <b>The Star Ledger</b></li> <li>▪ "Filled with excitement and fine playing... a worthy endeavor" – <b>The Associated Press,</b></li> <li>▪ "The vivid intimacy of the screen, the glorious theatre sound and the lively visual imagery that makes full use of the Met's abstract sets made for a riveting experience." <b>Los Angeles Times</b></li> </ul>

### **About Golden Village**

Golden Village Multiplex Pte Ltd is Singapore's leading cinema exhibitor with 9 multiplexes housing 73 screens: Yishun, Bishan Junction 8, Tiong Bahru Plaza, Jurong Point, Tampines Mall, Marina Square, Great World City, Plaza Singapura, and its latest, biggest 15-plex flagship VivoCity. Golden Village was established to develop and operate modern, luxurious multiplex cinemas. Golden Village was the prime mover in the introduction of multiplex to Asia. The company's first imprint in Singapore was made on 28 May 1992 with the successful opening of the Yishun 10 cinema complex. Today, the company and circuit has a reputation of offering the widest choice of movies, unparalleled comfort, state-of-the-art design, prime locations and convenience.

Film distribution arm Golden Village Pictures Pte Ltd releases an average of 30 to 40 titles per year, ranging from blockbusters such as the MATRIX trilogy, CONSTANTINE and HAPPY FEET to international arthouse hits like THE MOTORCYCLE DIARIES and SUPER SIZE ME. Golden Village constantly aims to raise the bar in everything that it does so as to offer patrons a memorable experience at the cinemas.

Please visit [www.gv.com.sg](http://www.gv.com.sg) for more information.

### **About the Met**

Under the leadership of General Manager Peter Gelb and Music Director James Levine, the Metropolitan Opera has launched many new initiatives to connect the company with a larger audience. The Met has made a commitment to presenting modern masterpieces alongside the classic repertory, with highly theatrical productions featuring the greatest opera stars in the world. New audience development initiatives include free open houses that offer the public access to final dress rehearsals of new Met productions; reduced ticket prices, including an immensely popular new rush ticket program; and the new Arnold and Marie Schwartz Gallery Met exhibiting contemporary art. As a result of these efforts, the Met experienced its first box office increase in five years during the 2006-07 season: total ticket sales increased by 7.1% from the previous season, with 88 performances selling out compared to 22 the season before. In 2007-08, the Met will debut seven new productions, the most the Met has presented in one season in 40 years.

Building on 76 years of international Saturday radio broadcasts – now heard over the Toll Brothers-Metropolitan Opera International Radio Network – the Met recently began to use advanced media distribution platforms and state-of-the-art technology to attract new audiences and reach millions of opera fans around the world. In addition to the Met's live transmissions, which were later broadcast on PBS's new "Great Performances at the Met," the company recently launched Metropolitan Opera Radio on Sirius, a 24-hour satellite radio channel broadcasting both live and rare historical performances. With support from RealNetworks®, the Met began free live streaming of performances on its website. For more information, please visit: [www.metopera.org](http://www.metopera.org).

### **About Singapore Lyric Opera**

Incorporated originally in 1990 as The Singapore Lyric Theatre, a public company limited by guarantee, Singapore Lyric Opera is a unique voice on the Singapore arts scene as it is the only professional company dedicated to promoting opera as an art form.

Its mission is to enrich Singapore's cultural landscape by encouraging and promoting a deep appreciation of opera and musical theatre amongst seasoned opera audiences and creating and expanding the audience base by making the art form accessible to all. It aims to inject new energy and life into the art form by discovering, developing and presenting your Singaporean opera talents whether in singing, musical performance, theatre design and production.

Since its inaugural production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* in 1991, the company has presented regular seasons of critically-acclaimed operas, concerts and musical events annually which provide platforms for singers from Singapore and the region. This ranges from perennial favourites like *Carmen*, *Madama Butterfly*, *La Boheme*, *Rigoletto*, *Tosca* and *Die Fledermaus* to *Macbeth* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. [www.singaporeopera.com.sg](http://www.singaporeopera.com.sg)