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NEWS RELEASE FROM CAL POLY ARTS:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## THE MET: LIVE IN HD Resumes Screening Schedule on January 8

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA: The MET: Live in HD screening series, presented by CAL POLY ARTS and OPERA SLO, continues in the new year with an encore engagement of Handel's unforgettable opera, *RODELINDA*, Sunday, January 8, 2012 at the Performing Arts Center - Cohan Center. The Cohan Center screening of the Metropolitan Opera's early December production begins at 2 p.m. and runs approximately 4 hours and 15 minutes, with two intermissions.

Stephen Wadsworth's fast-moving production earned critical praise for drawing out the affecting human elements of Rodelinda's story, in which a queen who is also a wife and mother must defend herself (and her absent husband's throne) from an evil usurper.

Renée Fleming reprises one of her greatest roles, featuring the beautiful music of the Baroque era. Having starred in more than 200 performances of 21 different operas at the Met, this is Fleming's only Baroque role in her extensive repertory. The musical performance will be led by English Baroque specialist Harry Bicket, who is a leading conductor of this genre of music.

The opera co-stars two of the world's leading countertenors: German star Andreas Scholl and rising British star Iestyn Davies. The extraordinary cast also includes the versatile mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe, a favorite with Met audiences in everything from Gluck to Verdi to Wagner; rising tenor Joseph Kaiser, one of Fleming's co-stars in last season's *Capriccio*; and Chinese bass-baritone Shenyang.

Local screening sponsored by The Neon Carrot.

General admission/seating. Ticket prices include all parking and facility fees.

\$25 General; \$10 students with valid I.D.

\$125 series of 6 operas (save \$25)

Tickets may be purchased at the Performing Arts Center Ticket Office, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

24-hour on-line ordering is available at [www.calpolyarts.org](http://www.calpolyarts.org).

For more information on all Cal Poly Arts events, including audio and video samples, please visit [www.calpolyarts.org](http://www.calpolyarts.org).

The Met: Live in HD is the Metropolitan Opera's Peabody and Emmy Award-winning series of performances transmitted live by satellite in high-definition to more than 1400 movie theaters around the world.

Opera stars such as Fleming, Natalie Dessay, Plácido Domingo, Susan Graham, Thomas Hampson, and Deborah Voigt have served as hosts for the shows, conducting live interviews with cast and crew and introducing behind-the-scenes features – allowing the worldwide HD audience an unprecedented look at what goes into the staging of an opera at one of the world's great houses. Robotic cameras and state-of-the-art technology are used to capture the action, giving a bird's-eye view and interesting perspectives on the productions.

In order to offer the The Met: Live in HD series, the Performing Arts Center underwent major technological renovations in 2010, including the installation of a new 22,000 lumen projector with high-definition capabilities. The purchase of the new equipment was made possible by the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center through a generous donation by the Hind Foundation.

The Met: Live in HD series is also made possible by a generous grant from its founding sponsor, The Neubauer Family Foundation. Bloomberg is the global corporate sponsor.

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