NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 5, 2002

WHAT: Puccini’s La Bohème
Stanislavsky Opera Company

WHEN: Saturday, October 26 at 8pm

WHERE: Fine Arts Center Concert Hall
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or
go on-line to www.fineartscenter.com/tickets

(Stanislavsky Captures Real Human Passion In Puccini’s La Bohème)

The Stanislavsky Opera Company was established in 1918 as an opera studio of the famed Bolshoi Opera. Since that time, the company has had a long and distinguished history and is considered one of the top Russian opera companies performing today. On Saturday, October 26 at 8pm they bring the spirit of Paris in the 1930’s to the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall with Alexander Titel’s updated version of Puccini’s La Bohème. This performance is sung in Italian with English super titles.

La Bohème is a love story based on the novel Vie de Bohème by French writer Henry Murger. The opera details the life of four young penniless and bouyant bohemians residing in a Paris garret. Puccini portrays love and grief through young painter Marcello’s relationship with his girlfriend Musetta while poet Rudolfo’s beloved Mimi dies from tuberculosis right before his eyes.

In this version of the opera, the musical direction and conducting of Volf Gorelik and Maria Maximchuk and the theatrical direction by Alexander Titel tie together harmoniously a believable love story reflecting the real human passions Puccini portrays in his music.

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Since 1993, The Stanislavsky Opera Company has toured much of Europe and Asia, including, Italy, China, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Yugoslavia, Japan, South Korea and France, earning rave reviews and re-engagements. Gorelic, Titel, and designer Yuri Ustinov are hailed as “masters of the theater” (New Time). Their La Bohème creates a space that “becomes alive, warm and handmade” (Literaturnaya Gasetaya).

Tickets for Pucinni’s La Bohème by the Stanislavsky Opera Company are $40, $30 and $15; 17 and under are $10; Five College students are $15, $10 and $7. For tickets and information, call the Fine Arts Center Box Office at 545-2511 or 1-800-999-UMAS, or check out our website at www.fineartscenter.com/centerseries. La Bohème is sponsored, in part, by TIAA-CREF and WGBY TV57.

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