



McGill



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P R E S S R E L E A S E

**Five Characters, Five Dilemmas
Will Love trump Duty?
Opera McGill performs Handel's *Imeneo*
March 25, 26, 27, Pollack Hall**

For immediate release

Montreal, March 14, 2011 – Opera McGill presents Handel's rarely-heard work *Imeneo* in evening performances on Friday, March 25 and Saturday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m. as well as a matinee performance on Sunday, March 27 at 2:00 p.m. All performances are in Pollack Hall. Tickets are \$17 adults/\$12 children, students and seniors. The production is subtitled in both French and English. Stage Direction by **Patrick Hansen**, director of Opera McGill, the conductor of the **McGill Baroque Orchestra** is **Hank Knox**, the set designer **Vincent Lefèvre**, with **Ginette Grenier**, costumes, and **Serge Filiatrault**, lighting.

Five Characters: *Imeneo*, the Hero; *Rosmene*, the Reward; *Tirinto*, the Lover; *Clomiri*, the Ignored; *Argenio*, the Patriarch.

Five Dilemmas: To force Love to break its bonds for the sake of its own want; To choose either Unfaithfulness or Ungratefulness; To hold onto your Love at the Precipice; To seek to be Seen; To dictate Duty be followed at any price.

Set in ancient Athens, Patrick Hansen focuses the three acts on Fantasy, Reality and Perception by exploring the textual and subtextual themes running through some of Handel's most beautiful music.

What would happen if your world was turned upside down by an unlooked for demand? What happens to the hero who doesn't get what he wants? What happens to the two lovers who realize they can't ever be together again and find happiness in their mutual love? What happens to the young girl obsessed with a man who does not want her? Will love trump duty?

Pollack Hall is located at 555 Sherbrooke Street West.

The Box office, located in the Pollack Hall lobby, is open from 12 noon to 6 pm Monday to Friday, and one hour before each performance. Tickets are also available by phone at 514.398.4547

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