



THE RIVERSIDE OPERA ENSEMBLE, INC.
Nathan Ray Matthews, Producing Artistic Director
James Kardon, Managing Director
488 Madison Avenue – 14th Floor
New York, New York 10022

5 March 2007

Contact: Nathan Ray Matthews
nmatthews@riversideopera.org

www.riversideopera.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York, NY – The Riverside Opera Ensemble will present a concert in honor of Pulitzer Prize winner, David Del Tredici's 70th Birthday at 8PM on **Tuesday, May 15** at Merkin Concert Hall, 129 West 67th Street, New York, NY 10023. Purchase tickets for \$30 at the box office, by phone at 212.501.3330 or online at www.kaufman-center.org. Senior and student tickets will be available for \$10 at the box office on the day of the concert. The concert will include world premiere performances of music composed and performed by David Del Tredici, Richard Pearson Thomas, Nathan Ray Matthews, and William Komaiko.

Baritone, Chris Pedro Trakas will sing Del Tredici's newly completed song cycle, "**Brother,**" with texts by John Kelly; Kate Lindsey, mezzo-soprano, and Tod Fitzpatrick, baritone will perform excerpts from **THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO**, Matthews's opera in progress, with a libretto by Stephen Pickover; tenor, John Koch will sing Pearson Thomas's new set of songs entitled, "**Three Jungle Songs**"; and Komaiko will perform his new piano work, "**Variations on Childhood.**"

Del Tredici, who won the Pulitzer Prize for his composition, "**In Memory of a Summer Day,**" the first part of **CHILD ALICE**, is also the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and Woodrow Wilson fellowship, a Brandeis Creative Arts Award, a Friedheim Award, grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, and election to the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. Pearson Thomas has had works performed at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, and before the U.S. Congress by artists such as Audra McDonald, Lauren Flanagan, and Kurt Ollmann. Matthews, whose concert work for soprano, "**A Woman's Plight,**" was premiered by Harolyn Blackwell in New York City, has collaborated as a music director, conductor, pianist and coach on productions from Broadway to California and abroad including the Santa Fe Opera and *Children and Art*, Broadway's celebration of Stephen Sondheim's 75th birthday. Komaiko, largely known as a jazz pianist, has been presented the Ravinia Festival, American Ballet Theatre, and Pierre Boulez.

Chris Pedro Trakas and Kate Lindsey have sung with the Metropolitan Opera and many other leading opera companies. John Koch has performed at Lincoln Center and in many leading national venues. Tod Fitzpatrick has appeared with companies nationwide including the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Virginia Opera.