MINNEAPOLIS, MN (10/23/2012)— University Opera Theatre’s production of Robert Aldridge and Herschel Garfein’s Parables, directed by University Opera Theatre’s David Walsh, will broadcast on Twin Cities Public Television (tpt) on Sunday, October 28 at 8 p.m. It will also air on Sunday, November 4 at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. on tpt MN and at 12 p.m. on tpt LIFE.

Parables on tpt is a Minnesota partnership production and is a co-production of the University of Minnesota School of Music and tpt with additional funding from Douglas and Andrew Reeves in honor of their parents, J.B. and Julie Reeves.

The University of Minnesota School of Music’s University Opera Theatre (UOT) presented the stage premiere of Parables, a new dramatic cantata and American choral work by the Grammy Award winning team of composer Robert Aldridge and librettist Herschel Garfein in April 2012 at Ted Mann Concert Hall. Parables was directed by School of Music professor and UOT director David Walsh and conducted by School of Music professor and director of choral activities Kathy Saltzman Romey.

Parables is a powerful artistic response to racial and religious intolerance around the globe. Each of the work’s seven sections tells a unique story, or parable, featuring the intertwining of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. It had been performed twice previously, on the East Coast, purely as concerts. Unconventional staging and the inclusion of four languages – English, Hebrew, Arabic, and Greek – contribute to the distinctiveness of UOT’s production.

Director David Walsh describes Parables as UOT’s largest undertaking ever, with 200 performers on stage featuring the University Orchestra, University Singers, and Men’s and Women’s Choruses. Parables is performed by a professional cast, consisting of School of Music faculty members Adriana Zabala (mezzo soprano) and Philip Zawisza (baritone) joined by Monica Yunus (soprano) and Dennis Peterson (tenor).

About the University of Minnesota School of Music
Established in 1902, the University of Minnesota School of Music offers a dynamic, comprehensive program to more than 550 music students in undergraduate and graduate programs, led by a world-class faculty of more than 75 artists, scholars, and teachers. The School of Music presents more than 400 free concerts per year. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.music.umn.edu or call (612) 626-1094 for a brochure.

About tpt
The mission of tpt is to “enrich lives and strengthen our community through the power of media.”

As one of the nation’s leading public media organizations, tpt uses television, interactive media, and community engagement to advance education, culture and citizenship. Over its 50+ year history, tpt has been recognized for its innovation and creativity with numerous awards, including Peabody awards and national and regional Emmys.

Based in St. Paul, Minnesota, tpt is one of the highest rated PBS affiliates in the nation, reaching over 1.3 million people each month through multiple broadcast and online channels. The organization's particular areas of focus include: the educational readiness of children; serving the needs and unleashing the potential of America’s aging population; engaging a new generation in the power of public media; and being the preferred media partner for organizations that align with our mission to enrich lives and strengthen community.

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