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Turning Point Ensemble Welcomes New General Manager

August 22, 2007 – Vancouver, B.C. (For immediate release) – Ms. Lindsay McDonald, Chairperson of the Turning Point Ensemble Board of Directors, today announced the appointment of a new General Manager for the company. Ms. Karen Pledger assumed the post as of August 1, 2007.

“We are extremely pleased to welcome Karen Pledger to the organization,” said Ms. McDonald. “She brings the ensemble strong musical knowledge, administrative skills and arts management experience.”

Ms. Pledger said, “I’m delighted to join the Turning Point Ensemble, which is producing some of the most exciting music in the country. And I’m excited to be working with co-Artistic Directors Jeremy Berkman and Owen Underhill, as we lead the organization in a period of growth and success.”

Ms. Pledger is an experienced non-profit administrator with extensive experience in grant writing, fund development, marketing and communications, program planning, volunteer coordination and organizational development. Most recently, Ms. Pledger ran her own communications and consulting firm, Tonic Solutions. Previous arts experience includes serving as Development Officer for the Langley Community Music School, where she implemented marketing and fundraising campaigns, and stints as Administrator for Music in the Morning and the Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company. Ms. Pledger is a graduate of the fundraising stream of Vancouver Community College’s Non-Profit Management program.

Co-Artistic Director Jeremy Berkman added, “I welcome Karen with great enthusiasm to our company. Her expertise and experience will free the artistic team to concentrate on producing great, relevant music. Her support and leadership will really move the ensemble forward.”

The Turning Point Ensemble is a Vancouver based large chamber ensemble comprised of many of British Columbia's most accomplished instrumentalists. With a mandate to increase the understanding and appreciation of music composed during the past hundred years through innovative programming and outstanding musicianship, the Turning Point Ensemble has presented over 40 events since it's founding in 2003.

The Ensemble’s 2007/8 season will include program of 20th century concertos featuring Ensemble soloists, a collaboration at UBC’s Chan Centre with Gamelan Gita Asmara as part of the PuSh Festival, and a celebration of the centenary of Vancouver composer and educator Jean Coulthard (1908-2000) at the Vancouver Playhouse.

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