

HAIGHTS CROSS COMMUNICATIONS

PRESS RELEASE

Editorial Contact:

Michael Stugrin

562-498-6353

mstugrin@earthlink.net

Recorded Books Celebrates Dickens – Listen to Oprah’s Book Club Winter Selections – *A Tale of Two Cities* and *Great Expectations*, Narrated by Frank Muller

Prince Frederick, MD – November 29, 2010 – Recorded Books, LLC, the world’s largest independent producer of audiobooks and a Haight Cross Communications company, today said it is excited to reintroduce literature lovers to two of Charles Dickens’ most loved works: *A Tale of Two Cities* and *Great Expectations*.

Recorded Books is opening its vast portfolio of unique audio recordings to offer unabridged editions of *A Tale of Two Cities* and *Great Expectations*, each narrated by renowned actor and narrator Frank Muller. Both unabridged audio editions are available immediately in CD, cassette, Playaway Digital, and MP3 CD formats.

“It was a wonderful surprise when we heard that Oprah’s Book Club had selected two of our favorite Dickens’ classics. Almost 30 years ago, Recorded Books produced superb unabridged audio editions of *A Tale of Two Cities* and *Great Expectations* in which the great Frank Muller delivered exceptional performances,” said Scott Williams, President of Recorded Books. “Muller’s renditions bring alive the unique characters and compelling story lines of both novels.”

Frank Muller (1951-2008) was a classically trained actor who spent many years on the New York stage, where he became a company member of the Riverside Shakespeare Company and also performed with other renowned acting companies and appeared in supporting roles on major television series. However, Muller became particularly renowned an audiobook narrator. In 1979, Henry Trentman, the founder of Recorded Books, hired Muller as a narrator of literary classics and, eventually, of new works by leading authors. Muller’s work was so well regarded that he became the narrator of choice for such authors as Stephen King, John le Carré, John Grisham, Elmore Leonard and others. Muller won multiple industry awards, including an Audie Award for Best Male Narrator for his reading of Elmore Leonard's *Tishomingo Blues*, which was produced by Recorded Books.

Muller is regarded as the first “superstar” of the audio recording industry. He recorded over 12 dozen titles for Recorded Books. In 2008, he succumbed to injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident.

A reviewer of Recorded Books’ 1986 unabridged audio edition of *A Tale of Two Cities* noted at the time: “I was amazed not only with Dickens’ ability to tell the story, but also with Frank Muller’s ability to take the reader right into the middle of the story. Muller need not tell us which character was speaking, we could easily distinguish that by his marvelous voices.”

About Recorded Books: Recorded Books, LLC, a Hights Cross Communications company, produces and distributes unabridged audiobooks and other audio products to public and university libraries and schools on CD, cassette, Playaway digital player, and downloadable audio formats. Over 9,000 titles are available for adults, children, and young adults in English and Spanish languages narrated by professional, award-winning actors. Recorded Books also distributes music, educational lectures, language learning courses, independent films, and nonfiction films on DVD. Packaging is designed for high circulation. One-year warranty, cataloging, processing, and free MARC records are available. For more information, visit <http://www.recordedbooks.com>.

About Hights Cross Communications: Founded in 1997 and based in New York, NY, Hights Cross Communications is a premier educational and library publisher dedicated to creating the finest books, comprehensive reading programs, audio products, and software and online services; serving the following markets: K-12 supplemental education, public and school libraries, and consumers. Hights Cross companies include: Triumph Learning, Buckle Down Publishing and Options Publishing, and Recorded Books. Triumph Learning is HCC’s electronic and print classroom instruction, test-preparation, and intervention business and is comprised of its *Coach*, *Buckle Down*, *Options*, and *iCORE* brands. Recorded Books is a leading publisher of unabridged audiobooks and other audio media for libraries, schools, and consumers, with operations in the U.S., U.K., and Australia. For more information, visit www.hightscross.com.

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