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SAN FRANCISCO OPERA

Vol. 100, No. 9 • 2022–23 Season • June 2023 Jeffery S. McMillan, *Editor* Adam Snellings, *Art Director* Susan L. Wells, *Design Consultant* Jeanette Yu, *Editorial Consultant* Katy Zolfaghari, *Creative Project Manager*

Cover illustration by Brian Stauffer

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100 Essential Moments

Welcome from San Francisco Opera

General Director Matthew Shilvock

in San Francisco Opera's First Century

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100th Anniversary Concert

Artists of the 100th Anniversary Concert at San Francisco Opera



San Francisco Opera founder Gaetano Merola, circa 1940

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CEMPASÚCHIL (Marigold) \$301

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- Prior benefits plus group mural tour in San Francisco
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NIVELES (Levels) \$3,000

Inspired by the more than 3,000-year tradition that has given Dia de los Muertos its full richness and cultural meaning in today's time. Niveles are the three levels of existence in the tradition of the ofrenda (offering): el cielo (heaven), la tierra (earth), and el purgatorio (purgatory).

- Prior benefits plus papel picado magnet commemorating the opera
- Cocktails for 2 during intermission (opera tickets sold separately)

LOS RIVALES (The Rivals) \$9,760

Diego Rivera's 1931 painting *The Rivals* was purchased at \$9.76 million in 2017. At the time, this set the record for the highest price for an artwork by any Latin American artist.

LA CASA AZUL (The Blue House) \$24,700

rida Kahlo's famous house, number 247, features prominently in the opera.

MILAGROS (Miracles) \$50,000

Milagros are carried for protection and good luck. As part of a religious ritual or an act of devotion, Milagros can be offered as a symbol of a fervent need or in gratitude for answered prayers. Milagros donors respond to the need for significant philanthropic investment.

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Welcome

FROM MATTHEW SHILVOCK

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA TAD AND DIANNE TAUBE GENERAL DIRECTOR

n Wednesday September 26, 1923, the curtain rose at the Exposition Auditorium (now the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium) on a performance of *La Bohème*. It was the very first evening in what would become a hundred-year journey of an extraordinary opera company. Then, as now, it was an opportunity for the community to come together to experience sublime human creativity. Then, as now, it took courage, collective artistry, and herculean support. Then, as now, it was driven by the belief that a great city must have great opera.



KRISTEN LOKEN

Tonight we celebrate the storied legacy that has brought us to this point. A hundred years of artists debuting on the stage, new operas being brought to life, new productions being built, history-defining moments that have shaped the modern era of opera. In this concert, we will delve into the many strands of repertoire, with some of today's greatest artists and cherished friends, and we will share in the memories of our stage through imagery from our past.

Tonight is a unique moment to gather and celebrate. It is also a reminder that this is a space we come into on a regular basis and, through extraordinary artistry, make sense of what it means to be human. This space belongs to us all. We are custodians of this art form, collectively revering it, nurturing it, expanding it, reinventing it. We will ultimately pass it along to the next generation, just as so

many artists, artisans, technicians, administrators, board members, philanthropists, and patrons did before us. Tonight we give thanks for the devotion of all who have shaped this company over the last hundred years, and we take great collective pride that we are steering it through this milestone and on to a glorious future.

Thank you for being a part of this journey.



The San Francisco Opera audience is assembled in the Company's original home, the Civic Auditorium, for Verdi's Rigoletto in 1926. / LAWRENCE MORTON

Donor Spotlight



DREW ALTIZER PHOTOGRAPHY

Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem

After a career devoted to his publishing businesses in Japan and Europe, the creation of Clos Pegase Winery in California's Napa Valley, and his art collection, Jan Shrem, in joyous partnership with his wife, Maria Manetti Shrem, is bringing his focus and affection to philanthropic causes that advance education and the performing and visual arts. Though they grew up half-a-world apart, Jan and Maria both developed a love of opera at a young age. While their lives led them each around the globe, their individual passions eventually brought them to San Francisco Opera and to each other. As Company Sponsors for more than a decade, Jan and Maria have established four generous funds. The Conductors Fund helps ensure the continued appearances of noted conductors in the orchestra pit; The Great Interpreters of Italian Opera

Fund helps bring today's most compelling artists in Italian repertoire to San Francisco Opera; the Emerging Stars Fund supports the Company in showcasing exciting rising young stars on our stage throughout the season; and the Luminaries Concert Fund enables San Francisco Opera to bring legendary artists to the stage for special events and performances. In December 2022, she received The Spirit of the Opera award for her devotion to San Francisco Opera, her high level of commitment to advancing the success of the Company and her ongoing support of the art form. She is the 2023 UC Davis Medal recipient for her profound arts legacy and passion for creating opportunities for exploration and education.



DREW ALTIZER PHOTOGRAPHY

Barbara Moller Ward

Barbara Ward has served on the San Francisco Opera Board of Directors since 1969 and is the longest current serving member. A dedicated patron of SF Opera since the '60s, she is also a member of the Producer's Circle, the Bel Canto Society, supported the creation of The Diane B Wilsey Center for Opera in which the Barbara Moller Ward Lobby in honor of David Gockley is located, and has sponsored several Adler fellows throughout the years, including Nadine Sierra, Hadleigh Adams, and Aria Umezawa. In 1969 at the request of Kurt Herbert Adler for wider support, Barbara founded the Marin Chapter of San Francisco Opera Action which presented previews of upcoming opera performances. Opera Action was ultimately absorbed into the SF Opera Guild, where the tradition of opera previews carries on today. Barbara continues to share the

joy of opera with her community, including arranging group performances to SF Opera for her fellow Tamalpais residents. Barbara is also an active and long-time supporter of several civic and charitable organizations in Marin County.

100th Anniversary Concert and Dinner with the Artists

CO-CHAIRS ANNA FIELER, SUSAN MARINEAU, JASON PHILLIPS

San Francisco Opera was built by a group of passionate opera lovers, and has, for the last 100 years been sustained by a passionate community. We are deeply grateful to our donor community for their contributions, commemorating the 100-year history of San Francisco Opera. Gifts below were received through May 30, 2023 in support of this once-in-a-century concert and dinner.

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Essential Moments FROM SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S FIRST CENTURY



1932: October 15: San Francisco Opera's new home, the War Memorial Opera House, opens with *Tosca* starring Claudia Muzio and conducted by Maestro Merola. The first act is broadcast. / LAWRENCE MORTON

1922: June 3–16: Neapolitan conductor Gaetano Merola produces three operas at the Stanford Stadium. Convinced that San Francisco is ready for a resident opera company, he begins lining up supporters.

1923: September 26: Merola's newly founded San Francisco Opera opens at the Exposition Auditorium (later called Civic) with *La Bohème* starring Queena Mario and Giovanni Martinelli. The orchestra of mostly San Francisco Symphony musicians plus casts and 150 choristers perform 10 operas in 13 days including Puccini's triple-bill, *Il Trittico*, and Boito's daunting *Mefistofele*.

1924: September 22: Claudia Muzio makes her debut as Maddalena in *Andrea Chénier*. The legendary soprano becomes San Francisco's prima donna for the ensuing decade.

1924: September 29: Tito Schipa's debut as Des Grieux in *Manon* inspires riotous ovations, especially after his Act II aria, "Le Rêve." To satisfy the audience, Schipa repeats the aria.

1926: September 21: Merola's engagement with the emerging field of radio leads to a live broadcast of the season-opening performance of *Martha* which is heard from Petaluma to Los Angeles.

1927: September 16: San Francisco Symphony Music Director Alfred Hertz conducts the Company's first opera in German, Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*. Three nights later, Merola leads the first *Turandot* presented by the Company. **1928:** Groundbreaking for the new opera house takes place in the Civic Center. Unhappy with the Civic Auditorium, Merola presents his new season at Dreamland Auditorium, a cavernous skating rink in Japantown.

1930: September 12: Premiere of Strauss' scandalous *Salome*, an opera that is forbidden at the Metropolitan Opera. Diva Maria Jeritza finally performs one of her greatest roles in America.

1930: September 19: French/German double bill features the American premiere of Ravel's *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* and the Company's first *Hänsel und Gretel*. American soprano Queena Mario stars in both.

1931: September 10: Rabaud's *Mârouf* opens the Company's final season at the Civic Auditorium. The repertory includes three Wagner premieres: *Lohengrin, Tannhäuser*, and *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*.

1932: October 23: The debut of Lily Pons in *Lucia di Lammermoor* generates such fervor that an extra performance is added. With demand still exceeding capacity, speakers are installed in the Civic Auditorium and Civic Center Plaza for a live relay. 20,000 hear the Company's first "simulcast."

1934: December 3: Merola conducts the Company premiere of *La Rondine* starring Lucrezia Bori and Dino Borgioli. The 12-yearold Company's repertory now includes all ten of Puccini's mature operas.



1935: November 1: The season opens with Wagner's four-opera *Ring* cycle, the Company's first. The milestone stars famed Wagnerians Kirsten Flagstad, Lauritz Melchior, and Friedrich Schorr.

1936: November 9: Mozart enters the Company's repertory with *Le Nozze di Figaro* conducted by Richard Lert and featuring Ezio Pinza, Elisabeth Rethberg, and Charlotte Boerner.

1937: November 5–12: The Company makes its first tour to Los Angeles as the San Francisco Opera Association. Tours to Los Angeles continue through 1969.

1938: October 24: The orchestra pit is expanded under the stage for the Company premiere of *Elektra*. The newly created "torpedo room" allows space for 90+ instrumentalists in the pit.

1939: November 3 (matinee): San Francisco Opera Guild, a volunteer organization founded in 1938, produces its first student matinee, *Madama Butterfly* starring Jarmila Novotná.

1939: November 3 (evening): Kirsten Flagstad, who long refused to perform *Fidelio* with frequent Wagnerian co-star Lauritz Melchior, appears with him in Beethoven's opera on this one occasion.

1940: October 16: Company premiere of *Der Rosenkavalier* with Erich Leinsdorf leading an all-star cast of Lotte Lehmann, Risë Stevens, and Alexander Kipnis and with sets and costumes by Jane Berlandina.

1942: October 12: The wartime audience receives instructions for the possibility of an air raid. *La Fille du Régiment* concludes with Lily Pons, Company, and audience singing "La Marseillaise."

1944: For the first time, each opera in the season repertory is broadcast complete on radio station KYA locally and throughout California, Washington, and Idaho.

1946: The season expands to 52 performances: 27 at home, four each in Portland and Seattle, three in Sacramento, twelve in Los Angeles, and two in Pasadena.

1948: The new San Francisco Boys Chorus, founded by Merola and Kurt Herbert Adler, is entrusted to Madi Bacon. Though connected to the Opera, the ensemble begins touring on its own.

1949: Controversy erupts over the reengagement of Kirsten Flagstad, who is wrongly presumed a Nazi collaborator. The War Memorial Trustees vote to "disapprove" her performances and Merola responds by threating to cancel the season. The Trustees reverse their decision; Flagstad's return is a triumph.

1950: September 26: Opening night *Aida* features the American debuts of Renata Tebaldi and Mario Del Monaco. On doctor's order, Merola does not conduct, but he congratulates the future legends backstage.

1950: October 1: Yi-Kwei Sze makes his debut as the King in *Aida*. Sze, the first Chinese artist to perform with a major American opera company, sings 14 roles in his three San Francisco Opera seasons.

1950: October 5: San Francisco Opera Guild presents its first "Fol de Rol" fundraiser at Civic Auditorium. Among the entertainments is the sextet from *Lucia* sung in six different languages.

1953: August 30: Gaetano Merola collapses and dies while conducting a concert at Stern Grove. In November, Kurt Herbert Adler is named Artistic Director. He is appointed General Director in 1957.

1955: October 7: Erich Leinsdorf conducts the American premiere of *Troilus and Cressida* with British composer William Walton in attendance. Two miles away, at the Six Gallery on Fillmore Street, poet Allen Ginsberg makes literary history with his public reading of "Howl."



1955: After triumphs in Europe, Atlanta-born coloratura soprano Mattiwilda Dobbs makes her American debut as the Queen in Rimsky-Korsakov's *Le Coq d'Or*.

ROBERT LACKENBACH

1957: Merola Opera Program, named for the Company's founder, is created as a summer training program for young singers and is soon recognized as the finest such program in the nation.

1957: September 20: Debut of Leontyne Price as Madame Lidoine in the American premiere of Poulenc's *Dialogues of the Carmelites*. One month later, she performs Aida for the first time.

1957: September 29: *Turandot* is presented at the Greek Theatre on the UC Berkeley campus. One opera is performed there each season through 1969.

1959: September 18: After other American opera companies dismiss it as impossible to stage, Strauss' massive fairy-tale opera *Die Frau ohne Schatten* has its American premiere in San Francisco.

1960: October 4: Marilyn Horne makes her Company debut as Marie in *Wozzeck*, years before her emergence as a mezzo-soprano superstar.

1961: September 18. Norman Dello Joio's *Blood Moon*, starring Mary Costa and Irene Dalis, is the first opera to have its world premiere presented by San Francisco Opera.

1961: October 7: Russel Oberlin's debut as Oberon in the American premiere of Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* marks one of the first appearances of a countertenor with a major American company.

1966: Adler creates Western Opera Theater, a touring company that visits countless cities across the U.S., providing valuable experience for young artists.

1966: November 19. The American premiere of Janáček's *Věc Makropulos*, performed in English as *The Makropulos Case*, stars Marie Collier and is conducted by Jascha Horenstein.

1968: The "Great Gold Curtain" at the Opera House is replaced, and the old one is cut up into pieces and sold at auction to benefit the Merola Opera Program.

1969: October 1: An earthquake strikes during the third act of *La Bohème*. Some audience members make for the exits, but Luciano Pavarotti and Dorothy Kirsten keep singing, never missing a beat.



1969: November 5: Jean-Pierre Ponnelle's staging for Rossini's *La Cenerentola* is an instant classic. Many of the director/designer's visionary productions enjoy great longevity; his *Cenerentola* is still in the Company's repertory.

1970: November 28: Dorothy Kirsten, a San Francisco favorite since 1945, receives the first San Francisco Opera Medal, the Company's highest honor, after a performance of *Tosca*.

1971: The first *Opera in the Park* concert is held at the band shell in Golden Gate Park. The free outdoor event becomes an annual tradition, drawing thousands each year.

1971: October 1: Robert Moran, Margaret Fabrizio, and Clay Grillo set a milestone for creative opera attire, arriving for *Die Meistersinger* in a "togetherness suit," a three-person toga made from a parachute.

1971: November 12: After premiering at Milan's La Scala in 1835, Donizetti's *Maria Stuarda* receives its overdue first staged performance in America with Joan Sutherland in the title role.

1972: September 26: Marking the 50th season, Wagner's *Ring* cycle is presented for the first time since 1935. Otmar Suitner conducts a cast headed by Birgit Nilsson, Jess Thomas, and Thomas Stewart.

1972: October 25: U.S. premiere of Gottfried von Einem's *The Visit of the Old Lady*, starring Regina Resnik, is directed by Francis Ford Coppola, a few months after his film *The Godfather* is released.

1973: September 7: Luciano Pavarotti portrays Fernando in Donizetti's *La Favorita*, the first of many role debuts in San Francisco. The tenor says of the city: "This is my second hometown. Musically, it is my first."

1975: September 13: Early music comes to the War Memorial Opera House stage as Raymond Leppard conducts Monteverdi's *L'Incoronazione di Poppea*, starring Tatiana Troyanos.

1976: October 15: After two rows of seats are removed to expand the orchestra pit at the insistence of Karl Böhm, the 82-year-old maestro conducts a new production of *Die Frau ohne Schatten*.

1976: November 6: The world premiere of *Angle of Repose* by Bay Area composer Andrew Imbrie and based on Wallace Stegner's novel marks the American Bicentennial.

1977: The San Francisco Affiliate Artists Opera Program is founded.

1979: After 38 years with the Company, Adler announces plans to retire in 1981. Canadian-born Terence McEwen, vice president of London Records, is his hand-picked successor.

1979: Ponchielli's *La Gioconda*, starring Renata Scotto and Luciano Pavarotti, is telecast live worldwide and garners eleven Daytime Emmy Awards. A PBS documentary illustrates the dramatic making of the production.

1980: Rain prevents the San Francisco Opera Orchestra from performing *Opera in the Park*, but the show goes on. Shirley Verrett, Wolfgang Brendel, and Plácido Domingo sing with Domingo providing some piano accompaniment.

1980: Davies Symphony Hall is completed giving rise to concurrent San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Symphony seasons. Tenured musicians must choose between the two orchestras.

1981: September 19: After presenting the American premiere of its revised version (*Katerina Ismailova* in 1964), Shostakovich's original *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* arrives under the baton of Calvin Simmons.

1981: November 15: *Aida* starring Margaret Price, Luciano Pavarotti, and Simon Estes is telecast live to Europe. There is a "Price change" at the next performance: Leontyne Price, who had retired the role, goes on for an indisposed Margaret Price.

1982: Terence McEwen creates the San Francisco Opera Center to coordinate the Company's young artists activities. Affiliate Artists is renamed the Adler Fellowship Program for McEwen's predecessor.

1982: June 24: A production of Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* by David Hockney is the first of five productions by the artist to be presented on the Company's stage.

1983: September 9: Plácido Domingo rescues opening night, flying from New York to replace an ailing Carlo Cossuta in Verdi's *Otello*. To accommodate his late arrival, the Opera Ball is held *before* the performance. *Otello* gets underway at 10:25 p.m. and ends at 2:06 a.m.



1983: October 8: From an idea by future Company General Director Lotfi Mansouri, a slide-projector system of translated texts is devised by Jerry Sherk and Francesca Zambello and deployed during *La Traviata.* San Francisco Opera becomes one of the first to provide supertitles.

1985: A new vision for Wagner's *Ring* inspired by neoclassical architecture and Romantic-era paintings is conducted by Edo de Waart and directed by Nikolaus Lehnhoff. Demand leads to a live simulcast of one cycle, "The Video Ring," to screens in Davies Symphony Hall.

1985: Sir John Pritchard is appointed San Francisco Opera's first music director, a post he holds until his death in 1989.

1987: Scottish conductor Ian Robertson becomes the Company's chorus director. Robertson will lead the San Francisco Opera Chorus for 35 seasons before retiring in 2021.

1988: Lotfi Mansouri, stage director for countless San Francisco Opera productions since 1963, becomes general director when McEwen steps down for health reasons.



1989: September 16: Samuel Ramey's portrayal of the title role in Boito's *Mefistofele* in the staging by Robert Carsen brings renewed excitement to an opera that had fallen from the repertoire.

1989: October 17: The Loma Prieta earthquake damages the Opera House interior and forces the cancellation of performances. While the building is inspected to ensure safety, *Otello, Aida*, and *Idomeneo* are presented in concert at the Masonic Auditorium.

1990: October 21: Kiri Te Kanawa stars as the Countess in Strauss' *Capriccio* with costumes designed by fashion icon Gianni Versace.

1991: September 7: The Company premiere of Prokofiev's *War and Peace* inaugurates a series of collaborations with the Kirov Opera in St. Petersburg to bring Russian opera and artists to San Francisco.

1991: *In the Shadow of the Stars*, a documentary about the San Francisco Opera Chorus, directed by Allie Light and Irving Saraf, wins the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature.

1992: The young Scottish conductor Donald Runnicles becomes music director, a post to which he was appointed after conducting the *Ring* cycle in 1990.

1992: Sir Charles Mackerras is named principal guest conductor. His 30-year career in San Francisco sees operas by Handel and Czech works in corrected editions expanding the Company repertoire.

1993: December 12: Beloved diva Leonie Rysanek bids farewell to her San Francisco fans as the Countess in Tchaikovsky's *The Queen of Spades*.

1995: The Company's recording of *Orphée et Eurydice*, Berlioz's rarely performed 1858 French edition of the opera by Gluck, is nominated for a Grammy Award.

1996: November 9: Stewart Wallace's *Harvey Milk*, an opera about the slain San Francisco gay rights leader and city supervisor, is performed at the Orpheum Theatre. On November 27, nine of Milk's associates appear onstage in the opera's Gay Pride Parade scene.

1997: The War Memorial Opera House, closed 18 months for earthquake retrofitting, reopens for the Company's 75th season

with a new *Tosca* based on the 1932 staging that opened the building.

2000: October 7: *Dead Man Walking*, the first opera by the Company's former public relations manager Jake Heggie, has its world premiere. It will become the most widely performed American opera.

2000: John Else's documentary on San Francisco Opera's 1990 *Ring* entitled *Sing Faster* receives a national Emmy Award in the category of Best Informational or Cultural Program.



2002: September 27: The U.S. premiere of Messiaen's massive Saint François d'Assise is a milestone in Company history. Williard White is triumphant in the title role and Donald Runnicles conducts.

2001: August 1: Pamela Rosenberg succeeds Mansouri as the Company's fifth general director. She introduces ambitious productions and several American and world premieres.

2005: October 1: World premiere of *Doctor Atomic* by Bay Area composer John Adams with a libretto assembled by Peter Sellars stars Gerald Finley as J. Robert Oppenheimer.

2006: January 1: David Gockley, longtime General Director of Houston Grand Opera, succeeds Rosenberg as San Francisco Opera's sixth general director.

2006: May 27: The Company's first-ever free live "Plazacast" of *Madama Butterfly* starring Patricia Racette is witnessed by 8,000 on a foggy evening in Civic Center Plaza.

2007: Following his momentous 2005 debut leading Verdi's *La Forza del Destino*, Nicola Luisotti is named San Francisco Opera's next music director beginning with the 2009–10 Season.

2007: May: The new Koret-Taube Media Suite's 2K capability and 5.1 surround sound makes San Francisco Opera the first American opera company to install a permanent, high-def broadcast and production facility.

2007: September 28: 15,000 attend the free simulcast of *Samson and Delilah* at AT&T (now Oracle) Park, home of the San Francisco Giants. By 2023, audiences for *Opera at the Ballpark* reach over 300,000 in the ensuing years.

2009: During his first season as music director, Nicola Luisotti conducts Verdi's *Il Trovatore* and *Otello*, Puccini's *La Fanciulla del West*, Strauss' *Salome*, and *Opera in the Park*.

2011: June 14–July 3: The new American-themed *Ring* cycle production directed by Francesca Zambello and conducted by Donald Runnicles features Nina Stemme in her first full cycle as Brünnhilde.

2013: October 25: Verdi bicentennial celebrations include Nicola Luisotti conducting the Verdi Requiem with the combined orchestras and choruses of San Francisco Opera and the Teatro San Carlo, Naples.

2016: February: The Diane B. Wilsey Center for Opera opens. Located in the Veterans Building, the new facility includes a state-of-the-art theater, costume shop, education studio, administrative offices, and photo galleries.

2016: September 9: Matthew Shilvock opens his first season as general director with a new *Andrea Chénier* and the world premiere of Bright Sheng and David Henry Hwang's *Dream of the Red Chamber*.

2019: June 16: Eun Sun Kim makes "a Company debut of astonishing vibrancy and assurance" (*San Francisco Chronicle*) leading Dvořák's *Rusalka*. Six months later, she is named music director.

2020: The COVID-19 pandemic shutdown forces the cancellation of the 2020 Summer and Fall seasons. The Company launches a series of digital initiatives, including the Webby Award-winning *In Song* series.

2021: April 23: San Francisco Opera is one of the first major opera companies to resume live performances with Matthew Ozawa's drive-in adaption of *The Barber of Seville* at the Marin Center.

2021: August 21: Live opera returns to the War Memorial Opera House with Eun Sun Kim, launching her first season on the podium as music director with *Tosca* starring Ailyn Pérez and Michael Fabiano.



2022: September 10: The first opera of the Centennial Season is the world premiere of John Adams' *Antony and Cleopatra*, conducted by Eun Sun Kim and directed by Elkhanah Pulitzer. It is the first of two Bay Area composers' works to be featured during the centennial, the second being Gabriela Lena Frank's *El último sueño de Frida y Diego* in June 2023.

2023: One of the first to livestream performances in 2021, the Company offers live digital access to each of the eight operas of the Centennial Season. Virtual audiences tune in from 40 American states and 18 nations worldwide.

100th Anniversary Concert

FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2023 AT 6PM WAR MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE, SAN FRANCISCO

EUN SUN KIM, SIR DONALD RUNNICLES, PATRICK SUMMERS ••, conductors

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA ORCHESTRA KAY STERN, CONCERTMASTER

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA CHORUS John Keene, chorus director

Karita Mattila, soprano
Ailyn Pérez , soprano ∞
Patricia Racette, soprano ☆∞
Nina Stemme, soprano
Heidi Stober, soprano
Adela Zaharia, soprano
Susan Graham, mezzo-soprano∞
Daniela Mack, mezzo-soprano \Leftrightarrow^{∞}
Lawrence Brownlee, tenor
Michael Fabiano, tenor
Brandon Jovanovich, tenor
Russell Thomas, tenor
Lucas Meachem, baritone ☆∞
Brian Mulligan, baritone
Christian Van Horn, bass-baritone

Shawna Lucey, stage director

⇔ Former Adler ∞ Former Merola Participant

This concert is made possible, in part, by Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem, through the Luminaries Concert Fund; and Barbara Moller Ward.



THE FUTURE OF OPERA

Prelude from Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg (Richard Wagner, 1813–1883)

San Francisco Opera Orchestra Eun Sun Kim, *conductor*

"Amour, viens rendre à mon âme" from Orphée et Eurydice (Christoph Willibald Gluck, 1714–1787) 1859 Performing Edition by Hector Berlioz

> Daniela Mack, *mezzo-soprano* Sir Donald Runnicles, *conductor*

"Pur ti miro" from L'Incoronazione di Poppea (Claudio Monteverdi, 1567–1643)

Heidi Stober, *soprano* Susan Graham, *mezzo-soprano* Patrick Summers, *conductor*

"Odi il voto" from Ernani (Giuseppe Verdi, 1813–1901)

Russell Thomas, *tenor* San Francisco Opera Chorus Eun Sun Kim, *conductor*

Pierrot's Tanzlied from Die Tote Stadt (Erich Wolfgang Korngold, 1897–1957)

Lucas Meachem, *baritone* Sir Donald Runnicles, *conductor*

Embroidery Aria from Peter Grimes (Benjamin Britten, 1913–1976)

Heidi Stober, *soprano* Sir Donald Runnicles, *conductor* "Vicino a te" from Andrea Chénier (Umberto Giordano, 1867–1948)

Ailyn Pérez, *soprano* Michael Fabiano, *tenor* Eun Sun Kim, *conductor*

"Va, pensiero" from Nabucco (Giuseppe Verdi)

San Francisco Opera Chorus Patrick Summers, *conductor*

"Ch'ella mi creda" from La Fanciulla del West (Giacomo Puccini, 1858–1924)

Brandon Jovanovich, *tenor* Eun Sun Kim, *conductor*

"Tre sbirri ... Va Tosca ... Te Deum" from Tosca (Giacomo Puccini)

Christian Van Horn, *bass-baritone* San Francisco Opera Chorus Eun Sun Kim, *conductor*

-INTERMISSION-

Entrance of the Guests from Tannhäuser (Richard Wagner)

San Francisco Opera Chorus Sir Donald Runnicles, *conductor*

"Batter My Heart" from Doctor Atomic (John Adams, b. 1947)

Brian Mulligan, *baritone* Eun Sun Kim, *conductor*

"Co chvila" from Jenúfa (Leoš Janáček, 1854–1928)

Karita Mattila, *soprano* Sir Donald Runnicles, *conductor*

"Losing My Mind" from Follies (Stephen Sondheim, 1930–2021)

Patricia Racette, *soprano* Patrick Summers, *conductor*

"Je veux vivre" from Roméo et Juliette (Charles Gounod, 1818–1893)

Adela Zaharia, *soprano* Eun Sun Kim, *conductor*

"Ombra mai fu" from Xerxes (George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759)

Susan Graham, *mezzo-soprano* Patrick Summers, *conductor* "Prosti, nebesnoye sozdanye" from Pikovaya Dama (The Queen of Spades)

(Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, 1840–1893)

Brandon Jovanovich, *tenor* Sir Donald Runnicles, *conductor*

"Là ci darem la mano" from Don Giovanni (Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1756–1791)

Heidi Stober, *soprano* Christian Van Horn, *bass-baritone* Eun Sun Kim, *conductor*

Liebestod from Tristan und Isolde (Richard Wagner)

Nina Stemme, *soprano* Sir Donald Runnicles, *conductor*

"Cessa di più resistere" from Il Barbiere di Siviglia (Gioachino Rossini, 1792–1868)

Lawrence Brownlee, *tenor* San Francisco Opera Chorus Patrick Summers, *conductor*

"Ave Signor" from Mefistofele (Arrigo Boito, 1842–1918)

San Francisco Opera Chorus Eun Sun Kim, *conductor*

Assistant Conductors: Dennis Doubin, Robert Mollicone • Prompter: Matthew Piatt • Musical Preparation: Bryndon Hassman Lighting Designer: Justin A. Partier • Stage Manager: Jennifer Harber • Assistant Director: Morgan Robinson Assistant Stage Managers: Thea Railey, Jonathan S. Campbell, Anna Reetz, Collette Berg • Costume Supervisor: Galen Till

> The performance will last approximately 2 hours 45 minutes, including one intermission. Latecomers may not be seated during the performance after the lights have dimmed. Patrons who leave during the performance may not be reseated until intermission.

The use of cameras, cell phones, and any kind of recording equipment is strictly forbidden. Please turn off and refrain from using all electronic devices.





Patrick Summers conducting Handel's Xerxes, 2011 / CORY WEAVER























Michael Fabiano as the Chevalier des Grieux in Massenet's Manon, 2017. CORY WEAVER





Christian Van Horn as Claggart in Britten's Billy Budd, 2019.



Daniela Mack as Rosina in The Barber of Seville, 2013.

Artist Profiles

* San Francisco Opera Debut 🗦 Role Debut 🕴 Lurrent Adler Fellow 🔸 Merola Opera Program Graduate 🛛 I Merola and Adler Fellowship Graduate



EUN SUN KIM

Caroline H. Hume Music Director of San Francisco Opera Conductor (Seoul, South Korea) San Francisco Opera

Highlights: Rusalka; Tosca; Fidelio; John Adams' Antony and Cleopatra; Dialogues of the Carmelites; La Traviata; Homecoming Concert; Eun Sun Kim Conducts Verdi; The Future Is Now Adler Fellows Concert; Opera Ball: The Centennial Celebration; Opera in the Park; Madame Butterfly

Recent and Upcoming: *Il Trovatore* (San Francisco Opera); *Lohengrin* (San Francisco Opera); *The Magic Flute* (San Francisco Opera); *La Bohème* (Metropolitan Opera, Vienna State Opera, Milan's Teatro alla Scala); *Tosca* (Lyric Opera of Chicago); *Turandot* (Houston Grand Opera); *Roberto Devereux* (LA Opera); Verdi Requiem (Dutch National Opera); concerts with The Philadelphia Orchestra, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Seoul Philharmonic, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic

Principal Guest Conductor of Houston Grand Opera

Instagram: <a>@ESKConductor



SIR DONALD RUNNICLES

Conductor (Edinburgh, Scotland) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Former Music Director of San

Francisco Opera

John Adams' *Doctor Atomic*; Conrad Susa's *The Dangerous Liaisons*; Messiaen's *Saint François d'Assise*; *Die*

Frau ohne Schatten

Recent and Upcoming: Arabella

(Deutsche Oper Berlin); Fidelio (Berlin); Elektra (Berlin): Tosca (Berlin): Tristan und Isolde (Berlin): Hänsel und Gretel (Oman); concerts with Minnesota Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony, Sydney Symphony, Dresden Philharmonic, **BBC Scottish Symphony** General Music Director of Deutsche Oper Berlin; Music Director of the Grand Teton Music Festival; Principal Guest Conductor of the Atlanta Symphony; Principal Guest Conductor of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra; Conductor Emeritus of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra Recipient of the San Francisco Opera Medal 2009 Recipient of Order of the British Empire 2004 Knight Bachelor 2020 Twitter:

MaestroDCR



PATRICK SUMMERS +

Conductor (Washington, Indiana) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Former Principal Guest Conductor of San

Francisco Opera André Previn's *A Streetcar Named Desire*; Puccini's *Trittico*; Handel's *Serse*; Jake Heggie's *Moby Dick*;, Jake Heggie and Gene Scheer's *It's a Wonderful Life* **Recent and Upcoming**: *Le Nozze di Figaro* (Houston Grand Opera); Ethel Smyth's *The Wreckers* (Houston); Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking* (Israeli Opera); Tarik O'Regan's *The Phoenix* (Houston); *La Favorite* (Barcelona's Gran Teatre del Liceu)

Artistic and Music Director of Houston

Grand Opera

Co-Artistic Director of Aspen Music School's Aspen Opera Theater and Vocal Arts program Recipient of the San Francisco Opera Medal 2015 Author of *The Spirit of This Place*



KARITA MATTILA Soprano (Helsinki, Finland) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Emilia Marty in *The Makropulos Case*;

Sieglinde in *Die Walküre* **Recent and Upcoming:** Herodias in *Salome* (Paris Opera, Canadian Opera Company); Klytemnestra in *Elektra* (Deutsche Oper Berlin); La Principessa in *Suor Angelica* (Salzburg Festival); *La Voix Humaine* (Finnish National Opera); Kostelnička in *Jenůfa* (London's Royal Opera Covent Garden); Madame de Croissy in *Dialogues des Carmélites* (Metropolitan Opera) Grammy Award for Best Opera Recording (*Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and *Jenůfa*)



AILYN PÉREZ + Soprano (Chicago, Illinois) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Title role of *Tosca*; title role of *La Traviata*

Recent and Upcoming: Elisabetta di Valois in *Don Carlo* (Naples' Teatro di San Carlo); Mimì in *La Bohème* (Paris Opera, London's Royal Opera Covent Garden, Berlin State Opera, Metropolitan Opera, Munich's Bavarian State Opera); Blanche in *Dialogues des Carmélites* (Metropolitan Opera); Alice Ford in *Falstaff* (Metropolitan



Celebrate 100 Years of San Francisco Opera at Special Exhibitions Around Town!



San Francisco Opera: A Centennial Celebration November 19, 2022–October 15, 2023 Presented by SFO Museum at San Francisco International Airport Harvey Milk Terminal 1

Experience the vibrant history of San Francisco's beloved opera company up close! The exhibition will trace one hundred years of costumes, artifacts, props, and images from the collections of San Francisco Opera, the Museum of Performance + Design, and the Metropolitan Opera Archives.



Scan QR code for more info



Museo Italo Americano April 21, 2023–October 22, 2023

Fort Mason Center, 2 Marina Blvd., San Francisco

With a multimedia exhibition focusing on the Company's Italian and Italian American roots, this exhibition traces the history of Italian opera from the Gold Rush to the Company's 1923 founding and up to the present, including the pivotal role of founding General Director Gaetano Merola and artists of Italian descent.



Scan QR code for more info

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Opera, Florence's Teatro del Maggio Musicale); title role of Rusalka (Santa Fe Opera); Brahms' Ein Deutsches Requiem with Orchestre National de Pays de Loire; title role of La Traviata (Munich, Berlin, Zurich Opera); Juliette in Roméo et Juliette (Metropolitan Opera); Countess in Le Nozze di Figaro (Hamburg State Opera); Adina in L'Elisir d'Amore (Lyric Opera of Chicago); title role of Tosca (Bari's Teatro Petruzzelli); title role of Manon (Paris); Tatyana in Eugene Onegin (Metropolitan Opera); soprano soloist in Verdi Requiem (Metropolitan Opera) Artistic Advisor and on faculty for the

Vincero Academy Opera for Peace Ambassador Winner of Richard Tucker Award 2012



PATRICIA RACETTE ◊

Soprano (Manchester, New Hampshire) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Title role of Tosca; Mimì in La

Bohème; title role of Jenúfa; Micaëla in Carmen; title role of Madama Butterfly; title role of Dolores Claiborne; title role of Susannah: Lauretta in Gianni Schicchi: Giorgetta in Il Tabarro; title role of Suor Angelica

Recent and Upcoming: Poulenc's La Voix Humaine (Opera Theatre of Saint Louis); Witch and Mother in Hansel und Gretel (Dallas Opera); Desirée Armfeldt in A Little Night Music; Madame de Croissy in Dialogues des Carmélites; Anna Maurrant in Street Scene; Sister Helen Prejean in Dead Man Walking; Kostelnička in Jenůfa

Artistic Director of Opera Theatre of St Louis' Gerdine Young Artist and Richard Gaddes Festival Artist programs Winner of Richard Tucker Award 1998 Grammy Award for Best Opera Recording (The Ghosts of Versailles)

San Francisco Opera Adler Fellowship: 1989

Merola Opera Program: 1988



NINA STEMME Soprano (Stockholm, Sweden) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Senta in Der Fliegender Holländer; Brünnhilde

in Der Ring des Nibelungen; title role of Turandot; Donald Runnicles 50th Birthday Concert; Barak's Wife in Die Frau ohne Schatten

Recent and Upcoming: Barak's Wife in Die Frau ohne Schatten (Vienna State Opera); Kostelnička in Jenůfa (Theater an der Wien); Brünnhilde in Der Ring des Nibelungen (Vienna State Opera); Isolde in Tristan und Isolde (Naples' Teatro di San Carlo, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Vienna State Opera); Ortrud in Lohengrin (Vienna State Opera); recitals (London's Wigmore Hall, Geneva, Toulouse, Stockholm)



HEIDI STOBER Soprano Highlights: Norina in Don Pasquale; Gretel

(Waukesha, Wisconsin) San Francisco Opera in Hansel and Gretel; Magnolia Hawks in Show Boat; Oscar in

Un Ballo in Maschera; Johanna in Sweeney Todd; Nannetta in Falstaff; Atalanta in Xerxes; Susanna in Le Nozze di Figaro; Blanche in Dialogues of the Carmelites Recent and Upcoming: Fiordiligi in Cosi fan tutte (Semperoper Dresden); Oscar in Un Ballo in Maschera (Deutsche Oper Berlin); Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni (Berlin): Micaëla in Carmen (Berlin, Houston Grand Opera); Adina in L'Elisir d'Amore (Dresden); Despina in Così fan tutte (Metropolitan Opera, Hamburg State Opera); Dalinda in Ariodante (Lyric

Opera of Chicago); Gretel in Hansel and Gretel (Chicago); Susanna in Le Nozze di Figaro (Dresden); Musetta in La Bohème (Metropolitan Opera) Instagram: @HeidiStober

ADELA ZAHARIA



Soprano (Arad. Romania) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Donna Anna in Don Giovanni **Recent** and

Upcoming: Donna Anna in Don Giovanni (Paris Opera, Dutch National Opera, London's Royal Opera Covent Garden, Dusseldorf's Deutsche Oper am Rhein, Madrid's Teatro Real); title role of La Traviata (Dusseldorf, Dresden, LA Opera); title role of *Lucia di Lammermoor* (Dusseldorf); Konstanze in Die Entführung aus dem Serail (Hamburg State Opera, Dusseldorf); Marina Abramovic's 7 Deaths of Maria Callas (Munich's Bavarian State Opera): Elvira in I Puritani (Dusseldorf); title role of Maria Stuarda (Dusseldorf); Gilda in Rigoletto (Dusseldorf); title role of Marius Felix Lange's Die Schneekönigin (Dusseldorf); Angelica in Haydn's Orlando Paladino (Munich)

@adelazaharia.soprano



(Roswell, New Mexico) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Minerva in Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in

Patria; Annio in La Clemenza di Tito; Sister Helen Prejean in Jake Heggie's Dead Man Walking; Octavian in Der Rosenkavalier; title role of Iphigénie en Tauride; title role of Ariodante; title role of Xerxes; Didon in Les Troyens

Recent and Upcoming: Concert with Music from Copland House including premiere of Richard Danielpour and Rita Dove's A Standing Witness (Kennedy Center); Hanna Glawari in The Merry Widow gala concert (Dallas Symphony); Geneviève in Pelléas and Mélisande (LA Opera, Santa Fe Opera); Mrs. Patrick De Rocher in Jake Heggie's Dead Man Walking (Lyric Opera of Chicago); Berlioz's La Mort de Cléopâtre and Les Trovens excerpts (Berlin Musikfest): recital with pianist Malcolm Martineau of Mahler's Rückert-Lieder (Cal Performances); recitals with Martineau of Frauenliebe und -leben: Variations (Fort Worth, New York's Lincoln Center); Mahler's Third Symphony with Boston Symphony Orchestra (BBC Proms, Berlin, Leipzig, Vienna, Lucerne, Paris); Witch in Hansel and Gretel (L.A.)

Grammy Award for Best Classical Vocal Performance (*Ives: Songs*) Merola Opera Program: 1987 Website: susangraham.com Facebook: @MezzoGraham Twitter: @MezzoGraham



DANIELA MACK ◊

Mezzo-Soprano (Buenos Aires, Argentina) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Rosina in Il Barbiere di

Siviglia/The Barber of Seville; Idamante in Idomeneo; Siebel in Faust; Lucienne in Die Tote Stadt; Frida in Gabriela Lena Frank and Nilo Cruz's El último sueño de Frida y Diego

Recent and Upcoming: In Song: Daniela Mack (San Francisco Opera); Rosmira in Partenope (San Francisco Opera, Madrid's Teatro Real); Frida in Gabriela Lena Frank and Nilo Cruz's El último sueño de Frida y Diego (LA Opera); Desdemona in Rossini's Otello (Opera Philadelphia); Federico García Lorca in Osvaldo Golijov's Ainadamar (Detroit Opera); Josefa Segovia in John Adams' Girls of the Golden West (Los Angeles Philharmonic); John Adams' El Niño (Metropolitan Opera); Romeo in I Capuleti e i Montecchi (Seville's Teatro Maestranza); Béatrice in Béatrice et Bénédict (BBC Philharmonic); Jacqueline Kennedy in David T. Little and Royce Vavrek's JFK (Montreal) San Francisco Opera Adler Fellowship: 2008, 2009

Merola Opera Program: 2007



LAWRENCE BROWNLEE

Tenor (Youngstown, Ohio) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Ernesto in Don Pasquale

Recent and Upcoming: Rodrigo in Otello (Opera Philadelphia); title role of Le Comte Ory (Lyric Opera of Chicago); Elvino in La Sonnambula (Madrid's Teatro Real); Count Almaviva in Il Barbiere di Siviglia (London's Royal Opera Covent Garden); Tamino in Die Zauberflöte (Metropolitan Opera); title role of Rameau's Platée (Paris Opera); Edgardo in Lucia di Lammermoor (New National Theatre Tokyo); Fernand in La Favorite (Houston Grand Opera); Amici e Rivali concert with Michael Spyres (Paris' Théâtre des Champs-Elysées); Rising concert with pianist Kevin J. Miller (Carnegie Hall, Kimmel Center, Calderwood Studios, Emory University); Come Home: A Celebration of Return concert (Washington National Opera); Cycles of My Being concert (Opera Philadelphia); Giving Voice concert (Houston)

Distinguished Visiting Faculty Member of The Juilliard School Artistic Advisor for Opera Philadelphia Ambassador for Lyric Opera of Chicago's Lyric Unlimited Ambassador for Opera for Peace Winner of Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions 2001 Instagram: @brownleetenor



MICHAEL FABIANO Tenor (Montclair, New Jersey) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Rodolfo in La Bohème: Chevalier

des Grieux in Manon; title role of Don Carlo; Gennaro in Lucrezia Borgia; Verdi Requiem; Rodolfo in Luisa Miller; Cavaradossi in Tosca; Opera Ball: The Centennial Celebration: Lieutenant B.F. Pinkerton in Madame Butterfly Recent and Upcoming: Cavaradossi in Tosca (Paris Opera, Madrid's Teatro Real, Metropolitan Opera, LA Opera, Barcelona's Gran Theatre del Liceu. Vienna State Opera); concert (Festival Napa Valley); Rodolfo in La Bohème (Madrid, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Metropolitan Opera); Don José in Carmen (Les Théâtre de la Ville de Luxembourg, Washington National Opera, Santa Fe Opera); Calaf in Turandot (Rome Opera); Lensky in Eugene Onegin (Naples' Teatro di San Carlo); title role of Les Contes d'Hoffmann (Bilbao' ABAO-OLBE, Paris); Ismaele in Nabucco (Madrid); Maurizio in Adriana Lecouvreur (Opera Australia); Des Grieux in Manon (Metropolitan Opera); An Evening with Michael Fabiano season-opening gala (Michigan Opera Theatre); title role of Don Carlo (Paris): Alfredo in La Traviata (Madrid); Riccardo in Un Ballo in Maschera (Madrid); Ruggero in La Rondine (Naples); Faust in Mefistofele (Metropolitan Opera); title role of Gounod's Faust (Royal Opera, Covent Garden); title role of Werther (Opera Australia); Duke

in Rigoletto (Berlin State Opera); Carlo VII in Verdi's Giovanna d'Arco (Madrid); recitals in Turku, Finland

and Waterford, Virginia; concerts with Theatro Municipal do Rio de Janeiro, Moscow Philharmonic, Sun Valley Opera, Dallas Opera Winner of Richard Tucker Award 2014 Co-founder of ArtSmart

Chief Strategy Officer for Resonance.



BRANDON JOVANOVICH Tenor

(Billings, Montana) San Francisco Opera **Highlights:** Lieutenant B.F.

Pinkerton (Madame Butterfly); title role of Lohengrin; Walther von Stolzing in Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg; Prince in Rusalka

Recent and Upcoming: Sergei in Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk (Metropolitan Opera); Luigi in Il Tabarro (Barcelona's Gran Teatre del Liceu); Laca Klemeň in Jenúfa (Valencia's Palau de les Arts); Florestan in Fidelio (Vienna State Opera); Bacchus in Ariadne auf Naxos (Metropolitan Opera); title role of Lohengrin (London's Royal Opera Covent Garden); Siegmund in Die Walküre (Deutsche Oper Berlin); title role of Parisfal (Vienna, Deutsche Oper Berlin); Canio in Pagliacci (Dutch National Opera); Samson in Samson et Dalila (Berlin State Opera); Herman in Pique Dame (Lyric Opera of Chicago); B.F. Pinkerton in Madama Butterfly (Chicago); Énée in Les Troyens (Paris, Vienna); Prince in *Rusalka* (Vienna); Dick Johnson in La Fanciulla del West (Munich's Bavarian State Opera) Winner of Richard Tucker Award 2007



Tenor (Atlanta, Georgia) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Title role of Roberto Devereux: Pollione in Norma:

Florestan in Fidelio

Recent and Upcoming: Title role of Ernani (Lyric Opera of Chicago); title role of Don Carlo (Metropolitan Opera); title role of Otello (LA Opera, Canadian Opera Company, London's Royal Opera Covent Garden); Calaf in Turandot (London): Don Alvaro in La Forza del Destino (Paris Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin); LA Opera recital (Colburn); Act IV of Otello in concert (Metropolitan Opera Orchestra tour); Manrico in Il Trovatore (Munich's Bavarian State Opera); Radames in Aida (Houston Grand Opera, L.A.); Cavaradossi in Tosca (Chicago); title role of Idomeneo (Salzburg Festival) Facebook: @travlingtenor Instagram: @travlingtenor



LUCAS MEACHEM ◊ Baritone (Raleigh, North Carolina) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Title role of Eugene Onegin; title

role of Don Giovanni; Figaro in Il Barbiere di Siviglia and The Barber of Seville; Papageno in The Magic Flute; Count Almaviva in Le Nozze di Figaro; Frank/Fritz in Die Tote Stadt; Sharpless in Madame Butterfly

Recent and Upcoming: Sharpless in Madame Butterfly (London's Royal Opera Covent Garden); title role of Don Giovanni (Ravinia Festival, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Dresden); Escamillo in Carmen (Canadian Opera Company, Paris Opera, Turin's Teatro Regio); De Siriex in Fedora (Metropolitan Opera); Count Almaviva in Le Nozze di Figaro (LA Opera); Guglielmo in Così fan tutte (Dallas Opera); Marcello in La Bohème (Metropolitan Opera); title role of Nabucco (Oper im Steinbruch); Athanaël in *Thaïs* (Milan's Teatro alla Scala, Minnesota Opera); Silvio in Pagliacci (Chicago); Germont in La Traviata (Washington National Opera); title role of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* (Houston Grand Opera); Zurga in Les Pêcheurs de Perles (Bilbao Opera)

Co-founder of Perfect Day Music Foundation

Winner of San Francisco Opera's Emerging Star of the Year 2016 Grammy Award for Best Opera Recording (Corigliano's The Ghosts of Versailles)

San Francisco Opera Adler Fellowship: 2004, 2005

Merola Opera Program: 2003 Website: lucasmeachem.com Facebook: @LucasBaritone Instagram: @lucasmeachem Twitter: @LucasMeachem



BRIAN MULLIGAN

Baritone (Endicott, New York) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Title role of John Adams' Nixon in China; Sharpless

in Madame Butterfly; Marcello in La Bohème: Chorebe/The Ghost of Chorebe in Les Troyens; Count Anckarström (Renato) in Un Ballo in Maschera; Albert in Werther; Valentin in Faust; The King's Herald in Lohengrin; Enrico in Lucia di Lammermoor; title role of Sweeney Todd; Donner in Das Rheingold; Gunther in Götterdämmerung Recent and Upcoming: Kurwenal in Tristan und Isolde (Naples' Teatro di San Carlo); Herald in Lohengrin (Metropolitan Opera); Créon in Enescu's Oedipe (Paris

Opera); Don Pizarro in Fidelio (Irish National Opera); Beethoven's Ninth Symphony (Munich Philharmonic); Jochanaan in Salome (Dutch National Opera); Wotan in Die Walküre (Stuttgart Opera); Sharpless in Madame Butterfly (Bregenz, Dutch National Opera); Golaud in Pelléas et Mélisande (Dutch National Opera); Zurga in Les Pêcheurs de Perles (Zurich Opera)



CHRISTIAN VAN HORN

Bass-Baritone (Long Island, New York)

San Francisco Opera Highlights: Fedor von

Bock in Marco Tutino's Two Women; Timur in *Turandot*; Lindorf/Dr. Miracle/ Dapertutto in Les Contes d'Hoffmann; Colline in La Bohème; Alidoro in La Cenerentola; Oroveso in Norma; Narbal in Les Troyens; Claggart in Billy Budd Recent and Upcoming: Silva in Ernani (Lyric Opera of Chicago); Oroveso in Norma (Metropolitan Opera); Ramfis in Aida (Metropolitan Opera); Colline in La Bohème (Metropolitan Opera); title role of Don Giovanni (Vienna State Opera): Les Contes d'Hoffmann (Paris Opera); Lucia di Lammermoor (Munich's Bavarian State Opera); Simon Boccanegra (Opera Philadelphia); Bluebeard's Castle with Metropolitan Opera Orchestra (Carnegie Hall) Winner of the Richard Tucker Award 2018

Winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions 2003



(Houston, Texas) **Stage Director** San Francisco Opera Highlights: Tosca; La Traviata **Recent and**

Upcoming: Romeo and Juliette (Opera San Jose); La Traviata (LA Opera); General Director and CEO of Opera San José.

Website: shawnalucey.com Instagram: @29flames



JOHN KEENE **Chorus Director** (Lancaster, Pennsylvania) San Francisco Opera Highlights: Don Giovanni, Bright

Sheng and David Henry Hwang's Dream of the Red Chamber, Eun Sun Kim Conducts Verdi; John Adams' Antony and Cleopatra; Eugene Onegin; Dialogues of the Carmelites; La Traviata; Orpheus and Eurydice; Madame Butterfly; Die Frau ohne Schatten; Gabriela Lena Frank and Nilo Cruz's El último sueño de Frida y Diego

Recent and Upcoming: San Francisco Opera Chorus Director (Il Trovatore; Mason Bates and Mark Campbell's The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs; Lohengrin; Omar; The Elixir of Love; The Magic Flute; Kaija Saariaho, Sofi Oksanen and Aleksi Barrière's Innocence)

Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition and San Francisco Conservatory of Music Voice Concerto Competition judge

Instagram: @keenejohn



JUSTIN A. PARTIER (New York, New York) Lighting Designer San Francisco **Opera Highlights**: *Die* Frau ohne Schatten; Carmen: Cavalleria

Rusticana/Pagliacci; Verdi Requiem; Fidelio; Bohème Out of the Box Recent and Upcoming: Carmen (Washington National Opera); Cosi fan tutte (Dallas Opera); Origins of Love (national tour); How to be a Rock Critic (national tour); (Be)Longing (national tour); A Midsummer Night's Dream (Schloss Werdenberg Buchs SG Switzerland): All the Rage (The Barrow Group); The New Will Appear (59 E59 Theater); Driving Miss Daisy (Mile Square Theater); Fascinating Rhythm (Transcendence Theater Company); Shall We Dance (Transcendence Theater Company); Big Top Dreamers (Transcendence Theater Company); Rich Girl (Florida Studio Theater); COLORED (Kyle Marshall Choreography); The Book of Mountains and Seas (New Conservatory Theatre Center); PrEP Play, or Blue Parachute (NCTC); Getting There (NCTC) Instagram: @justinlights Website: justinpartierlighting.com



Scan the QR code to access a full gallery of the images seen in tonight's program.

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Your Guide to San Francisco Opera at the War Memorial Opera House

WELCOME! WE'RE SO PLEASED YOU'RE HERE.

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performance! Follow us on Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, TikTok and Twitter @sfopera for your insider's look!



COAT CHECK

Check your coat at the north and south ends of the Main Lobby. For the safety and comfort of our audience, large bags are strongly discouraged and are subject to search.

DINING

Cafés: Enjoy a variety of sandwiches, snacks, and refreshments

- · Café Express (Lower Level, Open 2 hours before curtain)
- Dress Circle Lounge (Level 3, South, Open 1 hour before curtain)

Restaurants: Dine pre-show or reserve a table for intermission.

PRELUDE AT THE OPERA HOUSE · Lower Lounge

Prelude at the Opera House (formerly known as The Café at the Opera) offers a changing seasonal buffet (including brunch) and elevated à la carte dishes.

NORTH BOX RESTAURANT AND BAR · North Mezzanine Level

Overlooking the magnificent main lobby, North Box Restaurant offers California cuisine with global influences and is an ideal destination for pre-performance and intermission dining.

Restaurants are open two hours prior to performances. Reservations are strongly recommended. Reserve a table online at sfopera.com/dine or by scanning the QR code,email operahousepreorder@ggcatering.com, or call (415) 861-8150 (email preferred over phone).

PRE-ORDER!

Avoid lines during intermission by pre-ordering beverages and snacks with a food and beverage server upon your arrival at any point of service.

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA SHOP

Take home a memento! Located in the South Mezzanine lobby, the Opera Shop sells branded merchandise, jewelry, books, and gift items. The Shop is open 90 minutes before performances, at intermissions, and afterward. All proceeds benefit San Francisco Opera.

ALL ARE WELCOME. HELP US MAKE SURE EVERYONE HAS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE!

- Turn off all electronic devices during the performance, including digital watches and cell phones. We ask this out of respect for the artists and for everyone in the theater enjoying a live, in-the-moment experience.
- Take photos before or after the performance, during intermission, or during the bows, and leave cameras and recording devices off during performances.
- Enjoy food and drinks, purchased onsite pre-show and during intermission, before entering the theater. You may bring drinks into the theater, but please be mindful of your fellow patrons.
- As a courtesy to those who may have fragrance allergies, please avoid wearing perfume or cologne.
- Get to know and enjoy this wonderful community of opera lovers. Say hello to one another pre-show, at intermission, or leaving the theater.

Management reserves the right to remove any patron creating a disturbance.

FIRST AID STATION

Our First Aid Station is located on the South Lower Level. In case of emergency, please ask the nearest usher to assist you.

ACCESSIBILITY

San Francisco Opera is committed to providing easy access for all of our patrons. If you need assistance for a future performance, please contact the Opera Box Office prior to your visit so that we can ensure your comfort.

For patrons using wheelchairs, San Francisco Opera offers wheelchair-accessible seats at a range of prices. All entrances at the War Memorial Opera House are wheelchair accessible. Wheelchair-accessible stalls in restrooms can be found on all floors (except the Main Lobby and 5th floor Balcony levels). Accessible drinking fountains are located on all floors except the Balcony Level.

LARGE-PRINT CAST SHEETS AND SYNOPSES

Visit the North Lobby coat check for large-print versions.

LISTENING DEVICES

Assistive listening devices are available at the North Lobby coat check. ID deposit required.

LIVE TITLES: TEXT-TO-VOICE SUPERTITLES

Headsets that provide a spoken version of the supertitles are available at the North Lobby coat check.

OPERA GLASSES

See the action up close and rent a pair of opera glasses for \$5 at the North Lobby coat check. ID deposit is requested. Credit card only.

LOST AND FOUND

Items may be turned in or claimed at the North coat check during the performance. All unclaimed items are delivered to the War Memorial Performing Arts Center at 401 Van Ness Ave., Room 110, (415) 621-6600 (8 AM–5 PM, Monday–Friday).

RESTROOMS

Restrooms are located on all levels of the Opera House except on the Orchestra Level (Main Lobby).



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As you leave the theater, be on the lookout for friendly community ambassadors in orange vests or coats along Grove Street. These ambassadors are there to assist you and escort you to and from the Opera House on performance days and evenings from 6:30–11:30pm.





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The San Francisco War Memorial acknowledges that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the ancestors, elders, and relatives of the Ramaytush Community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples.

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SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

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Tracy Davis Kevin Myers, Orchestra Operations Manager

- + = Leave of absence
- + = Principal for one or more Summer season operas
- ^ = Season Substitute

Corps Dancers

Colm Seery, Dance Master

Alysia Chang ~ Vincent Chavez Brett Conway ^ Jamielyn Duggan ^ Blanche Hampton ^ Joseph A. Hernandez James Johnson Bryan Ketron t Luke Lazzaro Felipe Leon Rachel Speidel Little t Marlayna Elyse Locklear Damon Mahoney

Micah Moch Christopher Nachtrab ^* Jekyns Pelaez t Maxwell Simoes ~ Chiharu Shibata ^* Marcos Vedovetto ~ Michael Wells

^ Tenured t Tenured Dancer on Leave of Absence ~ Resident Corps * Solo Role

Supernumeraries

Stacey Chien Eric Corcoran Eric Dew Mayra Galicia Jan Haley-Soule Priscilla Lore Idalia Ramos Rosa Robada Alex Romelfanger Anthony Sabedra Edaena Salinas Ross Uchimura Viva Young Maguire

TRUMPET

Scott Macomber ^ John Pearson +

Acting Assistant Principal Acting Assistant Concertmaster Emil Miland

FIRST VIOLIN

Heidi Wilcox,

Jennifer Cho.

Dawn Harms

Dian Zhang

Jennifer Hsieh

Wenyi Shih ^

Eva Karasik

Leslie Ludena

Heeguen Song ^

Patricia Heller

Jonna Hervig +

Natalia Vershilova

Elizabeth Prior ^

Maya Cohon

Craig Reiss

VIOLA

Jooyeon Kong ^

SECOND VIOLIN

Jeremy Preston, Principal

Martha Simonds, Associate Principal

Beni Shinohara, Assistant Principal

Carla Maria Rodrigues, Principal

Joy Fellows, Associate Principal

Yi Zhou, Acting Assistant Principal ^

Emily Liu, Acting Assistant Principal ^

Mariya Borozina Barbara Riccardi

Leonid laudesman

Asuka Annie Yano

Kay Stern, Concertmaster

Laura Albers, Associate Concertmaster +

Acting Associate Concertmaster

Victoria Ehrlich + Ruth Lane Eric Sung ^ Miriam Perkoff ^

BASS

CELLO

Peter Myers,

Nora Pirquet.

Joseph Lescher, Principal Jonathan Lancelle, Associate Principal Steven D'Amico, Assistant Principal Shinji Eshima Evan Hillis ^

Thalia Moore, Acting Principal

Acting Associate Principal

FLUTE

Julie McKenzie, Principal Susan Kang ^ Stephanie McNab

PICCOLO Stephanie McNab

OBOE Mingjia Liu, Principal Gabriel Young, Associate Principal Benjamin Brogadir ^

ENGLISH HORN Benjamin Brogadir ^

Backstage Personnel

COSTUME SHOP

Jai Alltizer (22), Costume Shop Manager Galen Till (18), Senior Production Supervisor Lyre Alston, Production Supervisor Manuel Gutierrez (23), Production Coordinator Sally Thomas (23), Master Tailor Amy Ashton-Keller (29), Master Draper Barbara Ebel (14), Senior Draper Santiago Suanes (13), Men's Draper Nika Cassaro, Draper Paula Wheeler (31), Senior Milliner Amy Van Every (38), Senior Dyer Karen Lewis, Assitant Dyer Jersey McDermott (23), Senior Craftsperson/Shoe Specialist Emma Lehman, Kristen Tracy (15), Assistant Cutters Yui Takenouchi, Taylor Newell, Kaitlyn Patrick, First Hand Robyn Marsh, Victoria Mortimer, Costume Assistants

COSTUME TECHNICIANS

Miriam Acosta (25), Karla Fix, Hoa Fong (24), Gillian Haratani (11), Haratini (11), Jaya Grace Goheen, Ashley Granbow, Katherine Griffith, Meg Horan, Amanda Mitchell, Sara Morimoto, Mikael Nohai, Sarah Ellen Smith, Charles Sullivan, Yesenia Villenasenor, Robert Whitehurst

WARDROBE DEPARTMENT

CORE CREW

Nicolas Chacon, Linda Edwards (24), Edward Fonseca (11), Claudia Holaday (43), Lorraine Lewis (10), Barbara Nicholas (24), Rachell Nichols, Phil Perry (25), Patrick Sanchez (13), Don Smith (26), Scott Stewart (22), Grisel Torres, Kirsten Tucker (19)

DRESSERS

Ralph Hoy Michael Kruzich Jeffery Larsen Emma Mueller Jennifer O'Neill (10) Leona Schrader-Dee

WIG, HAIR, AND

MAKEUP DEPARTMENT

SENIOR WIG ARTISTS Erin Hennessy (10)

Maur Sela

WIG ARTISTS

Calli Carvajal Tori Grayum Gloria Mueller Sharon Peng Lindsay Saier

SHOW CALL FOREPERSONS

Consuelo Lopez-Robbins Christina Martin (11) Sharon Peng Tim Santry (32)

PRINCIPAL AND SHOWCALL WIG, HAIR, AND MAKEUP ARTISTS

Shana Astrachan, Melanie Birch (36), Vanessa Blanchard Lee, Kristen Campbell, Calli Carvajal, Karalynne Fiebig (16), Marisela Garcia, Dulce Gastelum, Denise Gutierrez (40), Erin Hennessy (10), Arina Izadi, Consuelo Lopez-Robbins, Amber Loudermilk, Letzy Lugo, Christina Martin (11), Toby Mayer (32), Robert Mrazik (17), Gloria Mueller, Leilani Norman, Lisa Patnoe (32), Sharon Peng, Jordan Plath, Maurisa Rondeau, Tim Santry (32), Maur Sela, Sophie Smith, Kimberly Virgen, Lisa Zomer (24)

SCENE SHOP

Dennis Forry Christian Martinez Dylan Maxson Michael Ramirez Victor Sanchez (25)

SCENIC ART DEPARTMENT Lauren Abrams

CARPENTRY DEPARTMENT

Michael Accurso (32), *Night Crew Foreman* Dominic Casazza (19), *Assitant Key Flyman* Gabriel Castellani (12), *Automation Key* Michael Chapman (10), *Key* Dennis Criswell Paul Delatorre (23), *Key* Greg Harsha (23), *Key* Geoffrey R. Heron (16) Geoffrey W. Heron (28), *Key* Philip Heron, (20), Automation and Rigging Foreman Ed Joe, Warehouse Foreman Nick Kukielka Michael Martino Alex Meyer (28) Ethan Ng Harry Niedzwetzki (30) John O'Donnell, Key Flyman Enrique Pronio Michael Ramirez Ty Russell Bartholomew Ryan James Ryan Kenneth Ryan (40) Michael Ryan Eila Saarni Gregory Shaff (34), Key Cyrus Sindicich Sean Walden (11) Randy Walsh (20), Assistant Key Collin Whitfield Sammy Wong

PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

Scott Barringer (22), Key Christy Carter James Eldredge (18), Shop Mechanic Hilary Engelman Andy Falkner Qris Fry Patricia Hewett (15), Assistant Key Myron Seth Isaacs (22), Key Mark Kotschnig (20), Key John Matlock, Assistant Key Beth Ozarow (26), Out of House Key Tara Pellack Dawn Roth-Golden Gretchen Scharfenberg Sarah Shores (15), Shop Mechanic Morgan Womble-Dahl

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

Eugene Ahn, Gel Room Juan Aldana (18) Joni Ben-Yisrael John Boatwright (35), House Head Electrician Ariel Bott, Assistant Key Stage Left Erik Docktor (15), Projection Programmer Amy Domjan, Layout Electrician Stephen Echerd (19) Will Grunig (20) Robert Haycock, Key Stage Right Ana Gabriela Hernandez-McKig Geoff Heron (13), Pyro Technician Bernard Honigman (23), Key Light Board Operator Karen line Brendan Kierans. Electric Shop Foreman

Sophie Landau Maria Mendoza (34), Projection Coordinator Lloyd Murphy, Projectionist Glenn Quilici, Assistant Key Stage Right Kevin Quintero Matthew Reynolds William Rodriguez Kirt Siders, Data Administrator Andrew Sproule (23), Key Stage Left Jax Steager, Assistant Key Light Board Operator

AUDIO DEPARTMENT

Emad Dajani Christine Dumke Kimberly Griess, *Key* Tod Nixon, *Key* (24) Bryan Olson

MEDIA DEPARTMENT

Chris Dulmage Steven Gianfermo Michael Hanchett Mitchell Kell, *Video Editor* Neal Morrison Elliott Rice Brian Shimetz Uwe Willenbacher (14), *Audio Editor*

STUDIO TEACHERS

Donnell Barnes Carolyn Crimley Susan Gill Rhona Gordon Dana Gray Lua Hadar Martha Harris Karen Kindig Victoria Northridge

WRANGLERS

Sadie Black Kate Juliana Heather Kelly-Laws Sergey Khalikulov Liz Pasha Diana Young

Employees who have served the Company for more than ten years are listed with their years of service.



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