SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S GRAND OPERA CINEMA SERIES AT SUNDANCE KABUKI CINEMAS CONTINUES ON MARCH 22 & 26 WITH DONIZETTI'S *LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR* STARRING NATALIE DESSAY

SAN FRANCISCO (February 25, 2011)—San Francisco Opera's Grand Opera Cinema Series at Sundance Kabuki Cinemas in San Francisco continues on Tuesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 26 at 10 a.m. with HD screenings of the Company's acclaimed production of Gaetano Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

Lucia di Lammermoor, Donizetti's famed saga of a woman driven mad by her arranged marriage features celebrated French coloratura soprano Natalie Dessay, whose vocal agility and dramatic charisma have established her as one of the role's foremost interpreters. Tenor Giuseppe Filianoti is Lucia's beloved Edgardo and baritone Gabriele Viviani is her brother, Lord Enrico Ashton. The striking Teatro del Maggio Musicale production, conceived by Graham Vick, is led by French conductor Jean-Yves Ossonce.

Recorded live in high definition at the War Memorial Opera House, the screenings include English subtitles and one brief intermission featuring behind the scenes interviews. Prior to the March 26 screening, San Francisco Opera's Education department will present a free, informative 25-minute lecture by music educator Alexandra Amati-Camperi at 9:30 a.m.

San Francisco Opera Grand Opera's Cinema Series at the Sundance Kabuki Cinemas continues with Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love* on May 10 and 14.

Tickets for San Francisco Opera's Grand Opera Cinema Series at the Sundance Kabuki Cinemas are priced at $13 for adults and $11 for seniors for the Tuesday evening screenings, and $11

for adults and seniors and $9.25 for children for the Saturday matinee screenings. Tuesday screenings are available only for patrons age 21 and over; light food, snacks and alcoholic beverages are available for purchase at the Sundance bistro and bar and may be brought into the theater. Tickets are available via sundancecinemas.com, where patrons may also select seats in advance, and at the Sundance Kabuki Box Office. For more information about Sundance Kabuki Cinemas, visit sundancecinemas.com or call (415) 346-3243.

San Francisco Opera launched the Grand Opera Cinema Series in Spring 2008 with its presentation of *La Rondine*, *Samson and Delilah*, *Don Giovanni* and *Madama Butterfly* to movie theaters across the country. These operas are now available to theaters and performing arts venues as part of the Company's Grand Opera Cinema Series. In Fall 2010, four new titles including *La Bohème*, *Tosca*, *Lucia di Lammermoor* and *The Elixir of Love* were added to the series.

For more information about San Francisco Opera's Grand Opera Cinema Series, including additional theaters currently screening the series, and further information and video clips of *La Bohème, Tosca*, *Lucia di Lammermoor* and *The Elixir of Love*, visit sfopera.com/cinemaseries.

# # # # # # #

San Francisco Opera's simulcasts and cinemacasts are made possible through the technology of the Company's Koret-Taube Media Suite, the first permanent HD broadcast-standard video production facility installed in an American opera house. A grant from the Koret Foundation provided lead funding for the Koret-Taube Media Suite, with additional support provided by Tad and Dianne Taube. An anonymous donor committed the remaining required funding.

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S GRAND OPERA CINEMA SERIES AT SUNDANCE KABUKI CINEMAS (1881 Post Street in San Francisco)

TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Tickets for San Francisco Opera's Grand Opera Cinema Series at the Sundance Kabuki Cinemas are priced at $13 for adults and $11 for seniors for the Tuesday evening screenings, and $11 for adults and seniors and $9.25 for children for the Saturday matinee screenings. Tuesday screenings are available only for patrons age 21 and over; light food, snacks and alcoholic beverages are available for purchase at the Sundance bistro and bar and may be brought into the theater. Tickets are available via sundancecinemas.com, where patrons may also select seats in advance, and at the Sundance Kabuki Box Office. For more information about Sundance Kabuki Cinemas, visit sundancecinemas.com or call (415) 346-3243.

San Francisco Opera's *Lucia di Lammermoor* in HD

Tuesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 26 at 10 a.m.

Sundance Kabuki Cinemas
1881 Post Street, San Francisco

Sung in Italian with English subtitles
Running time: 3 hours and 15 minutes with one ten-minute intermission
Rating: General Audiences

Lucia di Lammermoor, Gaetano Donizetti's famed saga of a woman driven mad by her arranged marriage, features celebrated French coloratura soprano Natalie Dessay, whose vocal agility and dramatic charisma have established her as one of the role's foremost interpreters. Tenor Giuseppe Filianoti is Lucia's beloved Edgardo and baritone Gabriele Viviani is her brother, Lord Enrico Ashton. The striking Teatro del Maggio Musicale production, conceived by Graham Vick and with sets designed by Paul Brown, is led by French conductor Jean-Yves Ossonce. A free pre-screening lecture will be presented by music educator Alexandra Amati-Camperi at 9:30 a.m. on March 26. Recorded live at the War Memorial Opera House in Summer 2008.

# # #

This press release and high-resolution photographs from *Lucia di Lammermoor* are available at sfopera.com/press.

For further press information, please contact San Francisco Opera Communications:
Jon Finck (415) 565-6472 / jfinck@sfopera.com
Robin Freeman (415) 565-6451 / rfreeman@sfopera.com