



SAN FRANCISCO
OPERA

**SINGLE TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S
HIGHLY ANTICIPATED SUMMER 2011 *RING* CYCLE**

**Individual tickets for *Das Rheingold*, *Die Walküre*, *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung*
available at the San Francisco Opera Box Office, sfopera.com or (415) 864-3330**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (April 13, 2011, UPDATED April 21, 2011) – Individual tickets for San Francisco Opera's Summer 2011 presentation of Richard Wagner's epic cycle, *Der Ring des Nibelungen* (*The Ring of the Nibelung*), are now on sale through the San Francisco Opera Box Office, online at sfopera.com or by calling (415) 864-3330.

Single tickets are available for each of the four operas comprising the *Ring*—*Das Rheingold*, *Die Walküre*, *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung*—which will be presented in three cycles this summer (June 14–19, June 21–26, and June 28–July 3) at the War Memorial Opera House. Tickets are also available for the San Francisco production premiere of *Siegfried* on May 29 and the new production premiere of *Götterdämmerung* on June 5. With sales for San Francisco Opera's highly anticipated *Ring* cycle already reaching 86% of capacity for the three complete cycles, ticket availability is limited.

Individual tickets for *Das Rheingold*, *Die Walküre*, *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung* are priced from \$95 to \$360. The May 29 *Siegfried* and June 5 *Götterdämmerung* premiere performances and June 28–July 3 (Cycle 3) performances offer best availability. Tickets for full cycles remain on sale and best available seat locations are being held for patrons wishing to purchase complete *Ring* cycles.

San Francisco Opera presents Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, one of the greatest works ever conceived for the operatic stage, in a new production by San Francisco Opera artistic adviser and internationally celebrated director Francesca Zambello. Maestro Donald Runnicles, one of the world's most acclaimed Wagner conductors and former San Francisco Opera music director, will lead the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus in these performances that feature an international roster of

singers, including Nina Stemme (Brünnhilde), Mark Delavan (Wotan), Jay Hunter Morris (Siegfried, *Siegfried*) Ian Storey (Siegfried, *Götterdämmerung*), Gordon Hawkins (Alberich), Larissa Diadkova (Fricka), David Cangelosi (Mime), Anja Kampe (Sieglinde), Brandon Jovanovich (Siegmond and Froh), Stefan Margita (Loge), Gerd Grochowski (Donner and Gunther) and Andrea Silvestrelli (Fasolt and Hagen).

Zambello and set designer Michael Yeargan use imagery from various eras of American history to illuminate Wagner's legend in which human virtue and nature's sanctuary fall prey to greed and lust. The talented creative team also includes costume designer Catherine Zuber, lighting designer Mark McCullough, projection designers Jan Hartley with S. Katy Tucker, choreographer Lawrence Pech and Chorus Director Ian Robertson. *Das Rheingold*, *Die Walküre* and *Siegfried* are co-productions with Washington National Opera; *Götterdämmerung* is a new San Francisco Opera production premiere.

San Francisco Opera has long been regarded as one of the world's leading companies to present the entire *Ring* cycle, with past acclaimed presentations at the War Memorial Opera House in 1935, 1936 (omitting *Siegfried*), 1972, 1985, 1990 and 1999. The City of San Francisco played host to two other presentations of the *Ring* in 1900 by the Metropolitan Opera at the Grand Opera House, led by famed conductor Walter Damrosch, and a partial *Ring* cycle in 1931 (omitting *Das Rheingold*) by the Grand German Opera Company in Civic Auditorium.

In conjunction with the *Ring* cycles, a diverse array of cultural and educational institutions have partnered with San Francisco Opera to present lectures and symposia, exhibits, musical performances, film screenings and other events throughout the Bay Area for audiences who desire to connect with the *Ring* in new and compelling ways. For more information about San Francisco Opera's *Ring* cycle and *Ring* Festival, visit sfopera.com/ring.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Single tickets for San Francisco Opera's May 29–July 3, 2011 presentation of Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* (*The Ring of the Nibelungen*) are priced from \$95 to \$360 and availability is limited. The May 29 *Siegfried* and June 5 *Götterdämmerung* premiere performances and June 28–July 3 (Cycle 3) performances offer best availability. Single tickets are now available online

at *sfopera.com* or from the San Francisco Opera Box Office either in person or by phone at (415) 864-3330. Standing Room tickets go on sale at 10 a.m. on the day of each performance; tickets are \$10 each, cash only.

Full *Ring* cycle series tickets are also available, with best availability in Cycle 3. To purchase complete cycles, please call the San Francisco Opera Box Office at (415) 864-3330.

The War Memorial Opera House is located at 301 Van Ness Avenue at Grove Street. Patrons are encouraged to use public transportation to attend San Francisco Opera performances. The War Memorial Opera House is within walking distance of the Civic Center BART station and near numerous bus lines, including 5, 21, 47, 49 and the F Market Street. For more public transportation information, visit bart.gov and sfmuni.com.

All performances feature OperaVision; OperaVision screens, hung from the ceiling of the balcony section, provide close-up and mid-range ensemble shots in high-definition video. Supertitles are shown at the bottom of each screen. San Francisco Opera introduced OperaVision in 2007 as an innovative way to give balcony audiences a better view of the stage

Casting, programs, schedules and ticket prices are subject to change. For further information about *Der Ring des Nibelungen* and San Francisco Opera, please visit sfopera.com/ring.

The Ring of the Nibelung is made possible, in part, by **Jane Bernstein & Bob Ellis**, the **Edgar Foster Daniels Foundation**, **Roberta & David Elliott**, **Kristina Flanagan**, **Keith & Priscilla Geeslin**, **Mary & Nicholas Graves**, **John A. & Cynthia Fry Gunn**, **Hiro & Betty Ogawa**, **The Bernard Osher Endowment Fund**, **Betty and Jack Schafer** and several anonymous sponsors. Additional support provided by an award from the **National Endowment for the Arts**. **United Airlines** is the official airline of the *Ring* Festival. The *Ring* Circle Chairs are **Kristina Flanagan**, **Mary and Nicholas Graves** and **Betty and Jack Schafer**. The National Patron Program Chairs are **The Honorable and Mrs. George P. Shultz**

San Francisco Opera is sponsored, in part, by the **Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation**, **John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn**, **Franklin and Catherine Johnson**, **Mrs. Edmund W. Littlefield**, and **Bernard and Barbro Osher**. San Francisco Opera is sponsored, in part, by a grant from **Grants for the Arts/San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund**. **Wells Fargo** is San Francisco Opera's Season Sponsor. San Francisco Opera is proud to recognize its corporate partners: **United Airlines**, the Official Airline of San Francisco Opera, and **Chevron**, fueling great performances everywhere.



2010–11 Season Sponsor

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA / SUMMER 2011

**Richard Wagner's
DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN (THE RING OF THE NIBELUNG)**

San Francisco production premiere of *Siegfried*: **May 29** (1 p.m.)

Production premiere of *Götterdämmerung*: **June 5** (1 p.m.)

RING CYCLES:

CYCLE 1: June 14 (8 p.m.); **June 15** (7 p.m.); **June 17** (6:30 p.m.); **June 19** (1 p.m.)

CYCLE 2: June 21 (8 p.m.); **June 22** (7 p.m.); **June 24** (6:30 p.m.); **June 26** (1 p.m.)

CYCLE 3: June 28 (8 p.m.); **June 29** (7 p.m.); **July 1** (6:30 p.m.); **July 3** (1 p.m.)

All performances at the War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco

* San Francisco Opera Debut † Current Adler Fellow ♪ Role Debut • OperaVision Performance

DAS RHEINGOLD by Richard Wagner

Co-production with Washington National Opera

Cycle performances:

June 14[•] (8 p.m.), **21[•]** (8 p.m.), and **28[•]**(8 p.m.), **2011**

Libretto by Richard Wagner

Approximate running time: 2 hours, 35 minutes with no intermission

Sung in German with English supertitles

First Performance: Munich, September 22, 1869

First SFO Performance: November 1, 1935

Most Recent SFO Performances: June 2008

Cast:

<i>Wotan</i>	Mark Delavan
<i>Loge</i>	Stefan Margita
<i>Alberich</i>	Gordon Hawkins*
<i>Fricka</i>	Larissa Diadkova
<i>Erda</i>	Ronnita Miller*♪
<i>Mime</i>	David Cangelosi
<i>Fasolt</i>	Andrea Silvestrelli
<i>Fafner</i>	Daniel Sumegi
<i>Donner</i>	Gerd Grochowski
<i>Froh</i>	Brandon Jovanovich ♪
<i>Freia</i>	Melissa Citro*♪
<i>Woglinde</i>	Stacey Tappan*
<i>Wellgunde</i>	Lauren McNeese
<i>Flosshilde</i>	Renée Tatum ♪

Production Team:

<i>Conductor</i>	Donald Runnicles
<i>Director</i>	Francesca Zambello
<i>Set Designer</i>	Michael Yeargan
<i>Costume Designer</i>	Catherine Zuber
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	Mark McCullough
<i>Projection Designer</i>	Jan Hartley
<i>Associate Projection Designer</i>	S. Katy Tucker
<i>Senior Associate Director</i>	Christian R�ath
<i>Choreographer</i>	Lawrence Pech
<i>Associate Director</i>	Jose Maria Condemi

DIE WALKÜRE by Richard Wagner

Co-production with Washington National Opera

Cycle performances:

June 15[•] (7 p.m.), **22[•]** (7 p.m.), and **29[•]** (7 p.m.), **2011**

Libretto by Richard Wagner

Approximate running time: 4 hours, 30 minutes with two intermissions

Sung in German with English supertitles

First Performance: Munich, June 26, 1870

First SFO Performance: November 4, 1935

Most Recent SFO performances: June 2010

Cast:

Brünnhilde **Nina Stemme**
Wotan **Mark Delavan**
Sieglinde **Anja Kampe***
Heidi Melton ♪ (6/29)
Siegmund **Brandon Jovanovich ♪**
Fricka **Larissa Diadkova**
Hunding **Daniel Sumegi**
Gerhilde **Sara Gartland†**
Ortlinde **Melissa Citro**
Waltraute **Daveda Karanas**
Rossweisse **Lauren McNeese**
Siegrune **Maya Lahyani†**
Grimgerde **Renée Tatum**
Schwertleite **Cybele Gouverneur**

Production Team:

Conductor **Donald Runnicles**
Director **Francesca Zambello**
Set Designer **Michael Yeagan**
Costume Designer **Catherine Zuber**
Lighting Designer **Mark McCullough**
Projection Designer **Jan Hartley**
Associate Projection Designer **S. Katy Tucker**
Senior Associate Director **Christian R ath**
Choreographer **Lawrence Pech**
Associate Director **Jose Maria Condemini**

SIEGFRIED by Richard Wagner

Co-production with Washington National Opera

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco production premiere performance:

May 29, 2011[•] (1 p.m.)

Cycle performances: **June 17[•]** (6:30 p.m.), **24[•]** (6:30 p.m.),
and **July 1[•]** (6:30 p.m.), **2011**

Libretto by Richard Wagner

Approximate running time: 4 hours, 50 minutes with two intermissions

Sung in German with English supertitles

First Performance: Bayreuth, August 16, 1876

First SFO Performance: November 6, 1935

Most Recent SFO Performances: 1999 *Ring* Festival

Cast:

Siegfried **Jay Hunter Morris* ♪**
The Wanderer (Wotan) **Mark Delavan ♪**
Brünnhilde **Nina Stemme**
Mime **David Cangelosi**
Alberich **Gordon Hawkins**
Fafner **Daniel Sumegi**
Forest Bird **Stacey Tappan**
Erda **Ronnita Miller ♪**

Production Team:

Conductor **Donald Runnicles**
Director **Francesca Zambello**
Set Designer **Michael Yeagan**
Costume Designer **Catherine Zuber**
Lighting Designer **Mark McCullough**
Projection Designer **Jan Hartley**
Associate Projection Designer **S. Katy Tucker**
Senior Associate Director **Christian R ath**
Choreographer **Lawrence Pech**

GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG by Richard Wagner

San Francisco Opera Production

Libretto by Richard Wagner

Approximate running time: 5 hours, 15 minutes with two intermissions

Sung in German with English supertitles

First Performance: Bayreuth, August 17, 1876

First SFO Performance: November 9, 1935

Most Recent SFO Performances: 1999 *Ring* Festival

Cast:

Brünnhilde **Nina Stemme** ♪
Siegfried **Ian Storey** ♪
Gunther **Gerd Grochowski**
Hagen **Andrea Silvestrelli**
Waltraute **Daveda Karanas** ♪
Gutrune **Melissa Citro** ♪
Alberich **Gordon Hawkins**
First Norn **Ronnita Miller** ♪
Second Norn **Daveda Karanas** ♪
Third Norn **Heidi Melton** ♪
Woglinde **Stacey Tappan**
Wellgunde **Lauren McNeese**
Flosshilde **Renée Tatum** ♪

NEW PRODUCTION PREMIERE

Production premiere performance: **June 5, 2011** (1 p.m.)

Cycle performances:

June 19 (1 p.m.), **26** (1 p.m.), and **July 3** (1 p.m.), 2011

Production Team:

Conductor **Donald Runnicles**
Director **Francesca Zambello**
Set Designer **Michael Yeargan**
Costume Designer **Catherine Zuber**
Lighting Designer **Mark McCullough**
Projection Designers **Jan Hartley with S. Katy Tucker**
Senior Associate Director **Christian R ath**
Choreographer **Lawrence Pech**
Chorus Director **Ian Robertson**

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For further press information or to obtain *Der Ring des Nibelungen* photographs, please visit sfopera.com/press or contact:

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