



**SAN FRANCISCO OPERA HOLDS AUDITIONS JULY 2, 2011
FOR WORLD PREMIERE PRODUCTION
*HEART OF A SOLDIER***

**SEEKING BOY SOPRANO/ALTO SINGERS AGES 7–12
FOR THE ROLE OF CYRIL RESCORLA**

SAN FRANCISCO, June 22, 2011—San Francisco Opera announces auditions for boys ages 7–12 with soprano or alto voices for the role of Cyril Rescorla in the Fall 2011 world premiere production of *Heart of a Soldier* by composer Christopher Theofanidis with libretto by Donna Di Novelli. This production will be staged by acclaimed director Francesca Zambello, whose 2011 *Ring* cycle production at San Francisco Opera is currently receiving critical and public acclaim. The opera will star renowned baritone Thomas Hampson as Rick Rescorla with tenor William Burden as Daniel J. Hill and soprano Melody Moore as Susan Rescorla.

Auditions will be held on Saturday, July 2, 2011 at 1 p.m. at the War Memorial Opera House (301 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco). Rehearsals begin August 8, 2011 with a final dress rehearsal on September 7, 2011. Performance dates are September 10, 13, 18 (matinee), 21, 24 (matinee), 27 and 30, 2011. All performances take place at the War Memorial Opera House.

This role requires strong singing and acting abilities, and candidates should have past performance experience. The ability to move well is also required. Boys should be between the ages of 7 and 12 and should be between 4'0" and 5'0" tall.

The role is fit with an AGMA Principal contract with a minimum weekly salary. The selected artist will be required to join the American Guild of Musical Artists and pay initiation fees and dues. Principal artists are notified of their daily rehearsal schedule the evening prior to their next day of work and are required to remain available for all rehearsal times, which generally take place between the

hours of 10 a.m.–11 p.m. San Francisco Opera adheres to all California laws governing the employment of minors in the entertainment industry.

Interested parties should mail or (preferably) e-mail an outline of past performance work as well as a headshot and full-body shot to Sean Waugh, San Francisco Opera, 301 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102 or swaugh@sfoopera.com with “HOAS AUD” in the subject line. Candidates selected for auditions will be alerted to audition requirements. Applications must be received by Thursday, June 30. No phone calls please.

About Heart of a Soldier

San Francisco Opera presents the world premiere of *Heart of a Soldier*, a new opera by composer Christopher Theofanidis with a libretto by Donna Di Novelli, based on the critically acclaimed non-fiction book of the same name by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist James B. Stewart and the life stories of Susan Rescorla, Rick Rescorla and Daniel J. Hill. Exploring the themes of war, love, friendship and heroism, *Heart of a Soldier* reflects on the extraordinary true story of Rick Rescorla, a man trained to be a consummate soldier who gave up his own life saving thousands in the World Trade Center attacks on September 11, 2001. Starring baritone Thomas Hampson (Rick Rescorla), tenor William Burden (Daniel J. Hill) and soprano Melody Moore (Susan Rescorla), *Heart of a Soldier* is directed Francesca Zambello and conducted by San Francisco Opera Principal Guest Conductor Patrick Summers. The production team also includes set designer Peter J. Davison, costume designer Jess Goldstein, lighting designer Mark McCullough, projection designer S. Katy Tucker and movement director Rick Sordelet. Commissioned by San Francisco Opera, *Heart of a Soldier* will premiere on Saturday, September 10, 2011—the eve of the tenth anniversary of the September 2001 World Trade Center attacks.

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For further press information, please visit www.sfoopera.com/press, or contact San Francisco Opera Communications:

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