

## SAN FRANCISCO OPERA BRAVO! CLUB CELEBRATES 90TH SEASON OPENING WITH OPENING NIGHT GALA SEPTEMBER 7, WAR MEMORIAL OPERA HOUSE

### SPECIAL 90TH SEASON OFFER PROVIDES FREE MEMBERSHIP TO BRAVO! CLUB WITH GALA TICKET PURCHASE

# BRAVO! CLUB MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE ACCESS TO DISCOUNTED TICKETS AND COMPLIMENTARTY ADMISSION TO MULTIPLE MEMBERSHIP PARTIES, EDUCATIONAL EVENTS AND PRIVATE PERFORMANCES

SAN FRANCISCO (August 2, 2012)—San Francisco Opera BRAVO! CLUB celebrates the opening of San Francisco Opera's 90th Season on September 7, 2012 with a gala opening night at the War Memorial Opera House. The evening features a glamorous pre-performance cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception in the Grand Foyer of the War Memorial Veterans Building, the opening night performance of Verdi's *Rigoletto* and a post-performance dessert and dancing party in the Green Room of the Veterans Building. In honor of San Francisco Opera's 90th season, BRAVO! CLUB is extending a special offer of complimentary membership to any non-member who purchases a gala ticket. BRAVO! CLUB membership is good for one year and provides access to \$50 Orchestra and \$35 Dress Circle tickets through BRAVO! Tix, in addition to complimentary admission to the many social and educational events that BRAVO! hosts each season.

BRAVO! CLUB, San Francisco Opera's group of young professionals dedicated to building a new audience for opera, presents its 21st annual opening night gala on Friday, September 7, co-chaired by Eva Binda and Ileana Facchini. BRAVO! CLUB begins the evening at 6 p.m. with an extended pre-performance cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception by Patina Catering in the Grand Foyer of the War Memorial Veterans Building followed by the opening night performance of Verdi's *Rigoletto*. The post-performance festivities continue with dessert and dancing to the music of DJ Rukus in the elegant Green Room of the War Memorial Veterans Building, which will be transformed with rich Italian Renaissance-style décor. BRAVO!

CLUB's Opening Night Gala is generously supported by Asset Management Company, Black Stallion Estate Winery, Irony, Jen's Desserts, Uber, CODE Salon, Cultivar Winery and Wilkes Bashford.

"I love the opera because it combines so many artistic elements—singing, music, drama, dancing, etc.—that it is like going to a concert, a symphony, and a play all at the same time," says Barclay Rogers, Director of Development at C12 Energy and President of the BRAVO! CLUB board of directors, "and the Gala is truly the most spectacular night on the San Francisco social calendar."

In honor of San Francisco Opera's 90th anniversary, BRAVO! CLUB is extending a complimentary membership (\$60 value) to any non-member who purchases a gala ticket. Membership is valid for one year and expires July 31, 2013. Additionally, to celebrate the opening of the season, BRAVO! CLUB is holding a Gala Makeover Contest. Nine lucky winners will receive an appointment at CODE Salon in San Francisco for either a hair styling or makeup application. Any person who purchases a gala ticket is automatically entered into the contest drawing. For more information about BRAVO! CLUB membership and the Opening Night Gala, please visit *sfopera.com/bravo*. For Gala Makeover Contest rules, visit *www.sfopera.com/Bravo-Club/BRAVO!-CLUB-Enter-to-Win-Rules.aspx* 

San Francisco Opera's BRAVO! CLUB is a young professionals group of people aged 21–40 who are dedicated to cultivating new generations of opera lovers in the Bay Area through social, educational and volunteer experiences. BRAVO! membership costs \$60 annually and provides access to a wide array of events throughout the opera season. Examples of yearly BRAVO! CLUB events include several membership parties, multiple educational events such as the Sneak Peek with General Director David Gockley and an event with San Francisco Opera's Adler Fellows, two pre-gala ancillary parties and the exclusive annual Luminary Event featuring a prominent opera star. In addition to unique social events, BRAVO! CLUB members also enjoy BRAVO! Tix—the deepest ticket discount offered by San Francisco Opera. BRAVO! Tix, available only to club members, offer discounted prices for Orchestra seats (\$50) and Dress Circle seats (\$35) at San Francisco Opera performances. BRAVO! members who choose to subscribe to the BRAVO! CLUB Trio Series also are invited to complimentary pre-performance receptions in the Intermezzo Lounge.

"I had just moved to San Francisco from Washington D. C. upon graduating from college. I wanted to find nice, fun people outside of work who were passionate about the arts," says Eva Binda, GeoCommerce Strategy Associate at Google. "After I attended my first BRAVO! event, I knew I found the right group and haven't looked back since."

"As a long-time opera lover, I was thrilled to discover BRAVO! CLUB when I moved back to the city after school. Through my involvement in the organization, I've had a chance to make dear friends who share my interests and get involved meaningfully in an important part of San Francisco's social fabric," says Adam Arthur Bier, Managing Shareholder at Bier Legal, P.C. "Additionally, BRAVO! Tix has been an absolutely wonderful way to introduce my non-opera friends to this life-changing art form!"

### TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Tickets for BRAVO! CLUB'S *Opening Night Gala*, which include performance tickets, are priced from \$250 to \$425 and may be purchased at *sfopera.com/bravogala*.

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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, Bernard and Barbro Osher, and Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem. 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, the Official Airline of San Francisco Opera, and Chevron, fueling great performances everywhere.

Company Sponsors John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn, and Mrs. Edmund W. Littlefield are proud to support *Rigoletto*. This production is made possible, in part, by Opening Weekend Grand Sponsor Diane B. Wilsey. Major support for this production also provided by the Great Interpreters of Italian Opera Fund established by Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem. Nicola Luisotti's appearance made possible by Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem, Chairs, Amici di Nicola of Camerata. Mr. Lučić's appearance is made possible by a gift to the Great Singers Fund by Joan and David Traitel.

Yamaha is the official piano of San Francisco Opera. Pianos provided by Music Exchange.



2012-13 Season Sponsor

For further press information or to obtain *Opera Ball* and 2012–13 Season–related photographs, please visit sfopera.com/press or contact:

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