SAN FRANCISCO
OPERA

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA ANNOUNCES 2013–14 SEASON

Mefistofele
Company's 91st Season Begins Friday, September 6 with Gala Opening Night of Boito's Faust drama, featuring Ildar Abdrazakov, Patricia Racette and Ramón Vargas in Robert Carsen's acclaimed production conducted by Nicola Luisotti

Dolores Claiborne
World Premiere of new opera by Tobias Picker and J. D. McClatchy, based on Stephen King's novel, starring Dolora Zajick and Elizabeth Futral with director James Robinson, conductor George Manahan

Falstaff,* Requiem and *La Traviata
Music Director Nicola Luisotti leads the Company's Verdi bicentennial celebration

Der fliegende Holländer/The Flying Dutchman
Wagner bicentennial distinguished with new Petrika Ionesco production starring Greer Grimsley and Petra Maria Schnitzer led by Company Principal Guest Conductor Patrick Summers

Il Barbiere di Siviglia/The Barber of Seville
New production of Rossini's comedy featuring Lucas Meachem/Audun Iversen, Isabele Leonard/Daniela Mack and Javier Camarena/Alek Shrader with director Emilio Sagi and Company Resident Conductor Giuseppe Finzi

Madama Butterfly
Puccini's romantic drama returns in a bold innovative production new to San Francisco by Japanese designer Jun Kaneko starring Patricia Racette and directed by Leslie Swackhamer

Show Boat
Company Premiere of Francesca Zambello production of Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II's legendary musical starring Heidi Stober, Patricia Racette and Nathan Gunn conducted by John DeMain

San Francisco Announces Opera Commission of *La Ciociara* by Marco Tutino, Premiering 2015

All performances feature the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus at the War Memorial Opera House

For Tickets, call (415) 864-3330 or www.sfopera.com

SAN FRANCISCO (Monday, December 3, 2012)—San Francisco Opera General Director David Gockley today announced the repertory, guest artists, conductors and creative teams for the Company's 2013–14 Season. A highlight of the Company's 91st season will be the world premiere of *Dolores Claiborne*, a new opera commissioned by San Francisco Opera based on the 1992 novel by award-winning author Stephen King and marking the Company debuts of American composer Tobias Picker and librettist J. D. McClatchy. Joining David Gockley at the press conference were *Dolores Claiborne* cast members Dolora Zajick and Elizabeth Futral, in addition to Tobias Picker, J. D. McClatchy and stage director James Robinson.

Dolores Claiborne is David Gockley's sixth commissioned work for San Francisco Opera since his appointment as company general director in 2006. Previous operas commissioned by Gockley include *Appomattox* (2007), *The Bonesetter's Daughter* (2008), *Heart of a Soldier* (2011), and upcoming presentations of *The Secret Garden* (March 2013) and *The Gospel of Mary Magdalene* (June 2013).

In a related announcement, San Francisco Opera confirmed plans to commission Italian composer Marco Tutino for a new work, *La Ciociara (Two Women)*, based on 20th century Italian author Alberto Moravia's novel of the same name, with a libretto by the composer and Fabio Ceresa, adapted from a script by Luigi Rossi, by arrangement with Studio Legale Cau Morandi Minutillo Turtur. Moravia's critically acclaimed 1958 work was quickly adapted in 1960 by noted Italian film producer Carlo Ponti into a film which starred Sophia Loren. Sung in Italian, Tutino's *La Ciociara*, will be conducted by Nicola Luisotti at the War Memorial Opera House in June 2015. San Francisco Opera has commissioned seven operas under David Gockley's leadership and this work will mark the 40th commission of his career.

Other season highlights include the Company's official celebration of the bicentennial birthdays of Giuseppe Verdi and Richard Wagner with four works; six productions new to Bay Area audiences; and the Company debut of Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II's landmark 1927 musical drama *Show Boat*. The season will be officially launched Friday, September 6, 2013 with a gala performance of Arrigo Boito's *Mefistofele*, a lyrical retelling of Goethe's *Faust* legend, conducted by San Francisco Opera Music Director Nicola Luisotti and featuring the Company's acclaimed Robert Carsen production. All performances include the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus at the historic War Memorial Opera House.

San Francisco Opera General Director David Gockley commented, "We have a good mix of repertory for next year, and I'm especially pleased that we will have the opportunity to offer debuts of a number of very important singers and designers. In addition to celebrating the bicentennials of Verdi and Wagner, we will also have the chance to present the world premiere of Tobias Picker and J. D. McClatchy's adaptation of Stephen King's thrilling story, *Dolores Claiborne*. If ever there was a Stephen King novel that had all the makings for the lyric stage, this is certainly the one."

San Francisco Opera Music Director Nicola Luisotti commented, "To open the new season with Boito's *Mefistofele*, an opera beloved and championed by Verdi himself, means a lot to me as we celebrate the bicentennial season of Verdi. I'm honored to lead the Company's recognition

of Italy's finest opera composer, Giuseppe Verdi with his final masterpiece *Falstaff*, set to a libretto by Boito, followed by his soul-stirring Requiem Mass, and later with the great romantic drama, *La Traviata*. I'm sure Maestro Verdi would be very pleased."

The Company's main-stage season will continue to be heard nationwide and abroad on the San Francisco Opera International Radio Broadcast series presenting taped live performances from the 2013–14 season, in addition to select archival recordings that have been recently re-mastered and digitized. These monthly broadcasts will be heard locally in the Bay Area on Classical KDFC FM and nationwide via the WFMT radio network. Annually, more than 4 million individuals listen to San Francisco Opera on their local radio station or online.

In addition to planned main-stage performances, San Francisco Opera will offer two beloved al fresco concerts*: Opera in the Park* at Golden Gate Park's Sharon Meadow and Opera at Sigmund Stern Grove; the annual Adler Fellows Gala Concert; the Schwabacher Recital Series; and the very popular free community simulcast, *Opera at the Ballpark*, presented live at AT&T Park, home of the World Series-winning San Francisco Giants.

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA DEBUTS

The 2013–14 Season features the Company debuts of renowned artists, including soprano Sonya Yoncheva (Violetta Valéry/*La Traviata*); mezzo-soprano Isabel Leonard (Rosina/*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*); tenor Javier Camarena (Count Almaviva/ *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*); baritones Fabio Capitanucci (Ford/*Falstaff*), Audun Iversen (Figaro/*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*) and Vladimir Stoyanov (Giorgio Germont/*La Traviata*); and bass-baritone Maurizio Muraro (Doctor Bartolo/*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*).

ACCLAIMED RETURNING ARTISTS

Many singers will be returning to the War Memorial Opera House, including sopranos Ainhoa Arteta (Mistress Alice Ford/*Falstaff*), Susannah Biller (Selena St. George/*Dolores Claiborne*), Elizabeth Futral (Vera Donovan/*Dolores Claiborne*), Ailyn Pérez (Violetta Valéry/*La Traviata*), Patricia Racette (Marguerite, Elena/*Mefistofele*; Julie La Verne/*Show Boat*; Cio-Cio-San/*Madama Butterfly*), Petra Maria Schnitzer (Senta/*Der Fliegende Holländer*), Angela Renée Simpson (Queenie/*Show Boat*) and Heidi Stober (Nannetta/*Falstaff*; Magnolia Hawks/*Show Boat*); mezzo-sopranos Catherine Cook (Berta/*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*), Elizabeth DeShong (Suzuki/*Madama Butterfly*), Daniela Mack (Rosina/*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*), and Dolora Zajick (Dolores Claiborne/*Dolores Claiborne*); contralto Meredith Arwady (Mistress Quickly/*Falstaff*); tenors Stephen Costello (Alfredo Germont/*La Traviata*), Francesco Demuro (Fenton/*Falstaff*), Greg Fedderly (Detective Thibodeau/*Dolores Claiborne*), Brian Jagde (Pinkerton/*Madama Butterfly*), Saimir Pirgu (Alfredo Germont/*La Traviata*), Alek Shrader (Count Almaviva/*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*), Ian Storey (Erik/*Der Fliegende Holländer*), and Ramón Vargas (Faust/*Mefistofele*); baritones Alessandro Corbelli (Doctor Bartolo/*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*), Nathan Gunn (Gaylord Ravenal/*Show Boat*), Quinn Kelsey (Giorgio Germont/*La Traviata*), Lucas Meachem (Figaro/*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*) and Brian Mulligan (Sharpless/*Madama Butterfly*); bass-baritones Greer Grimsley (The Dutchman/*Der Fliegende Holländer*), Bryn Terfel (Sir John Falstaff/*Falstaff*) and Wayne Tigges (Joe/*Dolores Claiborne*); and basses Ildar Abdrazakov (Mefistofele/*Mefistofele*),

Morris Robinson (Joe/*Show Boat*), Kristinn Sigmundsson (Daland/*Der Fliegende Holländer*) and Andrea Silvestrelli (Don Basilio/*Il Barbiere di Siviglia;* Pistola*/Falstaff*).

CONDUCTORS AND CREATIVE TEAMS

Conducting the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus will be Company Music Director Nicola Luisotti (*Mefistofele, Falstaff*, Verdi Requiem, *La Traviata* and *Madama Butterfly*), Principal Guest Conductor Patrick Summers (*Der Fliegende Holländer*) and Resident Conductor Giuseppe Finzi (*Il Barbiere di Siviglia, La Traviata* and *Madama Butterfly)*; returning conductor John DeMain (*Show Boat*)*;* and George Manahan (*Dolores Claiborne*) making his Company debut. The San Francisco Opera Chorus is led by Chorus Director Ian Robertson and Associate Chorus Master Fabrizio Corona.

The creative teams featured in the 2013–14 Season comprise many respected directors and designers: James Robinson directs a world premiere production featuring the work of scenic designer Allen Moyer, costume designer James Schuette, lighting designer Christopher Akerlind and projection designer Greg Emetaz (*Dolores Claiborne*); Francesca Zambello directs her stunning new production with sets designed by Peter J. Davison, costumes by Paul Tazewell, lighting design by Mark McCullough, sound design by Tod Nixon, and choreography by Michele Lynch (*Show Boat*); director Emilio Sagi leads an innovative new production with sets designed by Lorenç Corbella and costumes by Pepa Ojanguren (*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*); Petrika Ionesco directs a production he also designed, with costumes by Lili Kendaka and projections by S. Katy Tucker (*Der fliegende Holländer*); French stage director Olivier Tambosi directs a whimsical production designed by Frank Philipp Schlossman (*Falstaff*); Leslie Swackhamer directs a bold and colorful production created by Japanese sculptor and artist Jun Kaneko (*Madama Butterfly*); and Laurie Feldman directs Robert Carsen's San Francisco Opera production, featuring designs by Michael Levine (*Mefistofele*) and John Copley's San Francisco Opera production designed by John Conklin with costumes by David Walker (*La Traviata*).

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S 2013–14 SEASON

World Premiere

***Dolores Claiborne* – Tobias Picker and J. D. McClatchy**
Based on the novel by Stephen King
By arrangement with Andrew Welch
San Francisco Opera presents the world premiere of **Tobias Picker** and **J. D. McClatchy**'s opera *Dolores Claiborne*, based on the best-selling novel of the same name by award-winning author **Stephen King** and presented by arrangement with British theatrical producer Andrew Welch. In 1995 King's novel was also adapted into a feature film starring Kathy Bates, Jennifer Jason Leigh and Judy Parfitt. This San Francisco Opera commission will star mezzo-soprano **Dolora Zajick** in the title role alongside **Elizabeth Futral** as Vera Donovan, **Susannah Biller** as Claiborne's daughter Selena St. George, **Wayne Tigges** as her abusive husband Joe St. George, and **Greg Fedderly** as Detective Thibodeau. In his Company debut, **George Manahan** will conduct and **James Robinson**, whose previous assignments at the War Memorial Opera House include the 2009 season productions of *Il Trittico* and *Salome*, will return to direct. This new production will

also feature the work of set designer **Allen Moyer**, costume designer **James Schuette**, lighting designer **Christopher Akerlind** and projection designer **Greg Emetaz**. This two-act opera, sung in English, is Picker and McClatchy's first opera commissioned by San Francisco Opera, and reunites them since their first collaboration on *Emmeline,* for the Santa Fe Opera in 1996.

Company Premiere

***Show Boat* – Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II**
A true classic of American musical theater, this Company premiere of *Show Boat*, with music by **Jerome Kern** and book and lyrics by **Oscar Hammerstein II**, features director **Francesca Zambello**'s new grand-scale production. A beloved story of life on the Mississippi in the 1920's, *Show Boat* is both a poignant love story and a powerful reminder of the bitter legacy of racism. American soprano **Heidi Stober** returns to San Francisco Opera to make her role debut as Magnolia Hawks and soprano **Patricia Racette** returns to take on the role of Julie La Verne for the first time. Baritone **Nathan Gunn** is the handsome gambler Gaylord Ravenal, **Morris Robinson** is Joe and **Angela Renée Simpson** is his wife Queenie. Maestro **John DeMain**, who last conducted San Francisco Opera's 2009 production of another music theater masterpiece, the Gershwins' *Porgy and Bess*, will lead the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus. Zambello's stunning production features choreography by **Michele Lynch**, sets by **Peter J. Davison**, costumes by **Paul Tazewell**, lighting design by **Mark McCullough** and sound design by **Tod Nixon**. This San Francisco Opera co-production premiered at Lyric Opera of Chicago in February 2012 and these performances will reunite the creative team the created the original production.

In conjunction with these performances, the San Francisco Opera Education Department will present Exploration Workshops for the whole family. To receive updates regarding Exploration Workshops, sign up for E-Opera at *sfopera.com/EOpera*.

New Productions

***Il Barbiere di Siviglia* (*The Barber of Seville*) – Gioachino Rossini**
Rossini's witty and charming tale of a wily barber, a strong-willed young woman and a lecherous old man, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* features two charismatic casts in a fresh new San Francisco Opera production. One cast is led by baritone **Lucas Meachem** as Figaro as well as American mezzo-soprano **Isabel Leonard** as Rosina and Mexican tenor **Javier Camarena** as Count Almaviva, both in their Company debuts. Italian baritone **Alessandro Corbelli** returns as the elderly Doctor Bartolo. The next cast features Norwegian baritone **Audun Iversen** in his United States debut and the return of two former Adler fellows: mezzo-soprano **Daniela Mack** as Rosina and tenor **Alek Shrader** as Count Almaviva. Bass-baritone **Maurizio Muraro** appears with the Company for the first time as Doctor Bartolo. Both casts are completed by bass **Andrea Silvestrelli** as Don Basilio and mezzo-soprano **Catherine Cook** as Berta. San Francisco Opera Resident Conductor **Giuseppe Finzi** conducts the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus in this new production directed by **Emilio Sagi** with sets designed by **Lorenç Corbella** and costumes by **Pepa Ojanguren**.

***Der fliegende Holländer* (*The Flying Dutchman)* – Richard Wagner**
Wagner's mythic tale of a condemned ship captain and the woman who will do anything to redeem him, *Der Fliegende Holländer* is presented in an inventive co-production with Opéra Royal de Wallonie (Belgium). This production is presented in celebration of the bicentennial of Richard Wagner's birth. Bass-baritone **Greer Grimsley**, who thrilled San Francisco audiences as a powerful Jokanaan in 2009's *Salome*, returns in the title role. Other noted Wagnerians complete the cast: **Petra Maria Schnitzer** in her role debut as the Dutchman's steadfast love Senta, **Ian Storey** (Siegfried in 2011's *Götterdämmerung)* as Erik and **Kristinn Sigmundsson** as Daland. San Francisco Opera Principal Guest Conductor **Patrick Summers** conducts and **Petrika Ionesco** (who also directed and designed 2010's *Cyrano de Bergerac*) directs a production he also designed, with costumes by **Lili Kendaka** and projections by **S. Katy Tucker**.

<u>Productions New to the Bay Area</u>

***Falstaff* – Giuseppe Verdi**
A brilliant comedy about a lecherous glutton who vainly attempts to seduce two women at once, *Falstaff* features Welsh bass-baritone **Bryn Terfel** in one of his legendary signature roles. Spanish soprano **Ainhoa Arteta** is Mistress Alice Ford and Italian baritone **Fabio Capitanucci** makes his Company debut as her husband Ford. Soprano **Heidi Stober** returns as Nannetta, **Meredith Arwady** is Mistress Quickly and **Francesco Demuro** is Fenton. This Lyric Opera of Chicago production, designed by **Frank Philipp Schlossman**, is directed by French stage director **Olivier Tambosi** and conducted by **Nicola Luisotti**.

***Madama Butterfly* – Giacomo Puccini**
Puccini's beautiful yet tragic love story pairs soprano **Patricia Racette** and tenor **Brian Jagde,** who recently appeared together in the Company's Fall 2012 production of Puccini's *Tosca,* as the geisha Cio-Cio-San and Lieutenant B. F. Pinkerton. Mezzo-soprano **Elizabeth DeShong** is Butterfly's maid and confidante Suzuki, and **Brian Mulligan** is the American consul Sharpless. Following the great success of **Jun Kaneko**'s new production of *The Magic Flute* in 2012, these performances will feature Kaneko's bold and colorful production and costume designs and will be directed by **Leslie Swackhamer**. Music Director **Nicola Luisotti** conducts and Resident Conductor **Giuseppe Finzi** leads the final two performances.

<u>Revivals of San Francisco Opera Productions</u>

***Mefistofele (Mephistopheles)* – Arrigo Boito**
San Francisco Opera's season opens with Boito's setting of Goethe's *Faust*, in one of the most impressive productions ever seen at the War Memorial Opera House. The title role of Mefistofele is sung by Russian bass **Ildar Abdrazakov** in his staged role debut, soprano **Patricia Racette** appears as both Marguerite and Elena, and Mexican tenor **Ramón Vargas** is Faust, the philosopher who sells his soul to the devil in exchange for perpetual youth, in his fully-staged role debut as well. Music Director **Nicola Luisotti** conducts the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus in this monumental work of "choral grandeur and melodic richness" (*The New York Times*). **Robert Carsen**'s impressive San Francisco Opera production, featuring designs by **Michael Levine**, is directed by **Laurie Feldman**. This production, in a performance from 1989 with Samuel Ramey in the title role, was recorded and initially available on VHS and aired as part of WNET's "Great Performances," and more recently available on DVD.

***La Traviata* – Giuseppe Verdi**
Two spectacular casts bring to life Verdi's most beloved opera, *La Traviata*. Portraying the deceptively high-spirited yet delicate Violetta Valéry are Bulgarian soprano **Sonya Yoncheva** in her United States operatic debut and American soprano **Ailyn Pérez**. Complementing Yoncheva as Violetta's beloved Alfredo Germont is Albanian tenor **Saimir Pirgu**, and Bulgarian baritone **Vladimir Stoyanov** is Alfredo's controlling father Giorgio Germont. Opposite Pérez are American tenor **Stephen Costello** as Alfredo Germont and Hawaiian baritone **Quinn Kelsey** as Giorgio Germont. This beloved and opulent San Francisco Opera production, conceived by **John Copley** and designed by **John Conklin** with costumes by **David Walker**, will be directed by **Laurie Feldman**. Music Director **Nicola Luisotti** and Resident Conductor **Giuseppe Finzi** will share the conducting assignment.

SPECIAL EVENTS
Nicola Luisotti Conducts the Verdi Requiem, October 25
The Barber of Seville for Families, November 24 & 30

San Francisco Opera and Music Director Nicola Luisotti will celebrate Giuseppe Verdi's bicentennial with a special performance of the Italian master's Requiem on October 25, 2013. The San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus will be joined by a quartet of superb soloists: soprano Leah Crocetto, mezzo-soprano Jamie Barton, tenor Michael Fabiano and bass Vitalij Kowaljow.

San Francisco Opera will present *The Barber of Seville for Families*, a two-hour version of this season's exciting production, in two afternoon performances sung in English with English supertitles on November 24 and 30, 2013. A perfect introduction to opera for children and audiences of all ages, the captivating music of this ever-popular work will thrill opera newcomers. This production will feature an engaging young cast of San Francisco Opera Adler Fellows and features a new English translation by Marcie Stapp, commissioned by San Francisco Opera. In conjunction with these performances, the San Francisco Opera Education Department will present Exploration Workshops for the whole family. To receive updates regarding Exploration Workshops, sign up for E-Opera at *sfopera.com/EOpera*.

OPENING WEEKEND FESTIVITIES
Opening Night Galas, September 6
Opera in the Park, September 8

San Francisco Opera's 91st season opens on Friday, September 6 with Boito's *Mefistofele,* conducted by Music Director Nicola Luisotti and featuring an illustrious cast that includes Ildar Abdrazakov, Patricia Racette and Ramón Vargas. A highlight of the City's cultural and philanthropic season, the Opening Night Gala festivities include *Opera Ball 2013*, presented in collaboration with the San Francisco Opera Guild and benefiting San Francisco Opera and the Opera Guild's education and community programs, and BRAVO! CLUB's *Opening Night Gala*, geared toward young professionals.

The season-opening weekend concludes with *San Francisco Opera in the Park* on Sunday, September 8 in Golden Gate Park's Sharon Meadow. This free annual concert features artists from the Company's Fall 2013 season and the San Francisco Opera Orchestra conducted by Maestro Luisotti.

Please see the Season Summary release for 2013–14 Season summary information and selected biographies.

High resolution downloadable photographs of 2013–14 Season productions and artists are available at *sfopera.com/press*.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Subscriptions for San Francisco Opera's 2013–14 Season are priced from $152 to $2,712 for Full Series (8 operas) and $78 to $1,695 for Half Series (4 or 5 operas); these prices reflect discounts of up to 30% over single ticket prices. Thematically designed Mini Series (3 or 4 operas) are priced from $94 to $1,206, with savings up to 10%. For travelers, Out of Town Series offer two or three operas in two or three days and are priced from $70 to $1,017, also with savings up to 10%. **Subscriptions are on sale to new and renewing subscribers beginning January 14, 2013 at the San Francisco Opera Box Office, by calling (415) 864-3330 or online at *sfopera.com*.**

2013–14 Season brochures will be mailed on January 14, 2013.

Single tickets for San Francisco Opera's 2012–13 Season are priced from $23 to $385 and will go on sale in July 2013.

Tickets for the Verdi Requiem concert on October 25, 2013 are priced from $25 to $250 and may be purchased with subscription orders; single tickets will be available in July 2013.

Tickets for the November 24 and 30, 2013 *The Barber of Seville for Families* presentations are priced from $10 to $45 for children and $25 to $90 for adults and may be purchased with subscription orders; single tickets will be available in July 2013.

The September 8 *Opera in the Park* concert is free and open to the public; no tickets required. Visit *sfopera.com/park* for more information.

Please visit *sfopera.com* for further details, or call the Opera Box Office at (415) 864-3330. San Francisco Opera Box Office winter hours: Monday 10am–5pm; Tuesday through Friday 10am–6pm. All cast, programs, prices and schedules are subject to change.

All War Memorial Opera House performances (except the September 6 season opening) feature an informative Pre-Opera Talk 55 minutes prior to curtain. Pre-Opera Talks are presented free of charge to patrons with tickets for the corresponding performance. Visit *sfopera.com/operatalks* for more information.

Opera Guild Preview Lectures are scheduled in communities throughout the greater Bay Area by local Guild chapters. Renowned musicologists lead in-depth presentations to familiarize the audience with repertoire from the current season. Admission prices vary. Visit *sfopera.com/previews* for more information.

Opera Guild Insight Panel Discussions feature renowned artists and personalities from the world of opera who share their insights and experiences during informal panel discussions. Free to Opera members and subscribers, $5 for non-members. Visit *sfopera.com/insights* for more information.

OperaVision screens, hung from the ceiling of the balcony section at selected performances, provide close-up and mid-range ensemble shots in high-definition video. English subtitles appear at the bottom of each screen. There is a per-ticket surcharge of $2 to $7 to offset the cost of this service. OperaVision is made possible by the Koret-Taube Media Suite. See calendar listing for OperaVision dates.

The War Memorial Opera House is located at 301 Van Ness Avenue. 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 further public transportation information, visit *bart.gov* and *sfmuni.com.*

2013–14 OPERA SEASON CASTING AND CALENDAR

* San Francisco Opera Debut ✝ Current Adler Fellow ♪ Role Debut ^ U.S. Debut ● OperaVision Performance
All performances take place at the War Memorial Opera House unless noted.

FALL 2013 OPERA SEASON

MEFISTOFELE by Arrigo Boito
(*MEPHISTOPHELES*)

San Francisco Opera Production

September 6 (8 p.m.)**, 11** (7:30 p.m.), **14** (8 p.m.), **17●** (7:30 p.m.), **20** (8 p.m.), **24●** (8 p.m.), **29●** (2 p.m.); **October 2●** (7:30 p.m.), **2013**

Libretto by Arrigo Boito
Approximate running time: 3 hours, 30 minutes with two intermissions
Sung in Italian with English supertitles

First Performance:	Milan, March 5, 1868
First SFO Performance:	October 1, 1923
Most Recent SFO Performances:	November 1994

Cast:

Mefistofele	**Ildar Abdrazakov**
Marguerite, Elena	**Patricia Racette**
Faust	**Ramón Vargas**

Production Team:

Conductor	**Nicola Luisotti**
Director	**Laurie Feldman**
Production Designer	**Robert Carsen**
	Michael Levine
Lighting Designer	**Duane Schuler**
Chorus Director	**Ian Robertson**
Choreographer	**Alphonse Poulin**

DOLORES CLAIBORNE

Music by Tobias Picker*
Libretto by J. D. McClatchy*
Based on the novel *Dolores Claiborne* by Stephen King
By arrangement with Andrew Welch
Commissioned by San Francisco Opera

WORLD PREMIERE
September 18• (7:30 p.m.), **22•** (2 p.m.), **25•** (7:30 p.m.), **28•** (8 p.m.); **October 1** (8 p.m.), **4** (8 p.m.), **2013**

San Francisco Opera co-production with Opera Theatre of St. Louis

Approximate running time: 2 hours, 30 minutes with one intermission
Sung in English with English supertitles

Cast:

Dolores Claiborne	**Dolora Zajick♪**
Vera Donovan	**Elizabeth Futral♪**
Selena St. George	**Susannah Biller♪**
Joe St. George	**Wayne Tigges♪**
Detective Thibodeau	**Greg Fedderly♪**
Mr. Pease	**Joel Sorensen♪**

Production Team:

Conductor	**George Manahan***
Director	**James Robinson**
Set Designer	**Allen Moyer**
Costume Designer	**James Schuette***
Lighting Designer	**Christopher Akerlind**
Projection Designer	**Greg Emetaz***
Chorus Director	**Ian Robertson**

FALSTAFF by Giuseppe Verdi

Lyric Opera of Chicago Production

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO
October 8 (8 p.m.), **11** (8 p.m.), **15** (7:30 p.m.), **20•** (2 p.m.), **24•** (7:30 p.m.), **27•** (2 p.m.), **30•** (7:30 p.m.); **November 2** (8 p.m.), **2013**

Libretto by Arrigo Boito
Approximate running time: 3 hours with two intermissions
Sung in Italian with English supertitles

First Performance:	Milan, February 9, 1893
First SFO Performance:	September 27, 1927
Most Recent SFO Performances:	November 2001

Cast:

Sir John Falstaff	**Bryn Terfel**
Mistress Alice Ford	**Ainhoa Arteta**
Nannetta	**Heidi Stober**
Mistress Quickly	**Meredith Arwady**
Fenton	**Francesco Demuro**
Ford	**Fabio Capitanucci***
Mistress Meg Page	**Renée Rapier†**
Bardolfo	**Greg Fedderly**
Dr. Caius	**Joel Sorensen**
Pistola	**Andrea Silvestrelli**

Production Team:

Conductor	**Nicola Luisotti**
Director	**Olivier Tambosi**
Production Designer	**Frank Philipp Schlossman**
Lighting Designer	**Christine Binder**
Chorus Director	**Ian Robertson**

DER FLIEGENDE HOLLÄNDER by Richard Wagner
(The Flying Dutchman)

NEW PRODUCTION

October 22 (8 p.m.), **26** (8 p.m.), **31** (7:30 p.m.);
November 3• (2 p.m.), **7•** (7:30 p.m.),
12• (7:30 p.m.), **15** (8 p.m.), **2013**

San Francisco Opera co-production with
Opéra Royal de Wallonie (Belgium)

Libretto by Richard Wagner
Approximate running time: 3 hours with one intermission
Sung in German with English supertitles

First Performance:	Dresden, January 2, 1843
First SFO Performance:	October 5, 1954
Most Recent SFO Performances:	November 2004

Cast:

The Dutchman	**Greer Grimsley**
Senta	**Petra Maria Schnitzer♪**
Erik	**Ian Storey**
Daland	**Kristinn Sigmundsson**

Production Team:

Conductor	**Patrick Summers**
Director	**Petrika Ionesco**
Set Designer	**Petrika Ionesco**
Costume Designer	**Lili Kendaka**
Projection Designer	**S. Katy Tucker**
Lighting Designer	**Gary Marder**
Chorus Director	**Ian Robertson**

IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA by Gioachino Rossini
(THE BARBER OF SEVILLE)

NEW PRODUCTION

November 13• (7:30 p.m.), **14** (7:30 p.m.),
16• (8 p.m.), **17•** (2 p.m.), **19** (8 p.m.), **20** (7:30 p.m.),
22 (8 p.m.), **23** (8 p.m.), **26** (8 p.m.), **29** (8 p.m.);
December 1 (2 p.m.), **2013**

San Francisco Opera Production

Libretto by Cesare Sterbini
Approximate running time: 3 hours with one intermission
Sung in Italian with English supertitles

First Performance:	Rome, February 20, 1816
First SFO Performance:	September 24, 1925
Most Recent SFO Performances:	October 2006

Cast:

Figaro	**Lucas Meachem** **Audun Iversen^** (11/14), (11/17), (11/20), (11/23), (11/29)
Rosina	**Isabel Leonard*** **Daniela Mack** (11/14), (11/17), (11/20), (11/23), (11/29)
Count Almaviva	**Javier Camarena*** **Alek Shrader** (11/14), (11/17), (11/20), (11/23), (11/29)
Doctor Bartolo	**Alessandro Corbelli** **Maurizio Muraro*** (11/14), (11/17), (11/20), (11/23), (11/29)
Don Basilio	**Andrea Silvestrelli**
Berta	**Catherine Cook**

Production Team:

Conductor	**Giuseppe Finzi**
Director	**Emilio Sagi**
Set Designer	**Lorenç Corbella***
Costume Designer	**Pepa Ojanguren***
Chorus Director	**Ian Robertson**

SUMMER 2014 OPERA SEASON

SHOW BOAT by Jerome Kern

COMPANY PREMIERE

June 1• (2 p.m.), **3** (8 p.m.)**, 10•** (7:30 p.m.), **13•** (8p.m.), **19•** (7:30 p.m.), **22** (2 p.m.), **26** (7:30 p.m.), **28** (8 p.m.); **July 1** (8 p.m.), **2** (7:30 p.m.), **2014**

San Francisco Opera co-production with Lyric Opera of Chicago, Washington National Opera and Houston Grand Opera; presented through special arrangement with R & H Theatricals

Book and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Based on the novel *Show Boat* by Edna Ferber
Approximate running time: 3 hours with one intermission
Sung in English with English supertitles
First Performance: December 27, 1927

Cast:

Magnolia Hawks	**Heidi Stober♪**
Julie La Verne	**Patricia Racette♪**
Queenie	**Angela Renée Simpson**
Gaylord Ravenal	**Nathan Gunn**
Joe	**Morris Robinson**

Production Team:

Conductor	**John DeMain**
Director	**Francesca Zambello**
Set Designer	**Peter J. Davison**
Costume Designer	**Paul Tazewell**
Lighting Designer	**Mark McCullough**
Sound Designer	**Tod Nixon**
Chorus Director	**Ian Robertson**
Choreographer	**Michele Lynch***

LA TRAVIATA by Giuseppe Verdi

June 11 (7:30 p.m.), **14** (8 p.m.), **17** (8 p.m.), **20•** (8 p.m.), **25•** (7:30 p.m.), **29•** (2 p.m.); **July 5** (8 p.m.), **8** (7:30 p.m.), **11** (8 p.m.), **13** (2 p.m.), **2014**

San Francisco Opera Production

Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave
Approximate running time: 3 hours with two intermissions
Sung in Italian with English supertitles

First Performance:	Venice, March 6, 1853
First SFO Performance:	October 4, 1924
Most recent SFO Performances:	June 2009

Cast:

Violetta Valéry	**Sonya Yoncheva^** **Ailyn Pérez** (7/5), (7/8), (7/11) (7/13)
Alfredo Germont	**Saimir Pirgu** **Stephen Costello** (7/5), (7/8), (7/11), (7/13)
Giorgio Germont	**Vladimir Stoyanov*** **Quinn Kelsey** (7/5), (7/8), (7/11), (7/13)

Production Team:

Conductor	**Nicola Luisotti** **Giuseppe Finzi** (7/5, 7/8, 7/11, 7/13)
Original Director	**John Copley**
Director	**Laurie Feldman**
Set Designer	**John Conklin**
Costume Designer	**David Walker**
Lighting Designer	**Gary Marder**
Chorus Director	**Ian Robertson**

MADAMA BUTTERFLY by Giacomo Puccini

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO

June 15• (2 p.m.), **18** (7:30 p.m.), **21** (8 p.m.), **24** (8 p.m.), **27•** (8 p.m.); **July 3•** (7:30 p.m.), **6** (2 p.m.), **9** (7:30 p.m.), **2014**

Opera Omaha Production

Libretto by Giuseppe Giacosa and Luigi Illica
Approximate running time: 2 hours, 50 minutes with one intermission
Sung in Italian with English supertitles

First Performance:	Milan, February 17, 1904
First SFO Performance:	September 26, 1924
Most recent SFO Performances:	October 2010

Cast:

Cio-Cio-San (Madama Butterfly)	**Patricia Racette**
Lt. B. F. Pinkerton	**Brian Jagde**
Suzuki	**Elizabeth DeShong**
Sharpless	**Brian Mulligan**

Production Team:

Conductor	**Nicola Luisotti**
	Giuseppe Finzi (7/6, 7/9)
Director	**Leslie Swackhamer***
Production Designer	**Jun Kaneko**
Costume Designer	**Jun Kaneko**
Chorus Director	**Ian Robertson**

2013–14 SPECIAL EVENTS

OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATIONS – Friday, September 6, 2013

Opera Ball 2013

Presented by San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Opera Guild, the evening begins with an elegant pre-performance cocktail reception and sumptuous dinner followed by the season-opening performance of Boito's *Mefistofele* and further celebration. A highlight of the City's cultural and philanthropic season, *Opera Ball* raises funds to benefit San Francisco Opera and the Opera Guild's education and community programs. Co-chairs: Ann Girard and Mai Shiver.

For tickets or more information about *Opera Ball 2013*, call (415) 565-3204.

BRAVO! CLUB Opening Night Gala

Join BRAVO! CLUB's young professionals as they kick off the season in style with a glamorous pre-performance reception followed by the season-opening performance of *Mefistofele* and post-performance dancing. Co-chairs: Sia Charonis and Lauren Groff.

For tickets and membership information, visit *sfopera.com/bravo*.

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SAN FRANCISCO OPERA IN THE PARK
Sunday, September 8, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.
Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park

A beloved San Francisco tradition, the annual *San Francisco Opera in the Park* concert features artists from the Company's Fall 2013 Season and the San Francisco Opera Orchestra conducted by Music Director Nicola Luisotti. This concert, held in Sharon Meadow at Golden Gate Park, is free and open to the public; no tickets required. For more information, visit *sfopera.com/park*.

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THE VERDI REQUIEM by Giuseppe Verdi
Friday, October 25, 2013 at 8 p.m.
War Memorial Opera House

San Francisco Opera and Music Director Nicola Luisotti will celebrate Giuseppe Verdi's bicentennial with a special performance of the Italian master's Requiem on October 25, 2013. The San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus will be joined by a quartet of superb soloists: soprano Leah Crocetto, mezzo-soprano Jamie Barton, tenor Michael Fabiano and bass Vitalij Kowaljow.

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***THE BARBER OF SEVILLE FOR FAMILIES* by Gioachino Rossini**
Sunday, November 24, 2013 at 2 p.m. & Saturday November 30, 2013 at 2 p.m.
War Memorial Opera House

San Francisco Opera will present *The Barber of Seville for Families*, a two-hour version of this season's exciting production, in two afternoon performances sung in English with English supertitles on November 24 and 30, 2013. The perfect introduction to opera for children and audiences of all ages, the captivating music of this ever-popular work will thrill opera newcomers. This production will feature an engaging young cast of San Francisco Opera Adler Fellows.

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THE FUTURE IS NOW: ADLER FELLOWS GALA CONCERT
Wednesday, November 27, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.
Location TBA

This annual concert showcases the talented artists from San Francisco Opera Center's prestigious young artist training program in a gala concert of opera scenes and arias.

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SAN FRANCISCO OPERA AT STERN GROVE
Sunday, August 18, 2013 at 2 p.m.
Sigmund Stern Grove, 19th Avenue and Sloat Boulevard

San Francisco Opera returns to the beautiful outdoor setting of Sigmund Stern Grove for the 76th season of the Stern Grove Festival. This annual free concert featuring the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and special guest artists is one of San Francisco Opera's most popular community events, attracting thousands of Bay Area opera lovers.

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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 supported, in part, by a grant from Grants for the Arts/San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund.

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Company Sponsors John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn are proud to support *Mefistofele.* This production is made possible, in part, by Opening Weekend Grand Sponsor Diane B. Wilsey, The Thomas Tilton Production Fund, and Thomas F. and Barbara A. Wolfe. 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. Abdrazakov's, Ms. Racette's, and Mr. Vargas's appearances are made possible by a gift to the Great Singers Fund by Joan and David Traitel.

The world premiere of *Dolores Claiborne* is made possible, in part, by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Koret Foundation, and Tad and Dianne Taube. Additional support is provided by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. Ms. Zajick's appearance is made possible by a gift to the Great Singers Fund by Joan and David Traitel.

Company Sponsors John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn are proud to support *Falstaff.* This production is made possible, in part, by Leslie and George Hume and The Bernard Osher Endowment Fund. Nicola Luisotti's appearance made possible by Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem, Chairs, Amici di Nicola of Camerata. Mr. Terfel's appearance is made possible by a gift to the Great Singers Fund by Joan and David Traitel.

Der fliegende Holländer is made possible by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for New Productions.

Company Sponsors John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn are proud to support *Il Barbiere di Siviglia.* This production is made possible, in part, by San Francisco Opera Guild and Chevron.

Company Sponsors John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn are proud to support *Show Boat.* Mr. Gunn's and Ms. Racette's appearances are made possible by a gift to the Great Singers Fund by Joan and David Traitel.

Company Sponsor Mrs. Edmund W. Littlefield is proud to support *La Traviata*. This production is made possible, in part, by the Burgess and Elizabeth Jamieson Fund, the Koret Foundation, and Tad and Dianne Taube. Nicola Luisotti's appearance made possible by Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem, Chairs, Amici di Nicola of Camerata.

Nicola Luisotti's appearance in *Madama Butterfly* is made possible by Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem, Chairs, Amici di Nicola of Camerata. Ms. Racette's appearance is made possible by a gift to the Great Singers Fund by Joan and David Traitel.

The Verdi Requiem is made possible, in part, by The Bernard Osher Endowment Fund. Nicola Luisotti's appearance made possible by Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem, Chairs, Amici di Nicola of Camerata. Mr. Kowaljow's appearance is made possible by a gift to the Great Singers Fund by Joan and David Traitel.

OperaVision is made possible by the Koret-Taube Media Suite

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

2013–14 Season Sponsor

For further press information or to obtain 2013–14 Season announcement-related photographs, please visit *sfopera.com/press* or contact:

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