SAN FRANCISCO OPERA CENTER 2014 ADLER FELLOWS FEATURED IN RECITALS, CONCERTS AND PERFORMANCES AROUND THE BAY AREA

SAN FRANCISCO (February 14, 2014)—San Francisco Opera Center announces upcoming recitals, concerts and performances featuring the 2014 Adler Fellows. Each year, in addition to performing in the annual Adler Fellows Gala Concert, Schwabacher Debut Recitals and in selected San Francisco Opera productions, the talented young artists in San Francisco Opera Center's Adler Fellowship program appear in a variety of engagements throughout Northern California.

The Adler Fellowship is a performance-oriented residency offering advanced young professional international artists intensive individual training and coaching, professional seminars, and a wide range of performance opportunities throughout their fellowship. Adler Fellows gain valuable professional experience by participating in roles of increasing importance in San Francisco Opera's repertory season and also appear in a variety of engagements ranging from solo recitals to ensemble concerts throughout the Bay Area and California. Adler Fellows are selected from the young artists who have participated in the Merola Opera Program. The prestigious resident program has nurtured the development of more than 150 young artists since its inception.

A calendar of events to date featuring the 2014 Adler Fellows—sopranos Erin Johnson (Washington, New Jersey), Jacqueline Piccolino (Chicago, Illinois) and Maria Valdes (Atlanta, Georgia); mezzo-soprano Zanda Švēde (Valmiera, Latvia); tenors A.J. Glueckert (Portland, Oregon), Pene Pati (Auckland, New Zealand); baritones Hadleigh Adams (Palmerston, New Zealand) and Efraín Solís (Santa Ana, California); bass-baritone Philippe Sly (Ottawa, Ontario); and apprentice coach/pianists Noah Lindquist (Brooklyn, New York) and Sun Ha Yoon (Seoul, South Korea)—follows below. Casting, programs

and schedules are subject to change; please visit sfopera.com/operacenter for further information and program updates.

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA CENTER
2014 ADLER FELLOWS PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

Events to date; artists and programs subject to change
For further information and updates, visit sfopera.com/operacenter

Adler Fellows perform with the New Century Chamber Orchestra
Friday, February 14, 8 p.m.
First United Methodist Church, Palo Alto
Saturday, February 15, 8 p.m.
Jewish Community Center, San Francisco
Sunday, February 16, 5 p.m.
Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, San Rafael

The New Century Chamber Orchestra and San Francisco Opera Center's Adler Fellows collaborate for the first-time in Gaetano Donizetti's rarely-performed one act comic opera *Rita*. Current Adler Fellows soprano Maria Valdes, baritone Efraín Solís and Adler Fellow alumnus tenor Thomas Glenn join the orchestra for Donizetti's hilarious tale of domestic strife.

Tickets & Information: Single tickets range in price from $29 to $59 and can be purchased through City Box Office: cityboxoffice.com and (415) 392-4400. Discounted $15 single tickets are available for patrons under 35.

Adler Fellows perform in the InConcert Sierra Music Festival
Sunday, February 16, 2 p.m.
7th Day Adventist Church
12889 Osborne Hill Road, Grass Valley, CA

The Adler Fellows perform operatic works and art song in Grass Valley, nestled in the Sierra foothills. Prior to the performance, the artists will participate in a short Q&A session.

Tickets & Information: $28; available at inconcertsierra.org.

Adler Fellows perform at St. Anthony's Foundation Fundraiser
Wednesday, February 19, 6 p.m.
The Fairmont Hotel's Penthouse Suite
950 Mason Street, San Francisco, CA

Join the Adler Fellows for Show Tunes & Philanthropy, benefiting the new St. Anthony's Dining Room, opening in October 2014. The evening will feature pieces ranging from Broadway favorites to opera.

Tickets & Information: $200; available at stanthonysf.org.

Schwabacher Debut Recital – *About Love* featuring Jacqueline Piccolino, Zanda Švēde, A.J. Glueckert, Rhys Lloyd Talbot, Mark Morash and Noah Lindquist
Sunday, February 23, 5:30 p.m.
Temple Emanu-El's Martin Meyer Sanctuary
2 Lake Street, San Francisco, CA

San Francisco Opera Center's Director of Musical Studies Mark Morash leads a program of works by Beethoven, Fauré, Stravinsky, R. Strauss, Ned Rorem and Brahms' Liebeslieder Waltzes, Opus 52. Featuring Adler Fellows Jacqueline Piccolino, Zanda Švēde, A.J. Glueckert, Noah Lindquist, and Merola Opera Program alumnus Rhys Lloyd Talbot. Presented by San Francisco Opera Center and Merola Opera Program.

Tickets & Information: Single tickets $25; a three-recital subscription to the Schwabacher Debut Recitals series is $60; Student Rush tickets available for $15 at Temple Emanu-El 30 minutes prior to recital (limit of two tickets per person; valid ID is required; subject to availability). Tickets available by calling the San Francisco Opera Box Office at (415) 864-3330. Visit sfopera.com/operacenter for more information.

Adler Fellows perform in the Santa Rosa Junior College Chamber Concert Series
Sunday, March 9, 4 p.m.
Santa Rosa Junior College, Newman Auditorium, Emeritus Hall
1501 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA

Members of the San Francisco Opera Adler Fellowship program perform art song and selections from favorite operas in Santa Rosa Junior College's Newman Auditorium.

Tickets & Information: $25 general, $15 student; available at santarosa.edu or call (415) 392-4400. 4

Adler Fellows perform with University of California, Davis Orchestra and Chorus
Sunday, March 9, 7 p.m.
UC Davis Campus, Jackson Hall, Mondavi Center
1 Shields Avenue, Davis, CA

San Francisco Opera Center Adler Fellows join the UC Davis Orchestra and Chorus in an evening program that features Bach's Heilig, Brahms' Alto Rhapsody featuring former Adler Fellow Kendall Gladen and the Mozart Requiem. Conducted by Christian Baldini and Jeffrey Thomas.

Tickets & Information: $12-$17 general, $8 students; available at mondaviarts.org or call (530)754-2787.

Schwabacher Debut Recital – New York Festival of Song's Steven Blier with Maria Valdes, Zanda Švēde, A.J. Glueckert and Hadleigh Adams
Sunday, March 30, 5:30 p.m.
Temple Emanu-El's Martin Meyer Sanctuary
2 Lake Street, San Francisco, CA

New York Festival of Song's Steven Blier presents *In the Memory Palace*, featuring Gabriel Kahane's The Memory Palace, and works by Frank Bridge, Stephen Sondheim, Heitor Villa-Lobos and R&B singer-songwriter Smokey Robinson.

Tickets & Information: Single tickets $25; a three-recital subscription to the Schwabacher Debut Recitals series is $60; Student Rush tickets available for $15 at Temple Emanu-El 30 minutes prior to recital (limit of two tickets per person; valid ID is required; subject to availability). Tickets available by calling the San Francisco Opera Box Office at (415) 864-3330. Visit sfopera.com/operacenter for more information.

Adler Fellows perform in the Music at Meyer Concert Series
Monday, March 31, 7:30 p.m.
Temple Emanu-El's Martin Meyer Sanctuary
2 Lake Street, San Francisco, CA
Members of the San Francisco Opera Adler Fellowship program return to the Music at Meyer Concert Series for an evening of favorite arias. An artist reception follows the concert.

Tickets & Information: $25 general, $22 seniors; available at emanuelsf.org or call (800) 838-3006.

Schwabacher Debut Recital – Pene Pati and Sun Ha Yoon
Sunday, April 27, 5:30 p.m.
Temple Emanu-El's Martin Meyer Sanctuary
2 Lake Street, San Francisco, CA

First-year Adler Fellow tenor Pene Pati will perform a collection of recital favorites from composers Roger Quilter and Paolo Tosti, accompanied by Adler Fellow Sun Ha Yoon. Presented by San Francisco Opera Center and Merola Opera Program.

Tickets & Information: Single tickets $25; a three-recital subscription to the Schwabacher Debut Recitals series is $60; Student Rush tickets available for $15 at Temple Emanu-El 30 minutes prior to recital (limit of two tickets per person; valid ID is required; subject to availability). Tickets available by calling the San Francisco Opera Box Office at (415) 864-3330. Visit sfopera.com/operacenter for more information.

The Future Is Now: Adler Fellows Gala Concert
Saturday, December 6, 7:30 p.m.
Location to be announced

The 2014 Adler Fellows' season culminates with a special year-end concert featuring the singers in an evening of opera scenes and arias with the San Francisco Opera Orchestra.

Tickets & Information: Visit sfopera.com for more information.

2014 Adler Fellow Biographies

Baritone **HADLEIGH ADAMS** is a second-year Adler Fellow and graduate of the 2012 Merola Opera Program. He made his Company debut last summer as Luther and Schlemil (*Les Contes d'Hoffmann)* and in several roles in the world premiere of *The Gospel of Mary Magdalene.* Most recently Adams appeared at San Francisco Opera as Mr. Fox and Teenage Boy in the world premiere of *Dolores Claiborne* and as the Officer in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and *The Barber of Seville for Families.* The New Zealand native was a member of New Zealand Opera from 2004 to 2008 and performed frequently as an oratorio soloist. He made his debut with London's Royal National Theatre in 2011 as Christ in Bach's *St. Matthew Passion.* Awards include a 2010 Joan Sutherland & Richard Bonynge Scholarship and second prize in the Australian Singing Competition. A frequent recitalist, he has performed at London's St. Martin in the Fields and Wigmore Hall. Upcoming engagements include Pollux (Rameau's *Castor et Pollux*) with Pinchgut Opera.

Tenor **A.J. GLUECKERT** is a second-year Adler Fellow hailing from Portland, Oregon who made his Company debut as a Preacher and a Follower in the world premiere of *The Gospel of Mary Magdalene* last summer. This fall, he appeared as Mr. Knox in *Dolores Claiborne*, the Steersman in *Der Fliegende Holländer* and Ambrogio in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and *The Barber of Seville for Families*. Glueckert is an alumnus of the 2012 Merola Opera Program, where he performed Mr. Owen in Argento's Postcard from Morocco. As a resident artist with Minnesota Opera, he was heard as Arturo (*Lucia di Lammermoor*) and also created the role of the

Crown Prince in the world premiere of Puts's Silent Night. He is also a graduate of the young artist programs at Santa Fe Opera and Utah Opera. A two-time winner of the regional Metropolitan Opera National Auditions, he holds a degree from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and he appeared as the Drum Major (*Wozzeck*) with San Francisco's Opera Parallèle.

Soprano **ERIN JOHNSON** is a second-year Adler Fellow who made her Company debut this past March as Mrs. Medlock in the world premiere of *The Secret Garden* at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall and appeared in various roles in the world premiere of last summer's *The Gospel of Mary Magdalene*. She sang the role of Marta in this fall's production of *Mefistofele* and will return as Mary in *Der Fliegende Holländer.* Johnnson was a participant in the 2012 Merola Opera Program, where she performed as Giovanna Seymour (*Anna Bolena*) and Mab (*La Jolie Fille de Perth*). A native of Washington, New Jersey, she holds a master's degree from Rice University. While at Rice, Johnson also studied in Florence through the Margaret Pack Italian Language Study Program in 2012. In 2009, the mezzo was accepted into the Santa Fe Opera Apprentice Program, where she appeared in scenes from *Roméo et Juliette, Les Dialogues des Carmélites,* and *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*. She holds a bachelor's degree from Cairn University.

Pianist **NOAH LINDQUIST** is a first-year Adler Fellow and an alumnus of the 2013 Merola Opera Program where he coached *Le Nozze di Figaro* and *The Rape of Lucretia*. A native of New York City, he completed his master's degree in collaborative piano at the Mannes College of Music in 2013, studying with Cristina Stanescu. Lindquist has performed in Alice Tully Hall and Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall.

Samoan New Zealander **PENE PATI** is a first-year Adler Fellow and an alumnus of the 2013 Merola Opera Program. The tenor's recent performances include Elvino (*La Sonnambula)* with the Auckland Opera Studio and appearances with the Auckland Chamber Orchestra and the Hamilton Civic Choir. Pati is also a member of the successful Samoan New Zealand trio SOL3 MIO, which mixes both classical and contemporary music. In 2013 SOL3 MIO released their first self-titled album with Universal Records and in March will complete their first national tour in New Zealand with sold-out performances. He has also been a recipient of numerous awards, including the Richard Bonynge & Joan Sutherland Bel Canto Award, the Sydney Eisteddfod McDonald's Operatic Aria Award, the Dame Malvina Major Foundation Award, the Performing Arts Competition Society "New Zealand Young Performer of the Year" award, the inaugural Iosefa Enari Memorial scholarship from Creative New Zealand, the Seamus Casey Memorial Award, and the Pears Britten and Marie d'Albini awards from the University of Auckland.

A native of Chicago, **JACQUELINE PICCOLINO** is a first-year Adler Fellow who made her San Francisco Opera debut last summer as Stella in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* and returned this fall as a maid in the world premiere of *Dolores Claiborne*. As a participant in the 2012 and 2013 Merola Opera Program, the soprano appeared as Arminda (*La Finta Giardiniera*) and Countess Almaviva (*Le Nozze di Figaro*). As a studio artist with Wolf Trap Opera Company, she has appeared in that company's productions of *Le Donne Curiose, Sweeney Todd,* and *Les Contes d'Hoffmann.* Other career highlights include appearing in the Napa Festival del Sole's Bouchaine Young Artist Concert Series and participating in the Houston Grand Opera Young Artist Vocal Academy. Piccolino is a recipient of the Richard F. Gold Career Grant from the Shoshana Foundation and winner of the New York Lyric Opera Theatre Competition and the Bel Canto Competition.

A winner of the 2011 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, French-Canadian bass-baritone **PHILIPPE SLY** is a second-year Adler Fellow who made his Company debut as Archibald Craven in the world premiere of Nolan Gasser and Carey Harrison's *The Secret Garden* in March. He returned last summer as

Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte* and appeared this fall as Doctor Bartolo in *The Barber of Seville for Families*. A graduate of the 2011 Merola Opera Program, he is a former member of the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble Studio. Recent career highlights include Marcello (*La Bohème*) and Nick Shadow (The Rake's Progress) at McGill University and Masetto (*Don Giovanni*) at the University of Ottawa. Sly appeared with the Canadian Opera Company in the 2011–12 season singing roles in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, A Florentine Tragedy, Gianni Schicchi, and Semele. On the concert stage, he has appeared as a soloist with Pro Coro Canada, the Ottawa Bach Choir, the Montreal Symphony, and the Malaysian Philharmonic.

Mexican-American baritone **EFRAÍN SOLÍS** is a first-year Adler Fellow and recently sang Junius in Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia* as a participant of the 2013 Merola Opera Program. Recent performances include the title role of *Eugene Onegin* with Russian Opera Workshop in Philadelphia, as well as Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte* and Figaro in Le Nozze di Figaro. At the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, he performed the title roles of *Don Giovanni* and *Gianni Schicchi*, as well as Guglielmo. As a 2013 member of Opera Santa Barbara's Studio Artist Program, he appeared as Il Notario in *Don Pasquale*. A finalist at the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and Houston Grand Opera's Eleanor McCollum Competition, Solís holds a bachelor's degree from Chapman University and a master's degree from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Latvian mezzo-soprano **ZANDA ŠVĒDE** is a first-year Adler Fellow and an alumna of the 2013 Merola Opera Program. Roles in her repertoire include Maria (Piazolla's Maria de Buenos Aires), Endimione (Cavalli's La Calisto), and the title role in Massenet's *Cléopâtre*. On the concert stage, she has performed solo roles in Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, and Liszt's *Missa Coronationalis*. Švēde has studied at the Latvian Academy of Music in Riga, the Manhattan Summer Voice Festival in New York, Scuola Italia in Italy, and the Tyrolean Opera Program in Austria.

Soprano **MARIA VALDES** is a first-year Adler Fellow who recently appeared as Susanna in Merola Opera Program's 2013 production of *Le Nozze di Figaro*. An award-winner in the regional Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions, Valdes is also the winner of the top prize at the Corbett Opera Scholarship Competition at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. She has been heard in concert with ensembles including the Georgia State University Singers, the Atlanta Chamber Players, the Atlanta Sacred Chorale, Emory University choir, Bent Frequency, and the Bellingham Festival of Music in Washington.

Pianist and vocal coach **SUN HA YOON** is a second-year Adler Fellow hailing from Seoul, South Korea. In the summer of 2012 she was participant in the Merola Opera Program. Prior, she was a vocal piano fellow at the Music Academy of the West, where she coached *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and *Don Giovanni*. In January of 2012, she collaborated with soprano Megan Hart in a duo recital at Carnegie Hall as part of Marilyn Horne's The Song Continues series. Yoon recently graduated with a doctorate in collaborative piano performance from the University of Maryland and worked as a coach for the Maryland Opera Studio in two world premiere performances: *Later the Same Evening* by John Musto and *Shadowboxer* by Frank Proto.

About San Francisco Opera Center

San Francisco Opera Center was created in 1982 by then-General Director Terence A. McEwen to oversee the operation and administration of the education and training programs initiated by Kurt Herbert Adler in 1954. Providing a coordinated sequence of performance and study opportunities for young artists, San Francisco Opera Center represents a new era in which young artists of major operatic potential can

develop through intensive training and performance, under the aegis of a major international opera company. Now under the guidance of its fourth director, Sheri Greenawald, and San Francisco Opera General Director David Gockley, the Opera Center has trained and introduced many young stars from around the world to the international opera stage through its resident artist programs.

Initially founded as the San Francisco Opera/Affiliate Artists program in 1977, the Adler Fellowship Program is one of the nation's most prestigious performance-oriented residencies for the most advanced young singers and coach/accompanists. Each year, Adler Fellows are sponsored by individual donors to help cover the cost of their fellowship, and sponsors affiliated with the Adler Program have the opportunity to attend private studio classes with the Fellows and develop nurturing relationships with them. Alumni from the Adler Fellowship Program include sopranos Jane Archibald, Leah Crocetto, Heidi Melton, Patricia Racette, Nadine Sierra, Ruth Ann Swenson, Elza van den Heever, and Deborah Voigt; mezzo-sopranos Kendall Gladden, Daveda Karanas, Daniella Mack, and Dolora Zajick; countertenors Brian Asawa and Gerald Thompson; tenors Brian Jagde, Sean Pannikar, Alex Shrader and Noah Stewart; baritones Mark Delavan and Lucas Meachem; and bass-baritone John Relyea.

For more information on the San Francisco Opera Center, visit sfopera.com.

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For further press information about the Adler Fellowship Program please visit www.sfopera.com/press or contact San Francisco Opera Communications:

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