

# SAN FRANCISCO OPERA CENTER PRESENTS THE FUTURE IS NOW: ADLER FELLOWS GALA CONCERT

### 2012 ADLER FELLOWSHIP SEASON CULMINATES NOVEMBER 30 AT 7:30 PM AT THE HERBST THEATRE

Tickets on sale at (415) 864.3330 or sfopera.com

SAN FRANCISCO (November 8, 2012)—San Francisco Opera Center presents the culminating concert of the 2012 Adler Fellowship season, *The Future is Now: Adler Fellows Gala Concert* on Friday, November 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the Herbst Theatre in the War Memorial Veterans Building. The concert showcases the acclaimed Adler Fellows from San Francisco Opera Center's prestigious young artist training program in a gala concert of opera scenes and arias—including works by Massenet, Mozart, Rossini, Tchaikovsky, Gounod, and Verdi—with San Francisco Opera Resident Conductor Giuseppe Finzi leading the Opera Orchestra.

The Future is Now features sopranos Nadine Sierra (Fort Lauderdale, Florida), Marina Harris (Los Angeles, California); mezzo-sopranos Laura Krumm (Iowa City, Iowa) and Renée Rapier (Marion, Iowa); tenor Brian Jagde (Piermont, New York); baritones Ao Li (Shandong, China) and Joo Won Kang (Seoul, South Korea); bass-baritone Ryan Kuster (Jacksonville, Illinois); and apprentice coaches Sun Ha Yoon (Seoul, South Korea) and Robert Mollicone (East Greenwich, Rhode Island).

Named for former San Francisco Opera General Director Kurt Herbert Adler, the Adler Fellowship Program is a performance-oriented residency offering advanced young artists intensive individual training, coaching, professional seminars and a wide range of performance opportunities throughout their

fellowship. Adler Fellows also gain valuable professional experience by performing supporting roles in San Francisco Opera's mainstage productions. The Adler Fellows are selected from the young artists who have participated in the Merola Opera Program. The prestigious resident artist training program has nurtured the development of more than 150 young artists since its inception.

### **Tickets and Information**

Tickets for *The Future is Now: Adler Fellows Gala Concert* are priced at \$25 (Balcony), \$40 (Orchestra Rear/Dress Circle), \$50 (Box Seats), and \$60 (Orchestra) and may be purchased at sfopera.com or by calling the San Francisco Opera Box Office at (415) 864-3330. \$15 Student Rush tickets are available on the day of the performance with valid ID (subject to availability).

The Herbst Theatre is located in the War Memorial Veterans Building at 401 Van Ness Avenue at McAllister Street. The War Memorial Veterans Building 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 <a href="mailto:bart.gov">bart.gov</a> and <a href="mailto:sfmuni.com">sfmuni.com</a>

## THE FUTURE IS NOW: ADLER FELLOWS GALA CONCERT

Featuring the 2012 Adler Fellows Giuseppe Finzi, Conductor San Francisco Opera Orchestra

Friday, November 30, 2012; 7:30 p.m. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

#### **PROGRAM** (subject to change):

Manon – Massenet / "Je suis seul...Ah! fuyez, douce image...Toi! Vous!...N'est-ce plus ma main" Manon – Nadine Sierra Des Grieux – Brian Jagde Un Ballo in Maschera – Verdi / "Forse la soglia attinse...Ma se m'è forza perderti" Riccardo – Brian Jagde

Roméo et Juliette – Gounod / "Dieu! Quel frisson...Amour ranime mon courage" Juliette – Nadine Sierra

Il Corsaro – Verdi / "Alfin questo Corsaro è mio prigione...Cento leggiadre vergini"Seid – Joo Won KangSelimo – Ryan Kuster

Don Giovanni – Mozart / "Deh vieni alla finestra" Don Giovanni – Joo Won Wang

La Cenerentola – Rossini / "Sì, tutto cangerà...Là del ciel nell'arcano profondo" Alidoro – Ryan Kuster Angelina – Laura Krumm

The Marriage of Figaro – Mozart / "Hai già vinta la causa...Vedrò mentr'io sospiro" Count Almaviva – Ryan Kuster

Cendrillon – Massenet / "Enfin, je suis ici" Cendrillon – Laura Krumm

La Clemenza di Tito – Mozart / "Parto, ma tu ben mio" Sesto – Renée Rapier

Così fan tutte – Mozart / "Ah guarda sorella" Fiordiligi – Marina Harris Dorabella – Laura Krumm

Eugene Onegin – Tchaikovsky / "Puskai pagibnuya" Tatiana – Marina Harris

Mignon – Thomas / "Légères hirondelles" Mignon – Laura Krumm Lothario – Ao Li

Il Signor Bruschino – Rossini / "Nel teatro del gran mondo"Gaudenzio – Ao Li

### **ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES:**

Soprano Marina Harris is a first-year Adler Fellow and an alumna of the 2011 Merola Opera Program, where she performed the role of Berta in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. The Los Angeles native is a three time soloist with the Los Angeles Bach Festival. In 2010, Harris was chosen as a Western regional finalist for the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and was the second place winner in the finals. She was also a Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions regional finalist in 2009 and took home the Special Encouragement Award. She was selected as an Encouragement Award Winner at the Marilyn Horne Foundation Vocal Competition in 2010 for her performance of art song repertoire.

Second-year Adler Fellow **Nadine Sierra** made her San Francisco Opera debut in 2011 creating the roles of Juliet and Barbara in the world premiere of *Heart of a Soldier* and she appeared as Papagena in last summer's *The Magic Flute*. She is an alumna of the 2010 Merola Opera Program, where she was heard as Adina in *L'Elisir d'Amore*. Winner of the 2009 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Sierra's other recent awards include first prize of the George London Competition (2010), the Gerda Lissner International Competition (2010), the Loren Zachary Competition (2010) and the Stella Maris Competition (2011), as well as second prize in the Mirjam Helin International Vocal Competition (2009). Sierra recently appeared as Tytania (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) with Boston Lyric Opera, Euridice (*Orfeo ed Euridice*) with Palm Beach Opera, and Gilda (*Rigoletto*) with Florida Grand Opera. Her other recent engagements include Anne Truelove (*The Rake's Progress*) with the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra and her solo recital debut at Carnegie Hall.

A native of Iowa City, Iowa, mezzo-soprano **Laura Krumm** is a first-year Adler Fellow and made her San Francisco Opera debut as Countess Ceprano and a Page in *Rigoletto*. Her recent repertoire includes Charlotte (*Werther*), Sesto (*La Clemenza di Tito*), Cherubino (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Prince Orlofsky (*Die Fledermaus*), and the Second Lady (*Die Zauberflöte*). A graduate of the 2011 Merola Opera Program, she has performed in concerts and operas with La Musica Lirica in Novafeltria, Italy and OperaWorks in Los Angeles, and was a finalist in the 2011 Dallas Opera Guild Competition.

Mezzo-soprano **Renée Rapier** is a first-year Adler Fellow who made her Company debut as Giovanna in this fall's *Rigoletto*. The Marion, Iowa native has performed with the San Francisco Opera Orchestra, the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra, and the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra. She is a frequent performer with the Boston-based early music ensemble La Donna Musicale, and can be heard on their latest CD, *Anna Bon: La virtuosa di Venezia*. Rapier was a studio artist at Chautauqua Opera in 2009, and a participant of the Merola Opera Program in 2010 and 2011. The mezzo was a national semifinalist at the Metropolitan Opera Council Auditions in 2011.

Tenor **Brian Jagde** made his San Francisco Opera debut in 2010 as Joe (*La Fanciulla del West*) and returned as the Messenger (*Aida*), Janek (*The Makropulos Case*), Don José (*Carmen for Families*), Vitellozzo (*Lucrezia Borgia*), and sings the role of Cavaradossi in this fall's *Tosca*. An alumnus of the 2009 Merola Opera Program and currently a third-year Adler Fellow, he has appeared as Rodolfo (*La Bohème*) for Syracuse Opera and made his European debut in 2010 in the title role of *Werther* and as Macduff (*Macbeth*) for the Teatr Wielki in Poland. He also appeared as Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*) with Virginia Opera and Rodolfo at Castleton Festival Opera. The second-prize winner at the 2012 Operalia Competition, Jagde won

accolades for his interpretations of Wagner and Strauss repertoires, winning the Birgit Nilsson Prize at that competition. He recently made his debuts with Minnesota Opera as Pinkerton and with the Santa Fe Opera as Cavaradossi. Upcoming engagements include Cavaradossi with Deutsche Oper Berlin, Rodolfo in concert performances of *La Bohème* with the Munich Philharmonic, Alfredo (*La Traviata*) with Opera Grand Rapids, and his debut in the title role of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* with Beijing Opera.

Korean baritone **Joo Won Kang** is a first-year Adler Fellow who made his San Francisco Opera debut this past summer as the Second Priest in *The Magic Flute* and appeared in this fall's *Rigoletto* (Marullo), *Moby-Dick* (Captain Gardiner) and *Lohengrin* (Noble), as well as the upcoming *Tosca* (Jailer). A Merola Opera Program alumnus, he recently earned first prizes from the Gerda Lissner International Competition and the Palm Beach Opera Competition. Recently he sang Count Monterone (*Rigoletto*) and the Duke of Verona (*Roméo et Juliette*) as a member of the young artist program with Florida Grand Opera.

A native of Dezhou, China, **Ao Li** made his San Francisco Opera debut last season as Ascanio Petrucci (*Lucrezia Borgia*) and returned as Le Dancaïre (*Carmen for Families*), Lorenzo (*I Capuleti e i Montecchi*), and Sciarrone (*Tosca*). The baritone is a second-year Adler Fellow and 2010 Merola Opera Program alumnus, where he sang the role of Belcore in their production of *L'Elisir d'Amore*. A frequent recitalist in China, Li is a past recipient of the prestigious Youth of China award, third prize in both the Shandong Qilu Style Contest and the Taipei World Chinese Vocal Competition, and the bronze award in the People's Republic of China Ministry of Culture's Eighth National Vocal Competition, in addition to being selected as a member of the Young Singer in Shandong Province Tenth Television Competition, where he won an Award of Excellence.

A second-year Adler Fellow and graduate of the Merola Opera program, bass-baritone **Ryan Kuster** made his San Francisco Opera debut last fall as the Mandarin (*Turandot*) and returned as Astolfo (*Lucrezia Borgia*), Masetto (*Don Giovanni*), Escamillo (*Carmen for Families*), Count Ceprano (*Rigoletto*), a Noble (*Lohengrin*), and Angelotti (*Tosca*). A Jacksonville, Illinois native, his recent appearances include a symphonic debut as Masetto with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the title role of *Don Giovanni* with Wolf Trap Opera. Upcoming engagements include Alidoro (*La Cenerentola*) with Nashville Opera, and the Mandarin with the Dallas Opera.

Coach and pianist **Robert Mollicone** is a second-year Adler Fellow. He was a member of the Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program, where he served on music staff for *Don Pasquale*, *Tosca*, and *Lucia di Lammermoor* on the main stage. Mollicone has served as a vocal coach and pianist for Boston Lyric Opera, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Boston Opera Collaborative, Boston University Tanglewood Institute, and Opera North. He was a Spectrum Resident Artist at Virginia Opera in 2009, and a participant in the Merola Opera Program in 2010. Mollicone worked on San Francisco Opera's productions of *The Magic Flute* and *Moby-Dick* in 2012.

Pianist and vocal coach **Sun Ha Yoon** is a first year Adler Fellow. In the summer of 2012 she attended the Merola Opera Program, where she coached and performed in the orchestra for the opera *Postcard from Morocco* by Domenick Argento. Prior to that, she was a vocal piano fellow at the Music Academy of the West for two summers, 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 the Marilyn Horne's "The

Song Continues..." series. Sun Ha recently graduated with a doctorate in collaborative piano performance from the University of Maryland. In addition to her dissertation, she also worked as a coach for the Maryland Opera Studio, where she prepared singers in two world premiere performances: *Later the Same Evening* by John Must, and *Shadowboxer* by Frank Proto.

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