



SAN FRANCISCO
OPERA

**SINGLE TICKETS FOR SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S 88TH SEASON
GO ON SALE SUNDAY, JULY 11 AT 10 A.M.**

**2010–11 Season Opens September 10 with Verdi's *Aida* Conducted by Nicola Luisotti and
Starring Micaela Carosi, Marcello Giordani, Dolora Zajick,
Marco Vratogna and Hao Jiang Tian**

**Single Tickets Available for Five Operas:
Aida with Micaela Carosi and Marcello Giordani
Werther with Ramón Vargas and Alice Coote;
Madama Butterfly with Svetla Vassileva, Daniela Dessì and Stefano Secco;
The Makropulos Case with Karita Mattila and Miro Dvorsky; and
Le Nozze di Figaro with Danielle de Niese and Luca Pisaroni**

**Complete Cycle Subscriptions Available for
Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* in Summer 2011:
Donald Runnicles Conducts Three Cycles of Francesca Zambello's New Production;
International Cast Includes Nina Stemme, Mark Delavan, Ian Storey, Anja Kampe,
Larissa Diadkova, Brandon Jovanovich, Stefan Margita and Gordon Hawkins**

**San Francisco Opera and Cal Performances Co-Present
Tenor Jonas Kaufmann in Recital, Zellerbach Hall, March 13, 2011**

SAN FRANCISCO (July 2, 2010)—Single (non-subscription) tickets for San Francisco Opera's Fall 2010 Season, running from September 10 through December 5, 2010 at the historic War Memorial Opera House, will go on sale to the public on Sunday, July 11 at 10 a.m. Single tickets will be available for Giuseppe Verdi's *Aida*, Jules Massenet's *Werther*, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Giacomo Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, Leoš Janáček's *The Makropulos Case* and for the stand alone performances of Richard Wagner's *Siegfried* (May 29) and *Götterdämmerung* (June 5). The San Francisco Opera Box Office, located at 301 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco, will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for in-person sales or by phone at 415.864.3330; tickets will also be available for online purchase at sfopera.com.

Subscriptions are currently available for San Francisco Opera's Fall 2010 Season and for Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, which will be presented in three complete cycles from June 14 through July 3, 2011. Due to popular demand, tickets for Alfano's *Cyrano de Bergerac* starring

Plácido Domingo are available only as part of a Fall 2010 Season subscription and tickets for Wagner's *Ring* Cycle are available in complete four-opera cycles only.

San Francisco Opera's 2010–11 Season opens with Giuseppe Verdi's classic masterpiece *Aida*. A compelling tale of conflicting loyalties and forbidden passions, this spectacular production, previously seen at English National Opera and Houston Grand Opera, is designed by Zandra Rhodes and directed by Jo Davies. The cast features Italian soprano Micaela Carosi making her Company debut in the title role, renowned Verdian mezzo-soprano and former Adler Fellow Dolora Zajick as Amneris and Marcello Giordani making his role debut as Radames. Returning after his highly-praised performance in last season's *Otello* is Marco Vratogna as Amonasro; baritone Hao Jiang Tian returns to San Francisco Opera as Ramfis after his 2008 Company debut as Chang the Coffinmaker in *The Bonesetter's Daughter*. Music Director Nicola Luisotti leads the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus.

The September 10 opening-night celebrations include San Francisco Opera Guild's *Opera Ball* and BRAVO! CLUB's *Opening Night Gala*. Hailed as one of the City's premier philanthropic cultural events, *Opera Ball* raises funds to benefit San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Opera Guild's education and outreach programs. The weekend culminates with the beloved free *San Francisco Opera in the Park* on Sunday, September 12 in Golden Gate Park's Sharon Meadow, featuring acclaimed artists from the Company's Fall 2010 Season and the San Francisco Opera Orchestra conducted by Maestro Luisotti. Also in celebration of the new season, San Francisco Opera presents a free live simulcast of *Aida* to AT&T Park, home of the San Francisco Giants baseball team, at *Webcor Builders Presents Opera at the Ballpark* on Friday, September 24.

Bringing one of his signature roles to San Francisco Opera, renowned Mexican tenor Ramón Vargas appears in the title role of Jules Massenet's *Werther*, the story of a poet who cannot bear the pain of unfulfilled love. Also returning to San Francisco Opera as Werther's beloved Charlotte is acclaimed British mezzo-soprano Alice Coote. Soprano Heidi Stober makes her Company debut as Charlotte's sister Sophie and baritone Brian Mulligan returns as Albert, Charlotte's betrothed. Massenet's opera, which is based on Goethe's novel *The Sorrows of Young Werther*, was last presented at the War Memorial Opera House in 1985. This new co-production with Lyric Opera of Chicago, directed by Francisco Negrin, debuts in San Francisco and is led by French conductor Emmanuel Villaume.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's eternally popular comedy *Le Nozze di Figaro* features a cast of vivid characters headlined by young Italian bass-baritone Luca Pisaroni as Figaro and soprano Danielle de Niese in her highly-anticipated Company debut as Susanna. American soprano Ellie Dehn debuts as the Countess Almaviva and former Adler Fellow Lucas Meachem is her philandering husband. Making her Company debut as Cherubino is Canadian mezzo-soprano Michèle Losier. Performing in the final three performances of this production are Kostas Smoriginas as Figaro, Heidi Stober as Susanna and Trevor Scheunemann as Count Almaviva. Music Director Nicola Luisotti conducts the Company's beloved production directed by John Copley.

Giacomo Puccini's tragic love story *Madama Butterfly* stars Bulgarian soprano Svetla Vassileva as the geisha Cio-Cio-San, a role she will share with Italian soprano Daniela Dessi; former Adler Fellow Daveda Karanas is Butterfly's maid and confidante, Suzuki. Following his Summer 2010 appearances in the title role of *Faust* is tenor Stefano Secco as Lieutenant B. F. Pinkerton, with baritone Quinn Kelsey as the American Consul Sharpless, a role he shares with Brian Mulligan. This production from Lyric Opera of Chicago, which is presented at San Francisco Opera for the first time

and directed by Jose Maria Conde, was created by legendary Tony Award winning Broadway stage director Harold Prince and inspired by traditional Japanese theater. San Francisco Opera Music Director Nicola Luisotti and Julian Kovatchev conduct.

The Fall 2010 Season is highlighted by the return of legendary tenor Plácido Domingo in his first performances at San Francisco Opera after a 10-year absence. Domingo will sing the title role of Franco Alfano's *Cyrano de Bergerac*, the tale of a swordsman-poet with an enormous heart and even larger nose. Domingo, who made his San Francisco Opera debut in 1969, has appeared in more than a dozen roles with the Company over the past forty years. This production marks the Company premiere of Alfano's opera, based on the famed play of the same name written by French poet Edmond Rostand. Roxane, the beautiful object of Cyrano's affection, is sung by Spanish soprano Ainhoa Arteta, and Thiago Arancam makes his San Francisco Opera debut as Christian de Neuveville. French conductor Patrick Fournillier and director Petrika Ionesco are reunited to lead to this large-scale production that premiered at Paris's Théâtre du Châtelet in May 2009. Tickets for *Cyrano de Bergerac* are only available as part of a Fall 2010 season subscription.

Following her triumphs in the title roles of *Jenůfa* and *Káťa Kabanová*, Finnish soprano Karita Mattila returns to San Francisco Opera to star in one of Leoš Janáček's most intriguing operas—*The Makropulos Case*. Making her role debut as the mysterious Emilia Marty, Mattila reunites with Olivier Tambosi, director of her triumphant San Francisco Opera *Manon Lescaut* in 2006. Tenor Miro Dvorsky returns to the Company as Albert Gregor and bass-baritone Gerd Grochowski makes his San Francisco Opera debut as Baron Jaroslav Prus. Czech conductor and Janáček expert Jiří Bělohlávek conducts these performances, which mark the premiere of this co-production with Finnish National Opera.

San Francisco Opera will present five additional performances of Verdi's *Aida* in November-December 2010. These performances feature the San Francisco Opera debuts of Canadian soprano Michele Capalbo as Aida and Chinese mezzo-soprano Guang Yang as Amneris. Tenor Carlo Ventre returns as Radames after his recent Company appearance in 2009's *Tosca*; Quinn Kelsey and Eric Owens return as Amonasro and Ramfis, respectively. Assistant Music Director Giuseppe Finzi conducts.

In Summer 2011, San Francisco Opera presents director Francesca Zambello's highly anticipated new presentation of *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, featuring an internationally renowned cast. Wagner's epic four-opera cycle explores the lust for power, the lure of gold, the sacred beauty of nature and the power of redemption and renewal despite the destructive impulses of mankind, through the gradual unfolding of a timeless mythical tale. The four operas will be presented in three complete cycles, each over the course of one week. In advance of the complete cycles, the Company will present one performance of *Siegfried* (May 29) and one performance of *Götterdämmerung* (June 5). Swedish soprano and Wagner specialist Nina Stemme sings Brünnhilde in her first complete *Ring* cycle after performing 2010's *Die Walküre* to great acclaim. Baritone Mark Delavan returns to sing Wotan after his triumphant appearances with the Company in 2008's *Das Rheingold* and 2010's *Die Walküre*. Tenor Ian Storey makes his Company debut singing his first Siegfried and Gordon Hawkins also makes his Company debut as Alberich, a role he sang to great acclaim at Washington National Opera. Russian mezzo-soprano Larissa Diadkova appears as Fricka and David Cangelosi returns as Mime. Soprano Anja Kampe sings Sieglinde, which she recently performed at Washington National Opera and Los Angeles Opera; American tenor Brandon Jovanovich makes his role debut as Siegmund. Maestro Donald Runnicles will be on the podium for these cycles. *Das Rheingold*, *Die Walküre* and

Siegfried are co-productions with Washington National Opera, and *Götterdämmerung* is a new San Francisco Opera production premiere.

San Francisco Opera partners with Cal Performances to present the Bay Area debut of celebrated tenor Jonas Kaufmann in recital at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall on Sunday March 13, 2011 at 7 p.m. Hailed by London's *The Guardian* as "arguably the finest tenor Germany has produced in the past half-century," the tenor is known for his exceptionally diverse repertoire ranging from the major roles of Mozart and Wagner to those of Verdi, Puccini, Bizet, Massenet and Berlioz. Kaufmann will be accompanied by Austrian pianist Helmut Deutsch.

On December 1, 2010, the San Francisco Opera Center presents its resident young artists, the Adler Fellows, in *The Future is Now: Adler Fellows Gala Concert*. Accompanied by the San Francisco Opera Orchestra, the Adler Fellows will perform an array of opera scenes and arias at the Herbst Theatre.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Single tickets for the 2010–11 Season go on sale Sunday, July 11 at 10 a.m. and will be available for online purchase at *sfopera.com*, through the San Francisco Opera Box Office located at 301 Van Ness Avenue, or by phone at (415) 864-3330. Patrons ordering online seating through the San Francisco Opera website will be able to choose exact Opera House seat locations before completing each online purchase. Casting, programs, schedules and ticket prices are subject to change.

On Sunday, July 11 the San Francisco Opera Box Office will be open from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Regular Box Office hours are Monday 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. During the performance season, the Box Office is also open on Saturdays 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Single tickets for San Francisco Opera's 2010–11 Season operas range from \$20 to \$360 and are available for Giuseppe Verdi's *Aida*, Jules Massenet's *Werther*, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Giacomo Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, Leoš Janáček's *The Makropulos Case* and for the stand alone performances of Richard Wagner's *Siegfried* (May 29) and *Götterdämmerung* (June 5).

Tickets for *The Future is Now: Adler Fellows Gala Concert* are priced from \$25 to \$60.

Tickets for the Jonas Kaufmann recital are priced from \$40 to \$100.

Tickets for *Cyrano de Bergerac* are only available as part of a Fall 2010 season subscription.

Tickets for Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* are offered in complete four-opera cycles only. Complete cycles are priced from \$300 to \$2,800 and may be purchased through the San Francisco Opera Box Office.

The September 12 *San Francisco Opera in the Park* concert is free, no tickets are required.

The September 24 *Webcor Builders Presents Opera at the Ballpark* live simulcast of *Aida* to AT&T Park is free, however advance online registration at *sfopera.com/simulcast* assures early entrance into the ballpark for preferred seating and entry into a special prize drawing.

All War Memorial Opera House performances (except the September 10 season-opening) will feature an informative Opera Talk 55 minutes prior to curtain; Opera Talks are presented free of charge to patrons with tickets for the corresponding performance.

Opera Guild Preview Lectures are scheduled in communities throughout the greater Bay Area by local Guild chapters. Renowned musicologists lead presentations to familiarize the audience with repertoire from the current season. Admission prices vary.

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 www.bart.gov and www.sfmuni.com.

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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. 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 Airlines, the Official Airline of San Francisco Opera, and Chevron, fueling great performances everywhere.

Opening Weekend Grand Sponsor Diane B. Wilsey and United Airlines are proud to support *Aida*. Company Sponsor Mrs. Edmund W. Littlefield and John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn are proud to support *Werther*. Company Sponsors John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn are proud to support *Le Nozze di Figaro*. This production is made possible, in part, by San Francisco Opera Guild and The Thomas Tilton Production Fund. *Madama Butterfly* is made possible, in part, by Elizabeth and Burgess Jamieson and Chevron. Company Sponsors John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn are proud to support *Cyrano de Bergerac*. This production is made possible, in part, by The Bernard Osher Endowment Fund. *The Makropulos Case* is made possible by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for New Productions.

The Ring of the Nibelung is made possible, in part, by Jane Bernstein & Bob Ellis, the Edgar Foster Daniels Foundation, Roberta and David Elliott, Kristina Flanagan, Mary and Nicholas Graves, John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn, The Bernard Osher Endowment Fund, Betty and Jack Schafer and several anonymous sponsors. Additional support provided by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. The *Ring* Circle Chairs are Kristina Flanagan, Mary and Nicholas Graves and Betty and Jack Schafer. The National Patron Program Chairs are The Honorable and Mrs. George P. Shultz

San Francisco Opera simulcasts are made possible through the extraordinary technology of the Company's Koret-Taube Media Suite. A grant from the Koret Foundation provided lead funding for the Koret-Taube Media Suite, with additional support provided by Tad and Dianne Taube. *Webcor Builders Presents Opera at the Ballpark* is supported by Presenting Sponsor Webcor Builders, Platinum Sponsor Charles Schwab and Gold Sponsor Chevron and United Airlines. Funding for this simulcast is made possible by an Excellence Award from The Wallace Foundation.

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



2010–11 Season Sponsor

2010–11 OPERA SEASON CASTING AND CALENDAR

* San Francisco Opera Debut † Current Adler Fellow ♪ Role Debut • OperaVision Performance

FALL 2010 OPERA SEASON

AIDA (I) by Giuseppe Verdi

**Co-production with English National Opera,
Houston Grand Opera, and Norwegian
National Opera**

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO
September 10 (8 p.m.), **16*** (7:30 p.m.), **19*** (2 p.m.),
24* (8 p.m.), **29*** (7:30 p.m.); **October 2*** (8 p.m.),
6* (7:30 p.m.), **2010**

Libretto by Antonio Ghislanzoni

Approximate running time: 3 hours with one intermission

Sung in Italian with English supertitles

First Performance: Cairo, December 24, 1871

First SFO Performance: October 3, 1925

Most Recent SFO Performances: June 2001

Cast:

<i>Aida</i>	Micaela Carosi*
<i>Amneris</i>	Dolora Zajick
<i>Radames</i>	Marcello Giordani ♪
<i>Amonasro</i>	Marco Vratogna
<i>Ramfis</i>	Hao Jiang Tian
<i>King of Egypt</i>	Christian Van Horn*
<i>Priestess</i>	Leah Crocetto†
<i>Messenger</i>	David Lomeli†

Production Team:

<i>Conductor</i>	Nicola Luisotti
<i>Director</i>	Jo Davies*
<i>Production Designer</i>	Zandra Rhodes
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	Christopher Maravich
<i>Original Choreographer</i>	Jonathan Lunn
<i>Revival Choreographer</i>	Lawrence Pech
<i>Chorus Director</i>	Ian Robertson

WERTHER by Jules Massenet

Co-production with Lyric Opera of Chicago

NEW PRODUCTION PREMIERE

September 15 (7:30 p.m.), **18*** (8 p.m.), **22*** (7:30 p.m.),
26* (2 p.m.), **28** (8 p.m.); **October 1** (8 p.m.), **2010**

Libretto by Édouard Blau, Paul Milliet and Georges Hartmann

Approximate running time: 2 hours, 30 minutes with one intermission

Sung in French with English supertitles

First Performance: Vienna, February 16, 1892

First SFO Performance: November 22, 1935

Most Recent SFO Performances: October 1985

Cast:

<i>Werther</i>	Ramón Vargas
<i>Charlotte</i>	Alice Coote
<i>Sophie</i>	Heidi Stober* ♪
<i>Albert</i>	Brian Mulligan ♪
<i>The Bailiff</i>	Christian Van Horn ♪
<i>Schmidt</i>	Robert MacNeil
<i>Kätchen</i>	Maya Lahyani* †
<i>Brühlmann</i>	Austin Kness†

Production Team:

<i>Conductor</i>	Emmanuel Villaume
<i>Director</i>	Francisco Negrin*
<i>Production Designer</i>	Louis Désiré*
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	Duane Schuler
<i>Chorus Director</i>	Ian Robertson

LE NOZZE DI FIGARO by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart **September 21** (8 p.m.), **23** (7:30 p.m.), **25** (8 p.m.), **30*** (7:30 p.m.); **October 3*** (2 p.m.), **5*** (7:30 p.m.), **10** (2 p.m.), **16** (8 p.m.), **22** (8 p.m.), **2010**
(THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO)

San Francisco Opera Production

Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte
 Approximate running time: 3 hours, 30 minutes with one intermission
 Sung in Italian with English supertitles
 First Performance: Vienna, May 1, 1786
 First SFO Performance: November 9, 1936
 Most Recent SFO Performances: June 2006

Cast:

Figaro **Luca Pisaroni**
Kostas Smoriginas* (10/10, 16, 22)
Susanna **Danielle de Niese***
Heidi Stober (10/10, 16, 22)
Countess Almaviva **Ellie Dehn***
Cherubino **Michèle Losier***
Count Almaviva **Lucas Meachem**
Trevor Scheunemann (10/10, 16, 22)
Doctor Bartolo **John Del Carlo**
Dale Travis (10/10, 16, 22)
Marcellina **Catherine Cook**
Don Basilio **Greg Fedderly**
Don Curzio **Robert MacNeil**
Barbarina **Sara Gartland*†**

Production Team:

Conductor **Nicola Luisotti**
Director **John Copley**
Lighting Designer **Christopher Maravich**
Chorus Director **Ian Robertson**

MADAMA BUTTERFLY by Giacomo Puccini

Lyric Opera of Chicago Production

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO
October 12 (8 p.m.), **15** (8 p.m.), **20** (7:30 p.m.), **23** (8 p.m.), **26*** (7:30 p.m.), **29*** (8 p.m.); **November 5** (8 p.m.), **11** (7:30 p.m.), **14*** (2 p.m.), **17** (7:30 p.m.), **21** (2 p.m.), **27** (8 p.m.), **2010**

Libretto by Giuseppe Giacosa and Luigi Illica
 Approximate running time: 2 hours, 45 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: December 2007

Cast:

Cio-Cio-San **Svetla Vassileva**
Daniela Dessi (11/5, 11, 14, 17, 21, 27)
Pinkerton **Stefano Secco**
Suzuki **Daveda Karanas ♪**
Goro **Thomas Glenn**
Sharpless **Quinn Kelsey**
Brian Mulligan (11/17, 21, 27)
Prince Yamadori **Austin Kness†**
The Bonze **Christian Van Horn**
Kate Pinkerton **Sarah Gartland†**

Production Team:

Conductor **Nicola Luisotti**
Julian Kovatchev* (11/5, 11, 14, 17, 21, 27)
Original Director **Harold Prince**
Director **Jose Maria Condemí**
Set Designer **Clarke Dunham***
Costume Designer **Florence Klotz***
Original Lighting Design **Ken Billington**
Chorus Director **Ian Robertson**

CYRANO DE BERGERAC by Franco Alfano

Théâtre du Châtelet (Paris) Production

Libretto by Henri Cain

Approximate running time: 2 hours, 30 minutes with one intermission

Sung in French with English supertitles

First Performance: Rome, January 22, 1936 (Italian translation)
Paris, May 29, 1936 (original French text)

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA PREMIERE

October 24 (2 p.m.), **27** (7:30 p.m.), **30** (8 p.m.); **November 2** (8 p.m.), **6** (2 p.m.), **9** (7:30 p.m.), **12** (8 p.m.), **2010**

Cast:

Cyrano de Bergerac

Roxane

Christian de Neuveville

De Guiche

Ragueneau

Le Bret

Carbon

Vicomte de Valvert,

The Spanish Official, A Cook

The Duenna, Sister Marta

Lisa, A Lay Sister

Plácido Domingo

Ainhoa Arteta ♪

Thiago Arancam*♪

Stephen Powell ♪

Brian Mulligan ♪

Timothy Mix ♪

Lester Lynch ♪

Austin Kness †

Maya Lahyani †

Leah Crocetto †

Production Team:

Conductor

Director

Set Designer

Costume Designer

Lighting Designer

Fencing Choreographer

Chorus Director

Patrick Fournillier*

Petrika Ionesco*

Petrika Ionesco*

Lili Kendaka*

Petrika Ionesco*

François Rostain*

Ian Robertson

THE MAKROPULOS CASE by Leoš Janáček

Co-Production with Finnish National Opera

Libretto by Leoš Janáček

Approximate running time: 2 hours, 30 minutes with one intermission

Sung in Czech with English supertitles

First Performance: Brno, December 18, 1926

First SFO Performance: November 19, 1966 (*first U.S. performance of the work*)

Most Recent SFO Performances: October 1993

NEW PRODUCTION PREMIERE

November 10 (7:30 p.m.), **13** (8 p.m.), **16** (8 p.m.),
20 (8 p.m.), **24** (7:30 p.m.), **28** (2 p.m.), **2010**

Cast:

Emilia Marty

Albert Gregor

Baron Jaroslav Prus

Doctor Kolenaty

Vitek

Kristina

Count Hauk-Šendorf

Janek

A Stagehand

A Chambermaid,

A Cleaning Woman

Karita Mattila ♪

Miro Dvorsky

Gerd Grochowski*♪

Dale Travis ♪

Thomas Glenn ♪

Susannah Biller*†♪

Matthew O'Neill ♪

Brian Jagde*† ♪

Austin Kness †

Maya Lahyani †

Production Team:

Conductor

Director

Production Designer

Lighting Designer

Chorus Director

Jiří Bělohlávek*

Olivier Tambosi

Frank Philipp Schössmann

Duane Schuler

Ian Robertson

AIDA (II) by Giuseppe Verdi

**Co-Production with English National Opera,
Houston Grand Opera and Norwegian National Opera**

November 23 (8 p.m.), **26** (8 p.m.), **29** (8 p.m.);
December 2 (7:30 p.m.), **5** (2 p.m.), **2010**

Libretto by Antonio Ghislanzoni

Approximate running time: 3 hours with one intermission

Sung in Italian with English supertitles

First Performance: Cairo, December 24, 1871

First SFO Performance: October 3, 1925

Most Recent SFO Performances: June 2001

Cast:

<i>Aida</i>	Michele Capalbo*
<i>Radames</i>	Carlo Ventre
<i>Amneris</i>	Guang Yang*
<i>Amonasro</i>	Quinn Kelsey
<i>Ramfis</i>	Eric Owens
<i>King of Egypt</i>	Christian Van Horn
<i>Priestess</i>	Leah Crocetto†
<i>Messenger</i>	Brian Jagde†

Production Team:

<i>Conductor</i>	Giuseppe Finzi
<i>Director</i>	Jo Davies
<i>Production Designer</i>	Zandra Rhodes
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	Christopher Maravich
<i>Original Choreographer</i>	Jonathan Lunn
<i>Revival Choreographer</i>	Lawrence Pech
<i>Chorus Director</i>	Ian Robertson

SUMMER 2011 OPERA SEASON: DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN (*The Ring of the Nibelung*)

CYCLE 1: June 14 (8 p.m.); **June 15** (7 p.m.); **June 17** (6:30 p.m.); **June 19** (1 p.m.)

CYCLE 2: June 21 (8 p.m.); **June 22** (7 p.m.); **June 24** (6:30 p.m.); **June 26** (1 p.m.)

CYCLE 3: June 28 (8 p.m.); **June 29** (7 p.m.); **July 1** (6:30 p.m.); **July 3** (1 p.m.)

DAS RHEINGOLD by Richard Wagner

Co-production with Washington National Opera

June 14* (8 p.m.), **21*** (8 p.m.), and **28*** (8 p.m.), **2011**

Libretto by Richard Wagner

Approximate running time: 2 hours, 35 minutes with no intermission

Sung in German with English supertitles

First Performance: Munich, September 22, 1869

First SFO Performance: November 1, 1935

Most Recent SFO Performance: June 2008

Cast:

<i>Wotan</i>	Mark Delavan
<i>Loge</i>	Stefan Margita
<i>Alberich</i>	Gordon Hawkins*
<i>Fricka</i>	Larissa Diadkova
<i>Erda</i>	Ronnita Miller*♪
<i>Mime</i>	David Cangelosi
<i>Fasolt</i>	Andrea Silvestrelli
<i>Fafner</i>	Daniel Sumegi
<i>Froh</i>	Brandon Jovanovich ♪
<i>Freia</i>	Melissa Citro*♪
<i>Woglinde</i>	Stacey Tappan*
<i>Wellgunde</i>	Lauren McNeese
<i>Flosshilde</i>	Renée Tatum ♪

Production Team:

<i>Conductor</i>	Donald Runnicles
<i>Director</i>	Francesca Zambello
<i>Associate Director</i>	Christian R�ath
<i>Set Designer</i>	Michael Yeargan
<i>Costume Designer</i>	Catherine Zuber
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	Mark McCullough
<i>Projection Designer</i>	Jan Hartley
<i>Choreographer</i>	Lawrence Pech

DIE WALKÜRE by Richard Wagner

Co-production with Washington National Opera

June 15[•] (7 p.m.), 22[•] (7 p.m.), and 29[•] (7 p.m.), 2011

Libretto by Richard Wagner

Approximate running time: 4 hours, 30 minutes with two intermissions

Sung in German with English supertitles

First Performance: Munich, June 26, 1870

First SFO Performance: November 4, 1935

Most Recent SFO performance: 1999 *Ring* Festival (Will be performed in June 2010)

Cast:

Brünnhilde

Nina Stemme

Wotan

Mark Delavan

Sieglinde

Anja Kampe*

Heidi Melton ♪ (6/29)

Siegmund

Brandon Jovanovich ♪

Fricka

Larissa Diadkova

Hunding

Daniel Sumegi

Production Team:

Conductor

Donald Runnicles

Director

Francesca Zambello

Associate Director

Christian Räch

Set Designer

Michael Yeargan

Costume Designer

Catherine Zuber

Lighting Designer

Mark McCullough

Projection Designer

Jan Hartley

Choreographer

Lawrence Pech

SIEGFRIED by Richard Wagner

Co-production with Washington National Opera

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO

Non-subscription performance on **May 29, 2011** (1 p.m.)

June 17[•] (6:30 p.m.), 24[•] (6:30 p.m.), and July 1[•] (6:30 p.m.), 2011

Libretto by Richard Wagner

Approximate running time: 4 hours, 50 minutes with two intermissions

Sung in German with English supertitles

First Performance: Bayreuth, August 16, 1876

First SFO Performance: November 6, 1935

Most Recent SFO Performance: 1999 *Ring* Festival

Cast:

Siegfried

Ian Storey* ♪

The Wanderer (Wotan)

Mark Delavan ♪

Brünnhilde

Nina Stemme

Mime

David Cangelosi

Alberich

Gordon Hawkins

Fafner

Daniel Sumegi

Erda

Ronnita Miller ♪

Forest Bird

Stacey Tappan

Production Team:

Conductor

Donald Runnicles

Director

Francesca Zambello

Associate Director

Christian Räch

Set Designer

Michael Yeargan

Costume Designer

Catherine Zuber

Lighting Designer

Mark McCullough

Projection Designer

Jan Hartley

Choreographer

Lawrence Pech

GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG by Richard Wagner

San Francisco Opera Production

Libretto by Richard Wagner

Approximate running time: 5 hours, 15 minutes with two intermissions

Sung in German with English supertitles

First Performance: Bayreuth, August 17, 1876

First SFO Performance: November 9, 1935

Most Recent SFO Performance: 1999 *Ring* Festival

NEW PRODUCTION PREMIERE

Non-subscription performance on **June 5, 2011** (1 p.m.)

June 19* (1 p.m.), **26*** (1 p.m.), and **July 3*** (1 p.m.), **2011**

Cast:

Brünnhilde **Nina Stemme** ♪
Siegfried **Ian Storey** ♪
Gunther **Gerd Grochowski**
Hagen **Andrea Silvestrelli**
Waltraute **Daveda Karanas** ♪
Gutrune **Melissa Citro** ♪
Alberich **Gordon Hawkins**
First Norn **Ronnita Miller** ♪
Second Norn **Daveda Karanas** ♪
Third Norn **Heidi Melton** ♪
Woglinde **Stacey Tappan**
Wellgunde **Lauren McNeese**
Flosshilde **Renée Tatum** ♪

Production Team:

Conductor **Donald Runnicles**
Director **Francesca Zambello**
Associate Director **Christian Räch**
Set Designer **Michael Yeargan**
Costume Designer **Catherine Zuber**
Lighting Designer **Mark McCullough**
Projection Designer **Jan Hartley**
Choreographer **Lawrence Pech**
Chorus Director **Ian Robertson**

2010–11 SPECIAL EVENTS

OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATIONS – Friday, September 10, 2010

Opera Ball 2010

Presented by San Francisco Opera Guild, the evening begins with an elegant pre-performance cocktail reception and sumptuous dinner followed by the season-opening performance of Verdi's *Aida* and dancing at San Francisco City Hall. 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: Charlot Malin and Mary Poland

5 p.m. Cocktail Reception and Dinner

8 p.m. Opening Night performance of *Aida*

11 p.m. Dancing at City Hall

For tickets or more information about *Opera Ball 2010*, 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 cocktail reception and seated dinner at City Hall followed by the season-opening performance of *Aida* and post-performance dancing.

Co-chairs: Jane Burkhard and Anjelika Koulebakina

5 p.m. Cocktail Reception and Dinner

8 p.m. Opening Night performance of *Aida*

11 p.m. Dancing at City Hall

Tickets are available only to current BRAVO! CLUB members. For tickets and membership information, email bravoclub@sfoopera.com or call (415) 565-3285.

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA IN THE PARK

Sunday, September 12, 2010 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 2010 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.

WEBCOR BUILDERS PRESENTS OPERA AT THE BALLPARK

Free Live Simulcast of *Aida* at AT&T Park; Friday, September 24, 2010 at 8 p.m.

24 Willie Mays Plaza in San Francisco

Baseball and opera fans alike have the rare opportunity to enjoy opera in the beautiful and convivial outdoor setting of AT&T Park as San Francisco Opera continues its highly successful partnership with the San Francisco Giants to present Verdi's *Aida* in 2010. This event is free and open to the public, however advance online registration assures early entrance into the ballpark for preferred seating and entry into a special prize drawing. For further information, visit sfopera.com/simulcast.

THE FUTURE IS NOW: ADLER FELLOWS GALA CONCERT

With the San Francisco Opera Orchestra

Wednesday, December 1, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Herbst Theatre, War Memorial Veterans Building

The San Francisco Opera Center will present its resident artists, the Adler Fellows, in *The Future is Now: Adler Fellows Gala Concert*. Accompanied by the San Francisco Opera Orchestra, the Adler Fellows will perform an array of opera scenes and arias at the Herbst Theatre.

JONAS KAUFMANN IN RECITAL
with pianist Helmut Deutsch

Sunday, March, 2011 13 at 7 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall / University of California, Berkeley

Presented by San Francisco Opera and Cal Performances

- SFO -

This press release and downloadable 2010–11 Season photographs are available at www.sfopera.com/press.

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