



SAN FRANCISCO  
OPERA

**GENERAL DIRECTOR MATTHEW SHILVOCK AND MUSIC DIRECTOR NICOLA LUISOTTI  
ANNOUNCE SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S 2017–18 REPERTORY SEASON AND CASTING  
INCLUDING WORLD PREMIERE OF *GIRLS OF THE GOLDEN WEST*  
BY COMPOSER JOHN ADAMS WITH LIBRETTO BY DIRECTOR PETER SELLARS  
AND THREE CYCLES OF WAGNER'S *DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN*  
LED BY DONALD RUNNICLES AND DIRECTED BY FRANCESCA ZAMBELLO**

**SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S 95TH SEASON WILL FEATURE NEW PRODUCTIONS OF  
STRAUSS' *ELEKTRA* WITH CHRISTINE GOERKE AND STEPHANIE BLYTHE;  
MASSENET'S *MANON* STARRING NADINE SIERRA AND MICHAEL FABIANO**

**REPERTORY REVIVALS OF PUCCINI'S *TURANDOT* WITH MARTINA SERAFIN AND  
NINA STEMME; VERDI'S *LA TRAVIATA* WITH DEBUTING ARTISTS  
AURELIA FLORIAN, ATALLA AYAN AND ARTUR RUCIŃSKI**

**SEASON OPENS SEPTEMBER 8 WITH *TURANDOT* AND SAN FRANCISCO OPERA GUILD'S  
*OPERA BALL 2017*, HONORING NICOLA LUISOTTI IN HIS FINAL YEAR  
AS COMPANY MUSIC DIRECTOR; OPENING WEEKEND INCLUDES ANNUAL  
*SAN FRANCISCO OPERA IN THE PARK* CONCERT SEPTEMBER 10**



Nicola Luisotti and Matthew Shilvock [photo by Drew Altizer]; Massenet's *Manon* [Martynas Aleksa/Lithuanian National Opera]; John Adams and Peter Sellars (*Girls of the Golden West*) [Scott Wall]; Wagner's *Das Rheingold* [Cory Weaver/San Francisco Opera]

**SUBSCRIPTION SERIES TICKETS ON SALE JANUARY 17 AT 1 P.M.  
FOR SEASON TICKETS, VISIT [SFOPERA.COM](http://SFOPERA.COM) OR CALL (415) 864-3330**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (January 17, 2017) — San Francisco Opera General Director **Matthew Shilvock** and Music Director **Nicola Luisotti** today announced plans for the 2017–18 repertory season. The Company's 95th season will open Friday, September 8 with a gala performance of Giacomo Puccini's

*Turandot* led by Maestro Luisotti and an international cast starring **Martina Serafin, Maria Agresta** and **Brian Jagde**. On the occasion of this special evening, San Francisco Opera Guild will produce their signature event *Opera Ball 2017*, presented in honor of Nicola Luisotti, who concludes his tenure as the Company's music director at the end of the 2017–18 Season.

San Francisco Opera's new season features the highly anticipated world premiere of *Girls of the Golden West* by composer John Adams; the return of Francesca Zambello's production of Richard Wagner's epic tetralogy *Der Ring des Nibelungen (The Ring of the Nibelung)*; bold new productions of Richard Strauss' gripping music drama *Elektra* and Jules Massenet's sensual *Manon*; and revivals of Giacomo Puccini's *Turandot* and Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata*. All performances will be presented at the War Memorial Opera House.

Today's public announcement was held at San Francisco Opera's Diane B. Wilsey Center for Opera before an audience of the Bay Area press corps, cultural and civic community leaders and special guests. Director **Francesca Zambello**, composer **John Adams** and librettist/director **Peter Sellars** joined Matthew Shilvock for the live-streamed press conference.

"Our 2017–18 Season encapsulates the power of opera to tell the great stories of humanity, whether about us as individuals or as a society. The diverse sweep of engaging productions features many of the world's finest artists, including some very exciting debuts," said **Matthew Shilvock**. "The season was planned by David Gockley, and it represents the tenets of excellence that defined his incredible tenure with the Company, including the commissioning of John Adams' *Girls of the Golden West*. We are so proud to premiere this new opera in the fall as a culmination of the worldwide events honoring John's 70th birthday year."

Shilvock continued: "Beginning in September, we also honor Nicola Luisotti in his final season as our distinguished music director. The energy and vitality he has brought to us will resonate long into our future. The esteemed forces of the San Francisco Opera Orchestra, Chorus, Dance Corps and Crew will create spectacular worlds on the War Memorial Opera House stage, worlds that will move, transport and thrill audiences. At the apex of this is the summer *Ring Cycle*, the most monumental celebration imaginable of the Company and the community that we serve. I am incredibly excited for what lies ahead."

The 2017–18 Season marks Matthew Shilvock's second as general director of San Francisco Opera. Shilvock is the Company's seventh General Director in its 94-year-history, following in the footsteps of Gaetano Merola who founded San Francisco Opera in 1923, Kurt Herbert Adler (1953–1981), Terence A. McEwen (1982–1988), Lotfi Mansouri (1988–2001), Pamela Rosenberg (2001–2005) and David Gockley (2006–2016). Due to the necessity of long-term artistic planning and contracting of artists, David Gockley planned the 2017–18 Season. Shilvock's first planned season as general director will be the 2018–19 repertory season.

At the conclusion of the 2017–18 Season, Nicola Luisotti will formally step down as music director. Maestro Luisotti made his San Francisco Opera debut in 2005 conducting Verdi's *La Forza del Destino* and became music director in 2009. During his tenure with the Company, he has led over 40 opera productions and concerts, including a historic performance of Verdi's *Messa da Requiem* that united

the orchestras and choruses of San Francisco Opera and Teatro di San Carlo of Naples on the War Memorial Opera House stage. During the fall season, Luisotti will conduct performances of *Turandot*, *La Traviata* and the annual *San Francisco Opera in the Park* concert. As an expression of San Francisco Opera Guild's appreciation of Nicola Luisotti's artistic contributions, Guild President **Jane Mudge** designated the Italian maestro as their distinguished honoree for *Opera Ball 2017*.

"I am deeply honored to be on the podium for the gala opening of San Francisco Opera's 2017–18 Season and to lead such an important cast of singers in *Turandot*," commented **Nicola Luisotti**. "I'm very proud of the work we have accomplished during my time with San Francisco Opera. As I will be stepping down from the post of music director at the end of next season, it will certainly be an emotional year for me. I believe strongly in our Company and that we will continue to make extraordinary music each night. My wife, Rita, and I both thank the entire Company, the San Francisco Opera Guild and the Bay Area community from the bottom of our hearts."

For the 2017–18 Season, San Francisco Opera has invited many of the world's leading singers, as well as emerging artists, to perform at the War Memorial Opera House. They include: **Maria Agresta, Jamie Barton, Stephanie Blythe, J'Nai Bridges, Julia Bullock, Melissa Citro, Leah Crocetto, Aurelia Florian, Christine Goerke, Evelyn Herlitzius, Hye Jung Lee, Karita Mattila, Ronnita Miller, Adrienne Pieczonka, Martina Serafin, Nadine Sierra, Nina Stemme; Raymond Aceto, Paul Appleby, Atalla Ayan, Daniel Brenna, David Cangelosi, Michael Fabiano, Greer Grimsley, Solomon Howard, Brian Jagde, Brandon Jovanovich, Elliot Madore, Štefan Margita, Ryan McKinny, Brian Mulligan, David Pershall, Artur Ruciński, Andrea Silvestrelli, Falk Struckmann, Davóne Tines and Alfred Walker.**

Featured conductors, directors and designers include: **Patrick Fournillier, Christopher Franklin, Grant Gershon, Nicola Luisotti, Henrik Nánási, Donald Runnicles; Vincent Boussard, Garnett Bruce, Anja Kühnhold, Shawna Lucey, Peter Sellars, Keith Warner, Francesca Zambello; John Conklin, David Gropman, David Hockney, Vincent Lemaire and Michael Yeargan.** **Ian Robertson** is San Francisco Opera Chorus Director.

## **FALL 2017 SEASON**

### **Puccini: *Turandot* (September 8–30; November 18–December 9)**

The 2017–18 Season opens Friday, September 8 with *Turandot*, Giacomo Puccini's 1926 unfinished masterpiece of fantasy and romanticism set in legendary Peking (last duet and finale by Franco Alfano). San Francisco Opera Music Director **Nicola Luisotti** conducts an international cast led by the acclaimed Viennese soprano **Martina Serafin** as Princess Turandot. A frequent performer with the Vienna State Opera, Milan's Teatro alla Scala and the Opéra National de Paris, Serafin sang her first performances in North America with San Francisco Opera in 2007 as the Marschallin in *Der Rosenkavalier*. American tenor **Brian Jagde**, who was praised by *The Mercury News* for his "ardent and expressive" role debut as Radames in *Aida* last November, returns in 2017 to take on Calaf, another new role which is known for the famous aria "Nessun dorma."

Italian soprano **Maria Agresta** will debut as the tragic heroine Liù on September 8, 12, 15 and 21. Heralded for her artistry in a variety of roles, Agresta's performance as Amelia in *Simon Boccanegra*

with Rome Opera led *Opera News* to observe: “her voice is exquisitely focused and freshly attractive in coloration, her legato impeccable and her soft singing as effortless as her fortissimos above the staff.” Last season at London’s Royal Opera, Agresta was praised for her portrayal of Violetta Valéry in *La Traviata*, which featured conductor Luisotti on the podium. American soprano and current San Francisco Opera Adler Fellow **Toni Marie Palmertree** will perform Liù on September 24 and 30. Palmertree thrilled San Francisco Opera audiences in November 2016 when, with two hours’ notice, she stepped in for an ailing colleague to perform as Cio-Cio-San in *Madama Butterfly*. American bass **Raymond Aceto** sings the role of Timur. Director **Garnett Bruce** stages this revival of **David Hockney’s** colorful production and Company Chorus Director **Ian Robertson** prepares the San Francisco Opera Chorus.

*Turandot* returns to the stage in November and December with a cast led by Swedish soprano **Nina Stemme** in the title role. Admired for her Brünnhilde in Wagner’s *Ring* cycle at San Francisco Opera in 2011, Stemme gives an equally accomplished stage portrayal of Turandot, for which the *New York Times* praised her “powerful, luxuriant voice [which] retained its warmth throughout the evening, with blazing high notes.” American soprano **Leah Crocetto** sings Liù, a role which she first performed with San Francisco Opera in 2011 and subsequently at the Metropolitan Opera during the 2015–16 Season. American bass **Soloman Howard** makes his Company and role debut as Timur, and American conductor **Christopher Franklin** bows for the first time with the Company leading the Opera Orchestra and Chorus in the November and December performances. Brian Jagde returns as Calaf and **Joo Won Kang** (Ping), **Julius Ahn** (Pang), **Joel Sorensen** (Pong), **Brad Walker** (a Mandarin) and **Robert Brubaker** (Emperor Altoum) complete the cast in all performances.

### **Strauss: *Elektra* (September 9–27)**

On September 9, Richard Strauss and Hugo von Hofmannsthal’s 1909 opera *Elektra* surges back onto the War Memorial Opera House stage for the first time in two decades in a provocative new production by celebrated English director **Keith Warner**. This psychologically complex and vocally formidable opera requires lyric artists of the first rank and San Francisco Opera has assembled a superlative cast that includes soprano **Christine Goerke**, mezzo-soprano **Stephanie Blythe** and soprano **Adrienne Pieczonka**, along with bass-baritone **Alfred Walker** in his Company debut and tenor **Robert Brubaker**. The staging of this co-production with the National Theatre in Prague and the Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe will be directed in revival by **Anja Kühnhold**. The creative team features the work of set designer **Boris Kudlička**, costume designer **Kaspar Glarner**, lighting designer **John Bishop** and video designer **Bartek Macias**.

American soprano Christine Goerke returns to San Francisco Opera in one of her most celebrated roles as the deranged and vengeful Elektra. Her portrayal of the part with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Hall led the *New York Observer* to proclaim: “To the rarefied society of superb interpreters of Elektra, consisting of perhaps two or three singers in each generation, we can now welcome Ms. Goerke.” American mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe, “who boasts one of the most powerful voices in opera” (*New York Times*), makes her role debut as Elektra’s embattled mother, Klytemnestra. Canadian soprano Adrienne Pieczonka, renowned for her interpretation of Chrysothemis, returns to the Company for the first time since performing Tosca in 2009. In his first appearance with San Francisco Opera, American bass-baritone Alfred Walker sings Orest and tenor

Robert Brubaker is Aegisth. Hungarian conductor **Henrik Nánási**, General Music Director of Komische Oper Berlin, makes his podium debut with the Company leading Strauss' intricate and explosive score.

Warner's setting of this opera based on the classic Greek tragedy brings *Elektra* into the present day. The British director commented: "On one hand, *Elektra* is really an amazingly complex, deep piece and on the other it is an almost horror movie kind of thriller. Dreadful, terrible deeds are happening in this family: there have been murders in the past and there will be more murders on the day when the story is taking place. We have decided to set the piece in a modern museum where a girl is going through and reading about Sophocles' Electra and Carl Jung's Electra complex. The artifacts and information trigger a series of memories in her and we go back into her story. She must confront the truth by confronting the terrible events that started this whole chain reaction of murder and mayhem."

### **Verdi: *La Traviata* (September 23–October 17)**

A revival of Verdi's enduring classic *La Traviata* opens on September 23 with Maestro **Nicola Luisotti** leading a cast that includes three artists making their Company debuts in leading roles. Romanian soprano **Aurelia Florian**, who has performed Violetta Valéry in Berlin, Munich, Oslo and Tel Aviv, will sing her first performances in the United States as the courtesan who sacrifices everything for love. Brazilian tenor **Atalla Ayan** debuts as Alfredo Germont, a role which he will also sing this year in March and April at the Metropolitan Opera and in June at Covent Garden. Polish baritone **Artur Ruciński** will portray Giorgio Germont. Since his 2010 breakout performances in the title role of *Eugene Onegin* at Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin, Ruciński has been heard in many of the world's leading opera houses and has performed Germont in Berlin, Verona and London. **John Copley's** elegant production returns and will be directed in revival by **Shawna Lucey**. Flamenco performer and Artistic Director of Theatre Flamenco of San Francisco **Carola Zertuche** contributes new choreography in her Company debut.

### **Massenet: *Manon* (November 4–22)**

Soprano **Nadine Sierra** and tenor **Michael Fabiano** headline a new production of Jules Massenet's opera of young love and reckless passion, *Manon*, which returns to the Company's repertory on November 4 after an absence of 19 seasons. Sierra sings the title role for the first time in her career, which in 2016 included acclaimed debuts with the Metropolitan Opera, Milan's La Scala and Opéra National de Paris where her "lithe soprano masterfully soared with tones of exceptional grace" in Cavalli's *Eliogabalo* (*Musical America*). Hailed as "a sensational performer" by *The Guardian* for his role debut as Lensky in *Eugene Onegin* and last heard with San Francisco Opera in June 2016 performing the title role in *Don Carlo* for the first time, Fabiano premieres another new role with the Company in 2017 with Chevalier des Grieux. At a recent San Francisco Opera gala, the duo of Sierra and Fabiano were featured in the "vocally steamy" St. Sulpice scene from the opera. The *San Francisco Chronicle* declared "nothing got the audience quite so jazzed as the incendiary duet from Massenet's *Manon*."

Baritone **David Pershall**, who made his first appearance with the Company in September 2016 as Roucher in Giordano's *Andrea Chénier*, returns as Lescaut. Bass **James Creswell** is Comte des Grieux, baritone **Timothy Mix** is De Brétigny and tenor **Robert Brubaker** portrays Guillot de Morfontaine. Parisian-born conductor and Massenet specialist **Patrick Fournillier**, who made his Company debut in 2010 conducting Alfano's *Cyrano de Bergerac* and who also led the 2013 new production of *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, returns to conduct the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus in Massenet's plush score.

**Vincent Bousard**, whose production of Bellini's *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* was presented at San Francisco Opera in 2012, returns to direct this new interpretation of *Manon*, a co-production with the Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre and the Israeli Opera, featuring sets designed by **Vincent Lemaire**, costumes designed by Bousard and lighting by **Gary Marder**.

Bousard noted: "*Manon* is a specific play from 18th-century France, rewritten by Massenet in the 19th century, who was dreaming about that earlier time. So, we have to find all the crispy colors of all those periods of time. I tried to make it as pure as possible in terms of setting, not too much decoration. It is a style that requires the singers to be great performers because *Manon* is a very intimate piece. I believe that the story of a young lady who wants to listen to a call for freedom and pleasure belongs to our period of time."

### **Adams: *Girls of the Golden West* (November 21–December 10)**

On November 21, the War Memorial Opera House will play host to one of the musical season's most eagerly anticipated events: the world premiere of *Girls of the Golden West*, the newest opera by composer and California resident **John Adams**, written expressly for San Francisco Opera. With a libretto by director **Peter Sellars**, *Girls of the Golden West* explores the dramatic and often brutal stories of pioneers on California's Gold Rush frontier during the 1850s.

Initiated by the Company's former General Director David Gockley, this auspicious opera debut will be the culmination of the yearlong, worldwide celebrations honoring the American composer's 70th birthday. A co-commission and co-production between San Francisco Opera, The Dallas Opera, Dutch National Opera, Amsterdam and the Fondazione Teatro La Fenice, Venice, *Girls of the Golden West* will premiere in San Francisco, a mere 200 miles away from the opera's setting in the historic mining sites of Rich Bar and Downieville. The opera is presented by arrangement with Hendon Music, Inc., a Boosey & Hawkes company, publisher and copyright owner.

Adams, whose previous operas *Nixon in China*, *The Death of Klinghoffer* and *Doctor Atomic* have all been produced by San Francisco Opera, began work on the score in June 2015. He said, "I have a cabin in the Sierra Nevada Mountains not far from where these events in the opera took place. I know the terrain. I have hiked through those valleys and along those hillsides. This is home to me. Not many composers can hope to be as lucky as I to have this connection to the historical reality."

The libretto by Sellars is drawn from period sources including *The Shirley Letters*, vivid accounts of life at Rich Bar written by Louise Amelia Knapp Smith Clappe, using her pen name "Dame Shirley";

speeches by civil rights champion Frederick Douglass; poetry of Argentinian, Chilean and Chinese miners; songs of the period; and the journalistic writings of Mark Twain.

Reflecting on these historic writings, Sellars commented: “The true stories of the Forty-Niners are overwhelming in their heroism, passion and cruelty, telling tales of racial conflicts, colorful and humorous exploits, political strife and struggles to build anew a life and to decide what it would mean to be American. And let me add that I’m hugely stimulated by the dynamic, high-spirited and deeply moving music that John is creating. I am in high anticipation in my eagerness to bring this new work to life, first in San Francisco, and later around the world.”

“One of the key elements in the opera,” Adams remarked, “is the trove of original Gold Rush song lyrics that I’ve set. These are lyrics that, in their frank and homely simplicity, describe the hardships, wild expectations and crushing realities these miners experienced.”

Adams continued, “I am unusually excited about our cast for this world premiere. They are, in a lot of ways, a slam dunk.” Soprano **Julia Bullock** will make her Company debut as Dame Shirley. Earning acclaim for her performances in contemporary works by Adams, Kaija Saariaho and Tyshawn Sorey, Bullock’s performance in Purcell’s *The Indian Queen* with the English National Opera was admired by *The Telegraph* for its “moments of heart-stopping beauty.” Bass-baritone **Davóne Tines** makes his first local operatic appearance as Ned Peters, an African-American cowboy and former slave who is drawn to the promise of the frontier. At age 30, Tines has had three operas composed with his voice in mind, and was hailed in a tweet by *The New Yorker’s* Alex Ross as a “great, electrifying singer.”

Mezzo-soprano **J’Nai Bridges** returns to the Company as Josefa Segovia, a young Mexican woman who serves drinks and entertains the miners at The Empire Hotel in Rich Bar. Along with her 2016 San Francisco Opera debut as Bersi in Giordano’s *Andrea Chénier*, Bridges, whom the *Los Angeles Times* and *Opera News* have declared a “rising star,” also won acclaim last year for her portrayal of Nefertiti in Philip Glass’ *Akhmaten* with LA Opera. Bass-baritone **Ryan McKinny**, who recently portrayed Amfortas in *Parsifal* at the Bayreuth Festival, will make his Company debut in *Girls of the Golden West* as Clarence King.

Tenor **Paul Appleby**, who last appeared with the Company as Tamino in Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* in 2015, returns to sing the pivotal role of Joe Cannon, a miner whose desire for Josefa leads to a crisis in the camp. Having previously appeared with San Francisco Opera as Madame Mao Tse-tung in *Nixon in China* in 2012 and Olympia in Offenbach’s *Les Contes d’Hoffmann* in 2013, Korean soprano **Hye Jung Lee** returns to portray Ah Sing, the Chinese courtesan who wishes to marry Joe. Baritone **Elliot Madore**, who first appeared with the Company as Anthony Hope in *Sweeney Todd*, portrays the bartender of The Empire Hotel, Ramón. San Francisco Ballet principal dancer **Lorena Feijoo** will portray the mid-19th-century entertainer and celebrity Lola Montez, who was known for her provocative “Spider Dance.”

Sellars, who “has created a body of work that will transcend epoch and place, style and fad” (*Opera News*), anchors a creative team that is drawn from the worlds of opera, theater and cinema, including set designer **David Gropman**, costume designer **Rita Ryack**, lighting designer **James F. Ingalls**, sound designer **Mark Grey** and choreographer **John Heginbotham**. Conductor **Grant Gershon**, currently in

his sixteenth season as the artistic director of the Los Angeles Master Chorale, will lead the cast, San Francisco Opera Orchestra, Chorus and Dance Corps in this new work.

The collaboration between San Francisco Opera and John Adams began with the co-commission of *The Death of Klinghoffer* and presentation of its West Coast premiere in 1992. The Company commissioned the composer to create *Doctor Atomic*, presenting that work's world premiere in 2005. Adams' collaboration with Sellars extends back to 1987 when Sellars directed the world premiere of Adams' first opera, *Nixon in China*, with a libretto by Alice Goodman, at Houston Grand Opera. San Francisco Opera presented *Nixon in China* in a production by Michael Cavanagh in 2012.

## **SUMMER 2018 SEASON**

### **Wagner: *Der Ring des Nibelungen* (June 12–July 1) (*The Ring of the Nibelung*)**

From June 12 through July 1, 2018, San Francisco Opera will present one of the greatest and most ambitious works of music, theater and stagecraft ever created: Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* (*The Ring of the Nibelung*). When first unveiled as a full cycle at San Francisco Opera in 2011, Francesca Zambello's production was hailed by the *New York Times* as "boldly contemporary" and the *San Francisco Chronicle* observed: "San Francisco Opera's most ambitious undertaking in years also turned out to be the company's greatest triumph."

The 2018 *Ring* Festival will revive the acclaimed production in three complete cycles of the tetralogy: *Das Rheingold*, *Die Walküre*, *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung*. Director **Francesca Zambello** returns to direct and introduce several new features, including technologically advanced projections, new imagery and restudied stage action that were not part of the production's earlier incarnation at San Francisco Opera in 2011. Utilizing visuals from various periods of American history in each of the four operas, Zambello commented: "Since directing the *Ring* again in 2016 in Washington, D.C., the power of the work feels even more contemporary. We are presenting a world in some ways familiar to our audience but also one that will feel very mythic as we look to our country's rich imagery. The characters seem known to us as we have placed more emphasis on the role of the family and the role of redemption through all the female characters. The great overarching themes of the *Ring*—nature, power and corruption—resound through America's past and haunt our present." Renowned Wagnerian conductor **Donald Runnicles** returns to lead cast, orchestra and chorus in all three cycles.

An international cast of the world's leading Wagnerians has been assembled for this production of the *Ring*, including a trio of exceptional artists who are new to the Company. German soprano **Evelyn Herlitzius** will portray Brünnhilde in *Die Walküre*, *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung*; American tenor **Daniel Brenna** will bow as Siegfried in both *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung*; and German bass-baritone **Falk Struckmann**, who has performed most of the low-voiced roles in the *Ring*, makes both his Company and role debuts as Alberich in *Das Rheingold*, *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung*.

Known throughout the world for his interpretation of Wotan King of the Gods, American bass-baritone **Greer Grimsley** brings his celebrated portrayal to the War Memorial Opera House stage for the first time. Finnish soprano **Karita Mattila** will sing Sieglinde in *Die Walküre*. American tenor



**Brandon Jovanovich** reprises the roles he performed in the 2011 production: Froh in *Das Rheingold* and Siegmund in *Die Walküre*. Triumphant in her Company debut as Adalgisa in the 2014 performances of Bellini's *Norma*, American mezzo-soprano **Jamie Barton** will sing the roles of Fricka in *Das Rheingold* and *Die Walküre*, and Waltraute and the Second Norn in *Götterdämmerung*. **Štefan Margita** and **David Cangelosi** reprise the roles of Loge and Mime respectively, portrayals for which the two tenors were highly praised in the Company's 2011 *Ring*. Bass **Raymond Aceto** sings the roles of Fafner (*Das Rheingold* and *Siegfried*) and Hunding (*Die Walküre*); baritone **Brian Mulligan** portrays Donner (*Das Rheingold*) and Gunther (*Götterdämmerung*); and bass **Andrea Silvestrelli** is Fasolt (*Das Rheingold*) and Hagen (*Götterdämmerung*).

As part of today's announcement, San Francisco Opera revealed additions to the roster of artists who will be featured in the four *Ring* operas. Soprano **Julie Adams** joins the previously announced cast as Freia in *Das Rheingold* and Gerhilde in *Die Walküre*. Mezzo-soprano **Ronnita Miller**, mezzo-soprano Jamie Barton and incoming Adler Fellow soprano **Sarah Cambridge** will portray the three Norns in *Götterdämmerung*. The Valkyries in the third act of *Die Walküre*, who sing the memorable "Ho-jo-to-ho"s following Wagner's iconic "Ride of the Valkyries," will be performed by Adams, Cambridge, **Melissa Citro**, **Laura Krumm**, **Lauren McNeese**, **Renée Rapier** and **Renée Tatum**.

All artists will perform their roles in each of the three cycles, which are scheduled for June 12–17, June 19–24 and June 26–July 1, 2018. *Ring* cycle performances take place on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. To provide *Ring* aficionados and those who are new to the work additional points of engagement, San Francisco Opera will partner with Bay Area cultural institutions to present myriad activities during the 2018 *Ring* Festival, including lectures and other events. The full calendar of ancillary programs will be announced at a later date. For more information, visit [sfopera.com/ring](http://sfopera.com/ring).

Regarded as one of the world's leading companies in presenting the *Ring*, San Francisco Opera first produced Wagner's masterwork in 1935 with Friedrich Schorr (Wotan), Lauritz Melchior (Siegmond/Siegfried), Elisabeth Rethberg (Sieglinde) and Kirsten Flagstad (Brünnhilde). Later stagings followed in 1972, 1985, 1990, 1999 and 2011.

For details of past San Francisco Opera presentations of *Turandot*, *Elektra*, *La Traviata*, *Manon* and the *Ring*, visit the online performance archive at [archive.sfopera.com](http://archive.sfopera.com).

## **TICKETS AND INFORMATION**

**Subscriptions for San Francisco Opera's Fall 2017 Season** are priced from \$105 to \$1,890 for Full Series (five operas) and \$63 to \$1,449 for Half Series (three or four operas). For information about subscriber benefits and special series subscriptions, including the Out of Town Series offering two or three operas over a 2–3 day period, the Student & Teacher Series offering 50% off select Full and Half Series, and San Francisco Opera's Rainbow Series for the LGBTQ community, visit [sfopera.com/subscribe](http://sfopera.com/subscribe). **Fall 2017 Season subscriptions go on sale to new and renewing subscribers beginning January 17, 2017 at 1 p.m. PST at the San Francisco Opera Box Office by calling (415) 864-3330 or online at [sfopera.com](http://sfopera.com).** San Francisco Opera Box Office hours: Monday 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (Saturdays phone only). San

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**Tickets for Wagner’s *Ring* cycle**, available in complete four-opera cycles only, are priced from \$190 to \$3,420 (tickets include a tax-deductible contribution to provide extra support for this monumental production). *Ring* cycle tickets are sold separately from the fall season subscription series. All *Ring* cycle subscribers will receive a Festival packet with details about *Ring* Festival activities, lectures and events. San Francisco Opera will partner with hotels, restaurants and museums to accommodate out-of-town subscribers, as well as Bay Area patrons looking to immerse themselves in the *Ring* Festival. For more information, visit [sfopera.com/ring](http://sfopera.com/ring). ***Ring* cycle tickets, previously available to San Francisco Opera subscribers and donors only, go on sale to the general public beginning January 17, 2017 at 1 p.m. PST at the San Francisco Opera Box Office by calling (415) 864-3330 or online at [sfopera.com](http://sfopera.com).**

**Single tickets for San Francisco Opera’s Fall 2017 Season will go on sale beginning Monday, June 26.** A \$2 per-ticket facility fee is included in Balcony 1, Balcony 2 and Balcony 3 section prices; all other sections include a \$3 per-ticket facility fee.

All War Memorial Opera House performances (except the September 8 season opening) feature an informative Pre-Opera Talk beginning 55 minutes prior to curtain. Pre-Opera Talks are free of charge to patrons with tickets for the corresponding performance. Visit [sfopera.com/learn](http://sfopera.com/learn) for information about all of our opera talks, preview events and enrichment programs.

OperaVision screens, suspended from the ceiling of the balcony section at selected performances, show close-ups of the action on stage in high-definition video. English subtitles appear at the bottom of each screen. OperaVision is made possible by the Koret/Taube Media Suite.

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](http://bart.gov) and [sfmta.com](http://sfmta.com).

All casting, programs, schedules and ticket prices are subject to change. For further information about San Francisco Opera’s 2017–18 Season, visit [sfopera.com](http://sfopera.com).

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### **2017–18 SAN FRANCISCO OPERA DEBUTS**

Maria Agresta  
Atalla Ayan  
John Bishop  
Daniel Brenna

Liù, *Turandot*  
Alfredo Germont, *La Traviata*  
Lighting Designer, *Elektra*  
Siegfried, *Siegfried*

Robert Brubaker	Emperor Altoum, <i>Turandot</i>
Julia Bullock	Dame Shirley, <i>Girls of the Golden West</i>
Lorena Feijoo	Lola Montez, <i>Girls of the Golden West</i>
Aurelia Florian*	Violetta Valéry, <i>La Traviata</i>
Christopher Franklin	Conductor, <i>Turandot</i>
Grant Gershon	Conductor, <i>Girls of the Golden West</i>
Kaspar Glarner	Costume Designer, <i>Elektra</i>
David Gropman	Set Designer, <i>Girls of the Golden West</i>
John Heginbotham	Choreographer, <i>Girls of the Golden West</i>
Evelyn Herlitzius	Brünnhilde, <i>Die Walküre</i>
Soloman Howard	Timur, <i>Turandot</i>
Boris Kudlička	Set Designer, <i>Elektra</i>
Anja Kühnhold	Revival Director, <i>Elektra</i>
Bartek Macias	Video Designer, <i>Elektra</i>
Ryan McKinny	Clarence King, <i>Girls of the Golden West</i>
Henrik Nánási	Conductor, <i>Elektra</i>
Artur Ruciński	Giorgio Germont, <i>La Traviata</i>
Rita Ryack	Costume Designer, <i>Girls of the Golden West</i>
Falk Struckmann	Alberich, <i>Das Rheingold</i>
Davóne Tines	Ned Peters, <i>Girls of the Golden West</i>
Alfred Walker	Orest, <i>Elektra</i>
Keith Warner	Production, <i>Elektra</i>
Carola Zertuche	Choreographer, <i>La Traviata</i>

\*United States debut

## 2017–18 SPECIAL EVENTS

### **OPERA BALL 2017**

**Friday, September 8, 2017**

San Francisco Opera Guild's annual gala to celebrate the opening of the San Francisco Opera season, *Opera Ball*, will be co-chaired by **Courtney Labe** and **Maryam Muduroglu**. Pre-performance cocktails and dinner are followed by a gala performance of Giacomo Puccini's *Turandot*. Dancing and further celebration follows the performance. *Opera Ball 2017* will honor Company Music Director Nicola Luisotti. For tickets and more information, contact the San Francisco Opera Guild at (415) 565-3204 or visit [sfopera.com/operaball2017](http://sfopera.com/operaball2017).

### **BRAVO! CLUB OPENING NIGHT GALA**

**Friday, September 8, 2017**

The BRAVO! CLUB's annual black-tie gala will celebrate the opening of San Francisco Opera's 95th Season with pre-performance cocktails and late night dancing following the opening night performance of Puccini's *Turandot*. The gala will be hosted by event co-chairs **Alex Petalas** and **Victoria Weatherford**. A group for opera-loving professionals ages 21–40, BRAVO! CLUB members

enjoy ticket discounts throughout the year, as well as educational and social events. For tickets and membership information, visit [sfopera.com/bravo](http://sfopera.com/bravo).

### **SAN FRANCISCO OPERA IN THE PARK**

**Sunday, September 10, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.**

*San Francisco Opera in the Park* features artists from the Company's Fall 2017 Season in concert with the San Francisco Opera Orchestra conducted by Music Director Nicola Luisotti. This annual concert, held at Sharon Meadow in Golden Gate Park, is free and open to the public; no tickets required.

### **EXPLORATION WORKSHOP: ALL ABOUT TURANDOT**

**Sunday, September 24, 2017 at 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.**

Experience Puccini's *Turandot* in two interactive, multi-generational workshops based on the themes, story, characters and music of the opera. Designed for families by San Francisco Opera's Education Department, the workshop is led by Teaching Artists and recommended for families with children ages 8 and older. Children should be accompanied by at least one parent or guardian. Tickets are \$10 (scholarships available) and will be available this summer. For more information, visit [sfopera.com/education](http://sfopera.com/education) or call (415) 551-6294.

### **AN EVENING ON THE STAGE**

**Monday, December 4, 2017 at 6 p.m.**

San Francisco Opera Guild presents the fifth annual gala dinner on the stage of the War Memorial Opera House honoring a community leader for their exemplary and extraordinary advocacy for San Francisco Opera. For more information, visit [sfoperaguild.com](http://sfoperaguild.com).

### **THE FUTURE IS NOW: ADLER FELLOWS GALA CONCERT**

**Friday, December 8, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.**

This annual concert showcases the artists from San Francisco Opera Center's young artist training program in a gala performance of opera scenes and arias with the San Francisco Opera Orchestra. For more information, visit [sfopera.com/operacenter](http://sfopera.com/operacenter).

### **SAN FRANCISCO OPERA GUILD INSIGHT PANELS**

San Francisco Opera Guild presents moderated panel discussions with cast and creative team members from Richard Strauss's *Elektra*, Jules Massenet's *Manon*, and John Adams's *Girls of the Golden West*. Hear directly from the artists as they share insights about bringing these operas to life. Insight Panels are free to Opera Guild members, San Francisco Opera subscribers and students; \$5 for general public admission. Dates and locations will be announced at a later date; visit [sfopera.com/insights](http://sfopera.com/insights) for more information.

## **2017–18 OPERA SEASON CASTING AND CALENDAR**

\*San Francisco Opera Debut \*\*United States Debut †Role Debut

‡Current Adler Fellow °OperaVision Performance

All performances take place at the War Memorial Opera House.

### **FALL 2017 SEASON**

***TURANDOT*** by Giacomo Puccini

(Last duet and finale by Franco Alfano)

**September 8** (8 p.m.), **12°** (7:30 p.m.), **15** (7:30 p.m.), **21** (7:30 p.m.), **24°** (2 p.m.), **30** (7:30 p.m.);

**November 18** (7:30 p.m.), **25** (7:30 p.m.), **28** (7:30 p.m.); **December 3** (2 p.m.), **6°** (7:30 p.m.), **9°** (7:30 p.m.),  
**2017**

Co-production with Lyric Opera of Chicago

Libretto by Giuseppe Adami and Renato Simoni

Based on Friedrich Schiller's version of a play by Carlo Gozzi

Approximate running time: 3 hours including two intermissions

Sung in Italian with English supertitles

First performance: Milan; April 25, 1926

First SFO performance: September 19, 1927

Most recent SFO performances: November 2011

#### **Cast:**

*Turandot*

**Martina Serafin (Sep.)**

**Nina Stemme (Nov./Dec.)**

*Calaf*

**Brian Jagde†**

*Liù*

**Maria Agresta\* (Sep. 8, 12, 15, 21)**

**Toni Marie Palmertree† (Sep. 24, 30)**

**Leah Crocetto (Nov. Dec.)**

*Timur*

**Raymond Aceto (Sep.)**

**Soloman Howard\* (Nov./Dec.)**

*Ping*

**Joo Won Kang†**

*Pang*

**Julius Ahn**

*Pong*

**Joel Sorensen**

*A Mandarin*

**Brad Walker†**

*Emperor Altoum*

**Robert Brubaker\*†**

#### **Creative Team:**

*Conductor*

**Nicola Luisotti (Sep.)**

*Conductor*

**Christopher Franklin\* (Nov./Dec.)**

*Production and Design*

**David Hockney**

*Director*

**Garnett Bruce**

*Costume Designer*

**Ian Falconer**

*Original Lighting Designer*

**Thomas J. Munn**

*Lighting Designer*

**Gary Marder**

*Chorus Director*

**Ian Robertson**

*Choreographer*

**Lawrence Pech**

*Fight Director*

**Dave Maier**

**San Francisco Opera Orchestra, San Francisco Opera Chorus and San Francisco Opera Dance Corps**

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**ELEKTRA** by Richard Strauss

**NEW PRODUCTION**

**September 9** (7:30 p.m.), **13<sup>o</sup>** (7:30 p.m.), **17<sup>o</sup>** (2 p.m.), **19** (7:30 p.m.), **22** (7:30 p.m.), **27<sup>o</sup>** (7:30 p.m.), **2017**

Co-production with National Theatre in Prague and Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe

Libretto by Hugo von Hofmannsthal after Sophocles' *Electra*

Approximate running time: 1 hour, 40 minutes with no intermission

Sung in German with English supertitles

First performance: Dresden; January 25, 1909

First SFO performance: October 24, 1938

Most recent SFO performances: November 1997

**Cast:**

<i>Elektra</i>	<b>Christine Goerke</b>
<i>Klytemnestra</i>	<b>Stephanie Blythe</b> ♪
<i>Chrysothemis</i>	<b>Adrienne Pieczonka</b>
<i>Orest</i>	<b>Alfred Walker</b> *
<i>Aegisth</i>	<b>Robert Brubaker</b>
<i>Tutor of Orest</i>	<b>Anthony Reed</b> †♪
<i>Maid servant</i>	<b>Jill Grove</b>
<i>Maid servant</i>	<b>Laura Krumm</b> ♪
<i>Maid servant</i>	<b>Sarah Cambridge</b> *†♪
<i>Trainbearer</i>	<b>Amina Edris</b> †♪
<i>Young Servant</i>	<b>Kyle van Schoonhoven</b> *†♪

**Creative Team:**

<i>Conductor</i>	<b>Henrik Nánási</b> *
<i>Production</i>	<b>Keith Warner</b> *
<i>Revival Director</i>	<b>Anja Kühnhold</b> *
<i>Set Designer</i>	<b>Boris Kudlička</b> *
<i>Costume Designer</i>	<b>Kaspar Glarner</b> *
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	<b>John Bishop</b> *
<i>Video Designer</i>	<b>Bartek Macias</b> *
<i>Chorus Director</i>	<b>Ian Robertson</b>

**San Francisco Opera Orchestra and San Francisco Opera Chorus**

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**LA TRAVIATA** by Giuseppe Verdi

**September 23** (7:30 p.m.), **26** (7:30 p.m.), **28<sup>o</sup>** (7:30 p.m.); **October 1<sup>o</sup>** (2 p.m.), **3** (7:30 p.m.), **6** (7:30 p.m.), **8** (2 p.m.), **11<sup>o</sup>** (7:30 p.m.), **14** (7:30 p.m.), **17** (7:30 p.m.), **2017**

San Francisco Opera production

Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave after the play *La dame aux camellias* by Alexander Dumas, fils

Approximate running time: 3 hours including two intermissions  
Sung in Italian with English supertitles

First performance: Venice; March 6, 1853  
First SFO performance: October 4, 1924  
Most recent SFO performances: July 2014

**Cast:**

<i>Violetta Valéry</i>	<b>Aurelia Florian**</b>
<i>Alfredo Germont</i>	<b>Atalla Ayan*</b>
<i>Giorgio Germont</i>	<b>Artur Ruciński*</b>
<i>Flora Bervoix</i>	<b>Renée Rapier</b>
<i>Gastone</i>	<b>Amitai Patit♪</b>
<i>Doctor Grenvil</i>	<b>Anthony Reed†♪</b>
<i>Marquis d'Obigny</i>	<b>Andrew Manea†♪</b>
<i>Annina</i>	<b>Amina Edrist♪</b>

**Creative Team:**

<i>Conductor</i>	<b>Nicola Luisotti</b>
<i>Production</i>	<b>John Copley</b>
<i>Director</i>	<b>Shawna Lucey</b>
<i>Set Designer</i>	<b>John Conklin</b>
<i>Costume Designer</i>	<b>David Walker</b>
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	<b>Gary Marder</b>
<i>Chorus Director</i>	<b>Ian Robertson</b>
<i>Choreographer</i>	<b>Carola Zertuche*</b>
<i>Fight Director</i>	<b>Dave Maier</b>

**San Francisco Opera Orchestra, San Francisco Opera Chorus and San Francisco Opera Dance Corps**

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**MANON** by Jules Massenet

**NEW PRODUCTION**

**November 4** (7:30 p.m.), **7** (7:30 p.m.), **10** (7:30 p.m.), **16\*** (7:30 p.m.), **19\*** (2 p.m.), **22\*** (7:30 p.m.), **2017**

Co-production with Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre and the Israeli Opera

Libretto by Henri Meilhac and Philippe Gille after Antoine-François Prévost's novel *L'histoire du chevalier des Grieux et de Manon Lescaut*

Approximate running time: 3 hours, 30 minutes including two intermissions

Sung in French with English supertitles

First performance: Paris; January 19, 1884  
First SFO performance: September 29, 1924  
Most recent SFO performances: November 1998

**Cast:**

<i>Manon</i>	<b>Nadine Sierra♪</b>
<i>Chevalier des Grieux</i>	<b>Michael Fabiano♪</b>
<i>Lescaut</i>	<b>David Pershall♪</b>

*Comte des Grieux*  
*De Brétigny*  
*Guillot de Morfontaine*  
*Javotte*  
*Rosette*

**James Creswell**♪  
**Timothy Mix**♪  
**Robert Brubaker**♪  
**Laura Krumm**♪  
**Renée Rapier**♪

**Creative Team:**

*Conductor*  
*Director*  
*Set Designer*  
*Costume Designer*  
*Lighting Designer*  
*Chorus Director*

**Patrick Fournillier**  
**Vincent Boussard**  
**Vincent Lemaire**  
**Vincent Boussard**  
**Gary Marder**  
**Ian Robertson**

**San Francisco Opera Orchestra, San Francisco Opera Chorus and San Francisco Opera Dance Corps**

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***GIRLS OF THE GOLDEN WEST*** by John Adams

*WORLD PREMIERE*

**November 21** (7:30 p.m.), **24** (7:30 p.m.), **26\*** (2 p.m.), **29** (7:30 p.m.); **December 2** (7:30 p.m.), **5\*** (7:30 p.m.), **7\*** (7:30 p.m.), **10** (2 p.m.), **2017**

A co-commission and co-production between San Francisco Opera, The Dallas Opera, Dutch National Opera, Amsterdam and the Fondazione Teatro La Fenice, Venezia

The opera is presented by arrangement with Hendon Music, Inc., a Boosey & Hawkes company, publisher and copyright owner.

Libretto by Peter Sellars, drawn from original sources

Approximate running time: 3 hours including one intermission

Sung in English with English supertitles

**Cast:**

*Dame Shirley*  
*Ned Peters*  
*Josefa Segovia*  
*Clarence King*  
*Joe Cannon*  
*Ah Sing*  
*Ramón*  
*Lola Montez*

**Julia Bullock\***♪  
**Davóne Tines\***♪  
**J’Nai Bridges**♪  
**Ryan McKinny\***♪  
**Paul Appleby**♪  
**Hye Jung Lee**♪  
**Elliot Madore**♪  
**Lorena Feijoo\***♪

**Production Team:**

*Conductor*  
*Director*  
*Set Designer*  
*Costume Designer*  
*Lighting Designer*  
*Sound Designer*  
*Chorus Director*  
*Choreographer*

**Grant Gershon\***  
**Peter Sellars**  
**David Gropman\***  
**Rita Ryack\***  
**James F. Ingalls**  
**Mark Grey**  
**Ian Robertson**  
**John Heginbotham\***



**SUMMER 2018 SEASON**

***DER RING DES NIBELUNGEN (The Ring of the Nibelung)***

**CYCLE 1: June 12°** (7:30 p.m.); **June 13°** (7 p.m.); **June 15°** (6:30 p.m.); **June 17°** (1 p.m.)

**CYCLE 2: June 19°** (7:30 p.m.); **June 20°** (7 p.m.); **June 22°** (6:30 p.m.); **June 24°** (1 p.m.)

**CYCLE 3: June 26°** (7:30 p.m.); **June 27°** (7 p.m.); **June 29°** (6:30 p.m.); **July 1°** (1 p.m.)

All cycle performances are presented on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday

**Creative Team:**

<i>Conductor</i>	<b>Donald Runnicles</b>
<i>Director</i>	<b>Francesca Zambello</b>
<i>Set Designer</i>	<b>Michael Yeargan</b>
<i>Costume Designer</i>	<b>Catherine Zuber</b>
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	<b>Mark McCullough</b>
<i>Projection Designers</i>	<b>S. Katy Tucker, Jan Hartley</b>
<i>Chorus Director</i>	<b>Ian Robertson</b>

Co-production with Washington National Opera

Libretto by Richard Wagner

Sung in German with English supertitles

All performances of the *Ring* will feature OperaVision, HD video projection screens in the Balcony.

***DAS RHEINGOLD*** by Richard Wagner

**June 12°** (7:30 p.m.), **19°** (7:30 p.m.) and **26°** (7:30 p.m.), **2018**

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

First performance: Munich; September 22, 1869

First SFO performance: November 1, 1935

Most recent SFO performance: June 2011

**Cast:**

<i>Wotan</i>	<b>Greer Grimsley</b>
<i>Loge</i>	<b>Štefan Margita</b>
<i>Alberich</i>	<b>Falk Struckmann*♪</b>
<i>Fricka</i>	<b>Jamie Barton</b>
<i>Erda</i>	<b>Ronnita Miller</b>
<i>Mime</i>	<b>David Cangelosi</b>
<i>Fasolt</i>	<b>Andrea Silvestrelli</b>
<i>Fafner</i>	<b>Raymond Aceto</b>
<i>Freia</i>	<b>Julie Adams♪</b>
<i>Woglinde</i>	<b>Stacey Tappan</b>
<i>Wellgunde</i>	<b>Lauren McNeese</b>
<i>Flosshilde</i>	<b>Renée Tatum</b>
<i>Froh</i>	<b>Brandon Jovanovich</b>

Donner

Brian Mulligan♪

**San Francisco Opera Orchestra**

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***DIE WALKÜRE*** by Richard Wagner

**June 13<sup>°</sup>** (7 p.m.), **20<sup>°</sup>** (7 p.m.) and **27<sup>°</sup>** (7 p.m.), **2018**

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

First performance Munich; June 26, 1870

First SFO performance November 4, 1935

Most recent SFO performance June 2011

**Cast:**

<i>Brünnhilde</i>	<b>Evelyn Herlitzius*</b>
<i>Wotan</i>	<b>Greer Grimsley</b>
<i>Sieglinde</i>	<b>Karita Mattila</b>
<i>Siegmund</i>	<b>Brandon Jovanovich</b>
<i>Fricka</i>	<b>Jamie Barton</b>
<i>Hunding</i>	<b>Raymond Aceto</b>
<i>Gerhilde</i>	<b>Julie Adams♪</b>
<i>Helmwige</i>	<b>Melissa Citro♪</b>
<i>Ortlinde</i>	<b>Sarah Cambidge†♪</b>
<i>Waltraute</i>	<b>Renée Tatum</b>
<i>Rosswisse</i>	<b>Lauren McNeese</b>
<i>Siegrune</i>	<b>Laura Krumm♪</b>
<i>Grimgerde</i>	<b>Renée Rapier♪</b>

**San Francisco Opera Orchestra**

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***SIEGFRIED*** by Richard Wagner

**June 15<sup>°</sup>** (6:30 p.m.), **22<sup>°</sup>** (6:30 p.m.) and **29<sup>°</sup>** (6:30 p.m.), **2018**

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

First performance Bayreuth; August 16, 1876

First SFO performance November 6, 1935

Most recent SFO performance July 2011

**Cast:**

<i>Siegfried</i>	<b>Daniel Brenna*</b>
<i>Brünnhilde</i>	<b>Evelyn Herlitzius</b>
<i>Mime</i>	<b>David Cangelosi</b>
<i>The Wanderer (Wotan)</i>	<b>Greer Grimsley</b>
<i>Alberich</i>	<b>Falk Struckmann♪</b>
<i>Fafner</i>	<b>Raymond Aceto</b>
<i>Erda</i>	<b>Ronnita Miller</b>
<i>Forest Bird</i>	<b>Stacey Tappan</b>

## San Francisco Opera Orchestra

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**GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG** by Richard Wagner

**June 17<sup>o</sup>** (1 p.m.), **24<sup>o</sup>** (1 p.m.) and **July 1<sup>o</sup>** (1 p.m.), **2018**

Approximate running time: 5 hours, 10 minutes with two intermissions

First performance Bayreuth; August 17, 1876

First SFO performance November 9, 1935

Most recent SFO performance July 2011

**Cast:**

<i>Brünnhilde</i>	<b>Evelyn Herlitzius</b>
<i>Siegfried</i>	<b>Daniel Brenna</b>
<i>Gunther</i>	<b>Brian Mulligan</b> ♪
<i>Hagen</i>	<b>Andrea Silvestrelli</b>
<i>Waltraute</i>	<b>Jamie Barton</b>
<i>Gutrune</i>	<b>Melissa Citro</b>
<i>Alberich</i>	<b>Falk Struckmann</b> ♪
<i>First Norn</i>	<b>Ronnita Miller</b>
<i>Second Norn</i>	<b>Jamie Barton</b>
<i>Third Norn</i>	<b>Sarah Cambidge</b> †♪
<i>Woglinde</i>	<b>Stacey Tappan</b>
<i>Wellgunde</i>	<b>Lauren McNeese</b>
<i>Flosshilde</i>	<b>Renée Tatum</b>

## San Francisco Opera Orchestra and San Francisco Opera Chorus

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San Francisco Opera is sponsored, in part, by The Dolby Family, Ann and Gordon Getty, John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn, Franklin and Catherine Johnson, Edmund W. and Jeannik Méquet Littlefield Fund, Steven M. Menzies, Bernard and Barbro Osher, Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem, Dianne and Tad Taube, Phyllis C. Wattis Endowment Funds and Diane B. Wilsey. San Francisco Opera is supported, in part, by a grant from Grants for the Arts/San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund.

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OperaVision, high-definition projection screens featured in the upper Balcony level, is made possible by the Koret/Taube Media Suite.

Yamaha is the official piano of San Francisco Opera. Pianos provided by Piedmont Piano Company.

*Turandot* is made possible, in part, by Opening Weekend Grand Sponsor Diane B. Wilsey. Additional support is provided by: John A. & Cynthia Fry Gunn; Bernard & Barbro Osher; The Burgess & Elizabeth Jamieson Fund; San Francisco Opera Guild; United Airlines; Jan Shrem & Maria Manetti Shrem, through the Conductors Fund and the Great Interpreters of Italian Opera Fund; and Joan & David Traitel, through the Great Singers Fund.

*Elektra* is made possible, in part, by: John A. & Cynthia Fry Gunn; and Joan & David Traitel, through the Great Singers Fund.

*La Traviata* is made possible, in part, by: Chevron; and Jan Shrem & Maria Manetti Shrem, through the Conductors Fund and the Great Interpreters of Italian Opera Fund.

*Manon* is made possible, in part, by: John A. & Cynthia Fry Gunn; and Jan Shrem & Maria Manetti Shrem, through the Emerging Stars Fund.

*Girls of the Golden West* is made possible, in part, by: John A. & Cynthia Fry Gunn; Jane Bernstein & Bob Ellis; Jan Shrem & Maria Manetti Shrem, through the Emerging Stars Fund; and an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

*Der Ring des Nibelungen* is made possible, in part, by: Dr. & Mrs. William M. Coughran; Keith & Priscilla Geeslin; John A. & Cynthia Fry Gunn; Sylvia & John Hughes; Edmund W. & Jeannik Méquet Littlefield Fund; Bernard & Barbro Osher; Betty & Jack Schafer; Barbara A. Wolfe; United Airlines; Jan Shrem & Maria Manetti Shrem, through the Emerging Stars Fund; and Joan & David Traitel, through the Great Singers Fund.



2017–18 Season Sponsor

- SFO -

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**High resolution downloadable photographs of 2017–18 Season productions and artists are available at [sfopera.com/press](http://sfopera.com/press). For cast biographies, visit [sfopera.com](http://sfopera.com).**

Interview: composer John Adams, librettist/director Peter Sellars and San Francisco Opera General Director Matthew Shilvock on *Girls of the Golden West*:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qCbq1r3uAh4>

Interview: set designer David Gropman, choreographer John Heginbotham and lighting designer James Ingalls on *Girls of the Golden West*: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWxG\\_uOgJew](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWxG_uOgJew)

Interview: director Keith Warner on *Elektra*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6VEkQsKCVZk>

Interview: director Vincent Boussard on *Manon*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqKUVcaVvRQ>

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