

Please see attached calendar for updated San Francisco Opera 2009–10 Season schedule.

# SINGLE TICKETS FOR SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S 87TH SEASON GO ON SALE SUNDAY, JULY 12 AT 10 A.M.

# SAN FRANCISCO OPERA CELEBRATES THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA WITH INCOMING MUSIC DIRECTOR NICOLA LUISOTTI

2009–10 Season Opens September 11 with Verdi's *Il Trovatore* Conducted by Maestro Luisotti and Starring Sondra Radvanovsky, Stephanie Blythe, Marco Berti, and Dmitri Hvorostovsky

Maestro Luisotti also Leads Richard Strauss's Salome, Verdi's Otello and Puccini's The Girl of the Golden West

2009–10 Season Highlights also Include Puccini's *Il Trittico*, Featuring Patricia Racette; Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio*; Donizetti's *The Daughter of the Regiment*, Starring Diana Damrau & Juan Diego Flórez; Gounod's *Faust*; and *Die Walküre*, Conducted by Donald Runnicles and Featuring Nina Stemme, Eva-Maria Westbroek, Christopher Ventris, Mark Delavan

SAN FRANCISCO (July 10, 2009)—Single (non-subscription) tickets for San Francisco Opera's 2009–10 season, running from September 11 through December 2, 2009 and June 5 through July 2, 2010 at the historic War Memorial Opera House, will go on sale to the public on Sunday, July 12 at 10 a.m. 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*. This is the first opportunity for music lovers to purchase non-subscription tickets to San Francisco Opera's highly anticipated 2009-10 Season.

This September, San Francisco Opera celebrates the inaugural season of incoming Music Director Nicola Luisotti. One of the most charismatic and sought after conductors of our time and beloved by singers and orchestras around the world, Maestro Luisotti leads four productions in his inaugural season with the Company: *Il Trovatore, Salome, Otello* and *The Girl of the Golden West*.

San Francisco Opera's 2009–10 Season opens on September 11 with Verdi's *Il Trovatore* featuring Nicola Luisotti on the podium in his first production as the Company's music director. David McVicar's critically acclaimed production, directed by Walter Sutcliffe, features Italian tenor Marco Berti in the title role of this suspenseful story of a corrupt count, a dashing warrior and a Gypsy who

plots to avenge her mother's wrongful death. Russian baritone Dmitri Hvorostovsky returns to the Company as Count di Luna, and Sondra Radvanovsky, whose exquisite soprano voice has thrilled audiences from Vienna to New York, makes her San Francisco Opera debut as Leonora. Mezzosoprano Stephanie Blythe, *Musical America*'s 2009 "Vocalist of the Year," makes her first appearance in a fully staged San Francisco Opera production in these performances as Azucena. Blythe shares the role with debuting artist Malgorzata Walewska.

The September 11 opening-night celebrations include San Francisco Opera Guild's *Opera Ball 2009: A Gala Benefit in Support of Opera Education* 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 13 in Golden Gate Park's Sharon Meadow, featuring acclaimed artists from the Company's Fall 2009 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 *Il Trovatore* to AT&T Park, home of the San Francisco Giants baseball team, at *Webcor Builders Presents Opera at the Ballpark* on Saturday, September 19.

The 2009–10 Season is also highlighted by Puccini's masterwork, *Il Trittico*. A triptych that runs the gamut from heart-wrenching tragedy to sparkling comedy, *Il Trittico*, last presented here in its entirety in 1952, returns to the War Memorial stage with soprano Patricia Racette making role debuts in each of these three one-act operas—*Il Tabarro*, *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi*. Italian baritone Paolo Gavanelli and tenor Brandon Jovanovich return to San Francisco Opera, and celebrated contralto Ewa Podleś makes her long-awaited Company debut. San Francisco Opera Principal Guest Conductor Patrick Summers leads these performances, and James Robinson directs this inventive production from New York City Opera.

The Daughter of the Regiment (La Fille du Régiment) features acclaimed soprano Diana Damrau making her Company debut singing the title role of Donizetti's classic opera for the first time. She is joined by Peruvian tenor Juan Diego Flórez, who made the New York Times front page when he sang an encore of his rendition of the opera's most challenging aria—hitting all nine high Cs not once but twice. Renowned director Laurent Pelly makes his Company debut in a production that has delighted audiences in New York, London and Vienna. Conductor Andriy Yurkevych makes his U.S. debut with this production, replacing the originally scheduled Michele Mariotti.

A love triangle set during the California Gold Rush, Puccini's *The Girl of the Golden West (La Fanciulla del West)*, returns home for the first time in three decades in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the opera's premiere. Nicola Luisotti conducts a stellar cast led by Deborah Voigt, making her role debut as Minnie; Roberto Frontali as Sheriff Jack Rance; and Salvatore Licitra, who makes his Company debut as the bandit Dick Johnson.

San Francisco Opera Artistic Adviser Francesca Zambello directs the second installment of the Company's *Ring* cycle, *Die Walküre*, in a new co-production with Washington National Opera. Donald Runnicles leads an all-star cast headed by Nina Stemme (who makes her role debut as Brünnhilde in *Die Walküre*), Eva-Maria Westbroek as Sieglinde (in her Company debut) and Christopher Ventris as Siegmund, with Mark Delavan returning as Wotan. This production of *Die Walküre* will be part of the complete *Der Ring des Nibelungen*—in addition to *Das Rheingold*, *Siegfried* and *Götterdämmerung*—presented in three complete cycles in June 2011.

Other productions new to San Francisco Opera include Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio* starring Mary Dunleavy, Matthew Polenzani, Peter Rose and Anna Christy in a charming coproduction with Lyric Opera of Chicago directed by Chas Rader-Shieber and featuring the U.S. operatic debut of conductor Cornelius Meister (incoming San Francisco Opera Assistant Music Director Guiseppe Finzi conducts the final two performances). *Salome*, Richard Strauss' erotically charged opera adapted from Oscar Wilde's scandalous play of the same name, stars German soprano Nadja Michael in her San Francisco Opera debut in the title role opposite returning artists Kim Begley (Herod) and Greer Grimsley (Jokanaan). Music director Nicola Luisotti leads this opera for the first time in a production directed by Seán Curran and James Robinson. *Otello*, Verdi's masterful adaptation of Shakespeare's tragedy, features acclaimed South African tenor Johan Botha in his Company debut as the ill-fated Moor alongside Svetla Vassileva (Desdemona) and Marco Vratogna (Iago), also making his San Francisco Opera debut. Stefano Secco stars in his first fully-staged Company production in the title role of Gounod's *Faust* opposite Patricia Racette (Marguerite) and John Relyea (Méphistophélès) in a production conducted by Maurizio Benini in his San Francisco Opera debut.

In November, 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.

<u>Please see attached calendar for a complete updated schedule of San Francisco Opera's 2009–10 Season.</u>

# TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Single tickets for the 2009–10 Season go on sale Sunday, July 12 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 12 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 2009–10 Season operas (except *Die Walküre*) range from \$15 to \$310. Single tickets for *Die Walküre* range from \$20 to \$360.

Tickets for The Future is Now: Adler Fellows Gala Concert are priced from \$20 to \$55.

The September 13 San Francisco Opera in the Park concert is free, no tickets are required.

The September 19 Webcor Builders Presents Opera at the Ballpark live simulcast of Il Trovatore 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 11 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.

Opera Guild Insight Panel Discussions feature renowned artists and personalities from the world of opera, who share their insights and experiences during informal panel discussions. Free to Opera Guild members, \$5 for non-members.

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 <a href="https://www.bart.gov">www.bart.gov</a> and <a href="https://www.sfmuni.com">www.sfmuni.com</a>.

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San Francisco Opera is sponsored, in part, by the Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation, John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn, Franklin and Catherine Johnson, Mrs. Edmund W. Littlefield, Bernard and Barbro Osher and 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 is proud to support *Il Trovatore*. *Il Trittico* is made possible, in part, by Elizabeth and Burgess Jamieson, Tad and Dianne Taube, Koret Foundation, and The Thomas Tilton Production Fund. *The Abduction from the Seraglio* is made possible, in part, by Chevron. Company Sponsor Mrs. Edmund W. Littlefield is proud to support *The Daughter of the Regiment. Salome* is made possible, in part, by the San Francisco Opera Guild. *Otello* is made possible, in part, by Mr. and Mrs. David T. Traitel. Company Sponsor Mrs. Edmund W. Littlefield is proud to support *Faust*, which is made possible, in part, by the Bernard Osher Endowment Fund. *Die Walküre* is made possible, in part, by Kristina Flanagan, Mary and Nicholas Graves, The Bernard Osher Endowment Fund and Betty and Jack Schafer. *The Girl of the Golden West* is made possible, in part, by Tad and Dianne Taube, Koret Foundation, and by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Nicola Luisotti's inaugural season as Music Director of San Francisco Opera is made possible by John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn.

San Francisco Opera in the Park is sponsored by Opening Weekend Grand Sponsor Diane B. Wilsey and the William and Gretchen Kimball Fund, and the Music Performance Fund and Film Funds.

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. CBS 5, the CW Bay Area, Classical 102.1 KDFC, and ClearChannel Outdoor join with San Francisco Opera as media partners for the Company's 2009-10 Season Community Events.

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



2009–10 Season Sponsor

# 2009-10 OPERA SEASON: CASTING AND CALENDAR

All performances at the War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco

IL TROVATORE by Giuseppe Verdi

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO
September 11 (7 p.m.), 16<sup>•</sup> (7:30 p.m.), 19<sup>•</sup> (8 p.m.),
22<sup>•</sup> (8 p.m.), 25 (8 p.m.); October 1<sup>⋄</sup> (7:30 p.m.), 4 (2 p.m.),

and the Metropolitan Opera 6° (7:30 p.m.) 2009

Libretto by Salvadore Cammarano

First performance: Rome, January 19, 1853

Co-production with Lyric Opera of Chicago

First San Francisco Opera performance: October 6, 1926 Last San Francisco Opera performance: 2002–03 season Approximate running time: three hours, with one intermission

Sung in Italian with English supertitles

Cast: Production Team:

ManricoMarco BertiConductorNicola LuisottiLeonoraSondra Radvanovsky\*DirectorDavid McVicarAzucenaStephanie BlytheRevival DirectorWalter Sutcliffe\*Malgorzata Walewska\*Set DesignerCharles Edwards\*

Count di Luna Dmitri Hvorostovsky Costume Designer Brigitte Reiffenstuel\*
Ferrando Burak Bilgili\* Lighting Designer Jennifer Tipton
Movement Director Leah Hausman

Movement Director Leah Hausman Chorus Director Ian Robertson

IL TRITTICO by Giacomo Puccini

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO
September 15 (8 p.m.), 18 (8 p.m.), 24° (7:30 p.m.),
27° (2 p.m.), 30° (7:30 p.m.); October 3 (8 p.m.), 2009

**New York City Opera production** 

Libretto by Giuseppe Adami (Il Tabarro) and Giovacchino Forzano (Suor Angelica, Gianni Schicchi)

First performance: New York, December 14, 1918

First San Francisco Opera performance: September 29, 1923

Last San Francisco Opera performance: 1952 season (complete); Il Tabarro, 1975 season; Suor Angelica, 1990 season;

Gianni Schicchi, 1979 season

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

Sung in Italian with English supertitles

IL TABARRO (The Cloak)

MichelePaolo GavanelliLa FrugolaCatherine CookLuigiBrandon JovanovichIl TalpaAndrea Silvestrelli

Giorgetta Patricia Racette

SUOR ANGELICA

Sister Angelica
The Princess
The Abbess
Patricia Racette Sister Monitor
Ewa Podleś\*
Sister Genovieffa
Mistress of the Novices
Daveda Karanas†

GIANNI SCHICCHI

Gianni Schicchi Paolo Gavanelli Nella Rebekah Camm\* Patricia Racette Gherardo **Thomas Glenn** Lauretta David Lomelí† Andrea Silvestrelli Simone Rinuccio La Ciesca Meredith Arwady\* **Catherine Cook** Zita

Il Trittico Production Team:

ConductorPatrick SummersCostume DesignerBruno Schwengl\*DirectorJames RobinsonLighting DesignerChris MaravichSet DesignerAllen MoyerChorus DirectorIan Robertson

THE ABDUCTION FROM THE SERAGLIO

Die Entführung aus dem Serail by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO

**September 23** (7:30 p.m.), **26** (8 p.m.); **29** (8 p.m.); **October 2** (8 p.m.), **11** (2 p.m.), **17** (2 p.m.)†, **23** (8 p.m.)†, **2009** 

Co-production with Lyric Opera of Chicago

Libretto by Johann Gottlieb Stephanie First performance: Vienna, July 16, 1782

First San Francisco Opera performance: September 27, 1990 Last San Francisco Opera performance: 2002–03 season

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

Sung in German with English dialogue and English supertitles

Cast: Production Team:

Constanze Mary Dunleavy Conductor Cornelius Meister\*\*
Blonde Anna Christy Giuseppe Finzi†

Belmonte Matthew Polenzani Director Chas Rader-Shieber\*

Pedrillo Andrew Bidlack† Designer David Zinn\*

Osmin Peter Rose Lighting Designer Christopher Akerlind

Chorus Director Ian Robertson

THE DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT

La Fille du Régiment by Gaetano Donizetti PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO

October 13 (8 p.m.), 16 (8 p.m.), 19 (7:30 p.m.),

22° (7:30 p.m.), 25 (2 p.m.), 28° (7:30 p.m.),

31° (8 p.m.), 2009

Co-production of the Metropolitan Opera; the Royal Opera, Covent Garden; and the Vienna State Opera

Libretto by J.H. Vernoy de Saint-Georges and F. Bayard

First performance: Paris, February 11, 1840

First San Francisco Opera performance: October 16, 1941 Last San Francisco Opera performance: 1993 season

Approximate running time: two hours, 45 minutes, with one intermission

Sung in French with English supertitles

Cast: Production Team:

Marie Diana Damrau\* Conductor Andriv Yurkevvch\*\* Tonio Juan Diego Flórez Director Laurent Pellv\* Sulpice Bruno Praticò\* **Chantal Thomas\*** Set Designer **Meredith Arwady Laurent Pelly\*** Marquise of Berkenfeld Costume Designer Duchess of Krakenthorp Sheila Nadler Lighting Designer Joël Adam\* Chorus Director Jake Gardner Hortensius **Ian Robertson** 

## **SALOME** by Richard Strauss

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO October 18 (2 p.m.), 21 (7:30 pm), 24° (8 p.m.), 27° (8 p.m.), 30° (8 p.m.); November 1 (2 p.m.), 2009

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO

### Co-production with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis

Based on the play by Oscar Wilde

First performance: Dresden, December 9, 1905

First San Francisco Opera performance: September 12, 1930 Last San Francisco Opera performance: 1996–97 season

Approximate running time: one hour, 45 minutes, with no intermission

Sung in German with English supertitles

Cast: Production Team:

Salome Nadja Michael\* Conductor Nicola Luisotti Herod Kim Beglev Co-Directors Seán Curran\* Greer Grimsley Jokanaan **James Robinson** 

Herodias Irina Mishura **Production Designer Bruno Schwengl** Narraboth **Garrett Sorenson\*** Lighting Designer Chris Maravich A Page Elizabeth DeShong\* Chorus Director Ian Robertson

OTELLO by Giuseppe Verdi

**November 8** (2 p.m.), **13** (8 p.m.), **17** (8 p.m.), 21° (8 p.m.), 25° (7:30 p.m.), 29 (2 p.m.); Lyric Opera of Chicago production

December 2 (7:30 p.m.), 2009

Libretto by Arrigo Boito

First performance: Milan, February 5, 1887

First San Francisco Opera performance: December 5, 1934 Last San Francisco Opera performance: 2002-03 season

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

Sung in Italian with English supertitles

Cast: Production Team:

Otello Johan Botha\* Conductor Nicola Luisotti Desdemona Svetla Vassileva Original Director Sir Peter Hall Marco Vratogna\* Revival Director **Stephen Barlow** Iago Cassio Beau Gibson\* **Production Designer** John Gunter Emilia Renée Tatum<sup>†</sup> Lighting Designer **Duane Schuler** Chorus Director Lodovico **Eric Halfvarson** Ian Robertson

**FAUST** by Charles François Gounod

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO June 5 (7:30 p.m.), 8 (7:30 p.m.), 11 (7:30 p.m.), Lyric Opera of Chicago production **16** (7 p.m.), **20** (1:30 p.m.), **23**° (7 p.m.), 26° (1:30 p.m.); July 1° (7 p.m.), 2010

Libretto by Jules Barbier and Michel Carré First performance: Paris, March 19, 1859

First San Francisco Opera performance: September 23, 1926

Last San Francisco Opera performance: 1995 season

Approximate running time: three hours, 45 minutes, with two intermissions

Sung in French with English supertitles

Cast: Production Team:

Stefano Secco Maurizio Benini\* Faust Conductor Patricia Racette Jose Maria Condemi Marguerite Director

MéphistophélèsJohn RelyeaValentinBrian MulliganSiebelDaniela MackMartheCatherine CookWagnerAustin Kness

Production Designer Chorus Director Robert Perdziola Ian Robertson

# THE GIRL OF THE GOLDEN WEST La Fanciulla del West

by Giacomo Puccini

Cast:

Minnie

Dick Johnson

Libretto by Guelfo Civinini and Carol Zangarini First performance: New York, December 10, 1910

First San Francisco Opera performance: September 15, 1930

Last San Francisco Opera performance: 1979 season

Approximate running time: three hours Sung in Italian with English supertitles

Production Team:

Deborah Voigt<sup>f</sup> Condu Salvatore Licitra\*

Sheriff Jack Rance Roberto Frontali
Nick Steven Cole

Ashby Kevin Langan

Jake Wallace Trevor Scheunemann\*

Conductor Nicola Luisotti
Guiseppe Finzi†

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO

**June 9** (7:30 p.m.), **12** (8 p.m.), **15** (8 p.m.), **18** (8 p.m.), **24** (7:30 p.m.), **27** (2 p.m.),

29 (7:30 p.m.); July 2 (8 p.m.) †, 2010

Costume Designer Gabriel Berry
Chorus Director Ian Robertson

PRODUCTION NEW TO SAN FRANCISCO June 10° (7 p.m.), 13° (1 p.m.), 19° (7 p.m.),

22 (7 p.m.), 25 (7 p.m.), 30 (7 p.m.), 2010

# DIE WALKÜRE by Richard Wagner

#### Co-production with Washington National Opera

Libretto by the composer

First performance: Munich, June 26, 1870

First San Francisco Opera performance: November 4, 1935 Last San Francisco Opera performance: 1999 *Ring* Festival

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

Sung in German with English supertitles

Cast: Production Team:

Brünnhilde
Sieglinde
Fricka
Siegmund
Wotan
Hunding
Sieglinde

Eva-Maria Westbroek\*

Fva-Maria Westbroek\*

Christopher Ventris

Mark Delavan

Raymond Aceto

Production Team:

Conductor
Director
Set Designer
Costume Designer
Lighting Designer
Projection Designer
Choreographer

Donald Runnicles
Francesca Zambello
Michael Yeargan
Catherine Zuber
Mark McCullough
Jan Hartley
Denni Sayers

**Cori Ellison** 

Dramaturg

# SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S 2009-10 SEASON: SPECIAL EVENTS

# **OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATIONS – Friday, September 11, 2009**

# Opera Ball 2009: A Gala Benefit in Support of Opera Education

A highlight of the City's cultural and philanthropic season, San Francisco Opera Guild's *Opera Ball 2009* begins with a cocktail reception followed by the season-opening performance of Verdi's *Il Trovatore* and an elegant post-performance dinner with dancing. *Opera Ball* raises funds to benefit San Francisco Opera and the Opera Guild's education and outreach programs. Co-chairs: Teresa Medearis and Adrianna Pope Sullivan.

5:30 pm Cocktail Reception / War Memorial Veterans Building

7 pm Opening night performance of *Il Trovatore* / War Memorial Opera House

10 pm Dinner and dancing / San Francisco City Hall

For tickets or more information about *Opera Ball 2009*, call (415) 565-3204 or visit *sfopera.com/guild*.

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# **BRAVO! CLUB Opening Night Gala**

BRAVO! CLUB, San Francisco Opera's group of young professionals dedicated to building new audiences for San Francisco Opera, presents its 18<sup>th</sup> annual opening night gala. The celebration begins with a cocktail party at City Hall followed by the season-opening performance of *Il Trovatore* and post-performance dinner and dancing. Co-chairs: Alexandra Siliezar and Marie Carr

5:30 pm Cocktail Party / San Francisco City Hall

7 pm Opening night performance of *Il Trovatore* / War Memorial Opera House

10 pm Dinner and dancing / San Francisco City Hall

For tickets or more information about the *BRAVO! CLUB Opening Night Gala*, call (415) 565-3285 or visit *sfopera.com/bravo*.

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# SAN FRANCISCO OPERA IN THE PARK (Free Event) Sunday, September 13, 2009 at 1:30 p.m.

Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park in San Francisco

A beloved tradition of San Francisco Opera's opening week, the annual *San Francisco Opera in the Park* concert features artists from the Company's 2009–10 season and the San Francisco Opera Orchestra conducted by new Music Director Nicola Luisotti. The concert draws thousands of music lovers each year, many of whom enjoy the occasion with elaborate picnics on the lawn. This concert is FREE and open to the public; no tickets required. For more information visit *sfopera.com*.

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# WEBCOR BUILDERS PRESENTS OPERA AT THE BALLPARK – Live Simulcast of *Il Trovatore* at AT&T Park (Free Event) Saturday, September 19, 2009 at 8 p.m. AT&T Park, 24 Willie Mays Plaza in San Francisco

Baseball and opera fans alike have the rare opportunity to enjoy world-class 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. Through state-of-the-art technology, Verdi's *Il Trovatore* will be transmitted in high definition to AT&T Park's 103-feet wide Mitsubishi Electric Diamond Vision scoreboard—one of the highest quality outdoor scoreboards in the nation—live from the stage of the War Memorial Opera House. Concert quality audio combined with AT&T Park's huge screen will create an unmatched operatic experience for attendees sitting in the stands and on the baseball field. Traditional baseball game concessions will be available, providing audiences the rare opportunity to eat hot dogs, peanuts and popcorn while enjoying glorious opera. The event is FREE and open to the public, however advance online registration at *sfopera.com/simulcast* assures early entrance into the ballpark for preferred seating and entry into a special prize drawing.

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THE FUTURE IS NOW: ADLER FELLOWS GALA CONCERT With the San Francisco Opera Orchestra Sunday, November 22 at 7 p.m. Herbst Theatre, War Memorial Veterans Building

In November, 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.

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This press release and downloadable 2009–10 Season photographs are available at <a href="www.sfopera.com/press">www.sfopera.com/press</a>.

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