2011 SCHWABACHER DEBUT RECITALS CONCLUDE ON APRIL 10 WITH FORMER ADLER FELLOWS DAVEDA KARANAS AND ALLEN PERRIELLO

PROGRAM INCLUDES RICHARD WAGNER'S *WESENDONCK LIEDER*, SELECTED SONGS FROM FRANZ LISZT AND PETER HEISE'S *GUDRUNS SORG*

SAN FRANCISCO (March 22,2011)—San Francisco Opera Center concludes the 29th season of Schwabacher Debut Recitals on Sunday, April 10, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. with mezzo-soprano Daveda Karanas and pianist Allen Perriello, both former Adler Fellows. They will be performing Richard Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder* as well as selected songs from Franz Liszt and Peter Heise's song cycle, *Gudruns Sorg.*

This Schwabacher Debut Recital is a part of San Francisco Opera *Ring* Festival events, which offers audiences a chance to experience Wagner in new and compelling ways in anticipation of the full *Ring* cycle this summer. This is also an opportunity to preview mezzo-soprano Daveda Karanas before she reprises her role as Waltraute and the Second Norn in the companies *Ring* cycle. In addition to Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder,* Karanas will perform selected works from 19-century Hungarian composer Franz Liszt and Danish composer Peter Heise song cycle *Gudruns Sorg.*

A grand prize winner at the 2008 Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions, Daveda Karanas made her San Francisco Opera debut in 2008 as the Nurse in *Boris Godunov* and most recently appeared in 2010 as Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly*. Future engagements will see her at Vancouver Opera, Washington National Opera and Seattle Opera. Vocal coach and accompanist Allen Perriello served as a member of the San Francisco Opera music staff and prepared productions of Gershwins' *Porgy and Bess,* Verdi's *Il Trovatore* and Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio* among others. In

addition to his professional engagements with Opera Cleveland, Rising Star Opera Theater and Ash Lawn Opera, Perriello served as chorus master for Cincinnati Conservatory of Music's productions of *La Bohème* and *L'Elisir d'Amore.* He will also coach productions at Boston Lyric Opera and Seattle Opera in early 2011.

The Schwabacher Debut Recitals have been endowed in perpetuity by the generosity of the late James Schwabacher. A celebrated Bay Area singer, recitalist, scholar and teacher, Schwabacher was a co-founder of the Merola Opera Program. The Schwabacher Debut Recitals have introduced the artistry of many world-renowned opera singers, including Susan Graham, Anna Netrebko, Deborah Voigt, Brian Asawa and Thomas Hampson. The recitals offer a rare opportunity to hear a wealth of song literature ranging from Baroque masterpieces and Romantic-era classics to newly commissioned works, all performed by gifted young artists in an intimate setting.

Tickets & Information

All performances take place at Temple Emanu-El's Martin Meyer Sanctuary (Two Lake Street, at Arguello, in San Francisco). Tickets for the Schwabacher Debut Recitals are $25. Tickets may be purchased by calling the San Francisco Opera Box Office (Mon. 10 am-5 pm, Tues.-Fri. 10 am-6 pm) at (415) 864-3330. Student Rush tickets are available for $10 at Temple Emanu-El 30 minutes prior to each recital (limit of two tickets per person; valid ID is required), subject to availability.

2011 Schwabacher Debut Recitals
Temple Emanu-El's Martin Meyer Sanctuary
2 Lake Street, San Francisco

Sunday April 10, 5:30pm
Former Adler Fellows Daveda Karanas and Allen Perriello present Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder*, selected songs from Franz Liszt, and Peter Heise's *Gudruns Sorg.*
Daveda Karanas, mezzo-soprano
Allen Perriello, piano
***Wesendonck Lieder*: "**Der Engel, Stehe still!," "Im Treibhaus," "Schmerzen," "Träume"
Selected songs of Franz Liszt: "Im Rhein, im schönen Strome;" "Die Loreley;" "Es rauschen die Winde;" "Über allen Gipfeln is Ruh (Wanderers Nachtlied);" "An Edlitam (In meinem Lebeusringe)"
***Gudruns Sorg*:** "Dengang var Gudrun beredt til Døden," "Hos sad Jarlers ædle Hustruer," "Da sagde Herborg," "Da sagde Gullrønd," "Engang Gudrun end ham skued," "Da sagde Gudrun"

Additional Schwabacher Debut Recitals

Sunday, March 27, 5:30pm
Amores Nuevos presented by New York Festival of Song's Steven Blier with Sara Gartland, Daniel Montenegro and Austin Kness.
Steven Blier, piano
Sara Gartland, soprano
Daniel Montenegro, tenor
Austin Kness, baritone
Performing works by Alberto Hemsi, Brazilian art songs by Mozart Camaro Guarnieri and Oscar Fernández, Mexican songs by Maria Grever, zarzuela arias by Chapi and Chueca, Cuban songs by Gisela Hernández and Tanya León, as well as vocal music by Granados, Turina, Halffter and many others.

About the Artists

Mezzo-soprano **DAVEDA KARANAS** is a former Adler Fellow who most recently appeared at San Francisco Opera as Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly* and covered Amneris in *Aida*. She will return in 2011 as Waltraute and the second Norn in the Company's new production of *Der Ring des Nibelungen.* Karanas made her San Francisco Opera debut as the Nurse (*Boris Godunov*) and returned as the Mistress of the Novices (*Suor Angelica*) in *Il Trittico* and Waltraute (*Die Walküre*). An alumna of the Merola Opera Program, she sang the role of Tisbe in Merola's 2007 production of *La Cenerentola*. Future seasons will see her at the Canadian Opera Company, Vancouver Opera, Oper Frankfurt, Washington National Opera, Arizona Opera, and Seattle Opera. Karanas made her professional debut in 2006 with the Boston Symphony Orchestra in Schoenberg's *Moses und Aron.* The mezzo-soprano's recent credits include Ericlea (*Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria*) with Chicago Opera Theater; Lady with a Hat Box (Argento's *Postcard from Morocco*) and the Princess (*Suor Angelica*) with Boston University Opera Institute; as well as Marchesa Melibea (*Il Viaggio a Reims*) with Music Academy of the West. In addition to being a grand prize winner at the 2008 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Karanas is a former international semi-finalist in the German *Neue Stimmen* ("New Voices") Competition, a recipient of the 2006 Encouragement Award at the Marilyn Horne Foundation Competition, and a grand prizewinner of the 2005 Arizona Opera League Competition. She holds degrees from Arizona State University and Southeastern Louisiana University.

Coach and accompanist **ALLEN PERRIELLO** completed his two-year Adler Fellowship in 2010 and will coach productions at Boston Lyric Opera and Seattle Opera in early 2011. An alumnus of the 2008 Merola Opera Program, Perriello has served as a member of San Francisco Opera's music staff on productions of *Porgy and Bess, Il Trovatore, The Abduction from the Seraglio, Faust, Le Nozze di Figaro* and *Madama Butterfly*. Other professional engagements include Opera Cleveland, Rising Star Opera Theater and Ash Lawn Opera. His coaching credits include *Hänsel und Gretel, Albert Herring, La Bohème, Dido and Aeneas, Miss Lonelyhearts, Amahl and the Night Visitors, Il Barbiere di Siviglia, Werther, L'enfant et les Sortileges, L'Elisir d'Amore, The Merry Widow, West Side Story* and *The Consul*. Perriello served as chorus master for Cincinnati Conservatory of Music's productions of *La Bohème* and *L'Elisir d'Amore*. He holds a master's degree in collaborative piano from the University

of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and a bachelor's degree in piano performance and music education from Ithaca College.

About San Francisco Opera Center and Merola Opera Program

San Francisco Opera Center was created in 1982 by then–General Director Terence A. McEwen to oversee the operation and administration of the education and training programs initiated by Kurt Herbert Adler in 1954. Providing a coordinated sequence of performance and study opportunities for young artists, San Francisco Opera Center represents a new era in which young artists of major operatic potential can develop through intensive training and performance, under the aegis of a major international opera company. Now under the guidance of its fourth director, Sheri Greenawald, and San Francisco Opera General Director David Gockley, the Opera Center has trained and introduced many young stars from around the world to the international opera stage through its resident artist programs such as the Adler Fellowship.

Initially founded as the San Francisco Opera/Affiliate Artists program, the Adler Fellowship Program is one of the nation's most prestigious training programs for advanced singers. Each year, Adler Fellows are sponsored by individual donors to help cover the cost of their fellowship. Sponsorships range from $5,000–$100,000, and sponsors affiliated with the Adler Program have the opportunity to attend private studio classes with the Fellows and develop nurturing relationships with them. Alumni from the Adler Fellowship Program include sopranos Laura Claycomb, Nicolle Foland, Nancy Gustafson, Mary Mills, Patricia Racette, Ruth Ann Swenson and Deborah Voigt; mezzo-sopranos Zheng Cao and Dolora Zajick; countertenor Brian Asawa; baritones Mark Delavan and David Okerlund; and bass-baritones Monte Pederson and John Relyea.

One of the oldest and most acclaimed training programs of its kind, the Merola Opera Program for aspiring opera professionals offers up-and-coming singers, coach-accompanists and stage directors the opportunity of intense study and performance during an 11-week summer program. Each year, hundreds of artists from throughout the world vie for approximately 30 coveted spots in the summer program. Admission is based solely on talent rather than financial ability; there is no charge to the participants. Named for San Francisco Opera's first general director, Gaetano Merola, the program began during the 1954–55 Season and established its full training program in 1957. Alumni of the program include Sylvia McNair, Anna Netrebko, Patricia Racette, Ruth Ann Swenson, Carol Vaness, Deborah Voigt, Susan Graham, Dolora Zajick, Brian Asawa, Thomas Hampson, Rolando Villazón, and Patrick Summers. An independent non-profit organization, the Merola Opera Program operates in collaboration with San Francisco Opera Center and San Francisco Opera.

For more information on the San Francisco Opera Center and the Adler Fellowship and Merola Opera Program, visit www.sfopera.com.

– SFO –

This press release and downloadable Schwabacher Debut Recital artist photographs are available at sfopera.com/press. For further press information, please contact: Gelane Pearson [415.565.6470 / gpearson@sfopera.com] or Robin Freeman [415.565.6451 / rfreeman@sfopera.com].