



SAN FRANCISCO
OPERA

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE PRESENTS OPERA IN THE PARK
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT 1:30 P.M.

San Francisco Opera's season opening celebrations continue with free Golden Gate Park concert featuring Music Director Eun Sun Kim, San Francisco Opera Orchestra, and stars from the new season

sfopera.com/operainthepark



Opera in the Park (Drew Altizer Photography)

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (September 5, 2024) — San Francisco Opera celebrates the opening of its 102nd season with *San Francisco Chronicle Presents Opera in the Park* on Sunday, September 8 at 1:30 p.m. The free concert—a beloved annual Bay Area tradition now in its 49th year—takes place at Robin Williams Meadow in Golden Gate Park.

San Francisco Opera General Director Matthew Shilvock is emcee for the event and Music Director Eun Sun Kim conducts the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and stars of the Company's 2024–25 Season. Soloists for the *Opera in the Park* concert include sopranos Lianna Haroutounian, Toni Marie Palmertree, Arianna Rodriguez, Olivia Smith and Mei Gui Zhang; mezzo-sopranos Judit Kutasi, Nikola Printz and Irene Roberts; tenors Michael

Fabiano, Thomas Kinch and Alek Shrader; baritones Aleksey Bogdanov, Amartuvshin Enkhbat and Samuel Kidd; bass-baritone Jongwon Han; and bass John Relyea.

The concert will feature arias and duets from the operatic repertoire by composers including Bizet, Gounod, Meyerbeer, Mozart, Puccini, and Verdi along with selections from musical theater. The afternoon ends with an *Opera in the Park* tradition: an audience sing-along of Verdi's famous "Libiamo," the drinking song from *La Traviata*.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* is the presenting partner for *Opera in the Park*. San Francisco Opera also extends special thanks to San Francisco Parks Alliance and San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department for their support of this Bay Area tradition, which is made possible, in part, by Opening Weekend Grand Sponsor Diane B. Wilsey with additional support provided by the William & Gretchen Kimball Fund and Kaiser Permanente. Classical KDFC is Radio Partner and Kaiser Permanente is Corporate Sponsor.

Established by former San Francisco Opera General Director Kurt Herbert Adler in 1971, the *Opera in the Park* concert celebrating the opening of the San Francisco Opera season draws thousands of music lovers annually for a free afternoon of arias, duets and popular songs in San Francisco's spacious Golden Gate Park. Many of opera's legendary figures, such as Luciano Pavarotti, Montserrat Caballé, Marilyn Horne and Renata Scottò, have performed at *Opera in the Park*.

San Francisco Opera's 102nd season at the War Memorial Opera House opens on September 6, 2024 with Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera* (running through September 27). The Fall Season continues with the West Coast premiere of *The Handmaid's Tale*, composer Poul Ruders and librettist Paul Bentley's acclaimed operatic adaptation of the best-selling novel by Margaret Atwood (September 14–October 1); followed by Wagner's path-breaking masterpiece *Tristan und Isolde* (October 19–November 5); a sold-out concert performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony in honor of the work's 200th anniversary (October 26); Bizet's *Carmen* (November 13–December 1); and the immersive half-opera, half-party *Carmen Encounter* (November 21). The 2025 Summer Season includes Puccini's *La Bohème* (June 3–21); Mozart's early masterpiece *Idomeneo* (June 14–25); and a special Pride Concert celebrating the LGBTQIA+ community (June 27). For more information about San Francisco Opera's 2024–25 Season, visit sfopera.com.

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SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE PRESENTS OPERA IN THE PARK

Free Concert Celebrating the Opening of San Francisco Opera's 102nd Season

Sunday, September 8, 2024, 1:30pm

Robin Williams Meadow, Golden Gate Park

Eun Sun Kim, conductor

San Francisco Opera Orchestra (Kay Stern, concertmaster)

Emcee: Matthew Shilvock, San Francisco Opera General Director

CONCERT ARTISTS (subject to change):

Sopranos: Lianna Haroutounian, Toni Marie Palmertree, Arianna Rodriguez, Olivia Smith, Mei Gui Zhang

Mezzo-sopranos: Judit Kutasi, Nikola Printz, Irene Roberts

Tenors: Michael Fabiano, Thomas Kinch, Alek Shrader

Baritones: Aleksey Bogdanov, Amartuvshin Enkhbat, Samuel Kidd

Bass-baritone: Jongwon Han

Bass: John Relyea

OPERA IN THE PARK PROGRAM (subject to change):

Overture from *Candide* (Bernstein)

"Maria" from *West Side Story* (Bernstein)

"Je veux vivre" from *Roméo et Juliette* (Gounod)

"Riez, allez" from *Don Quichotte* (Massenet)

"Nobles seigneurs" from *Les Huguenots* (Meyerbeer)

"Era desso il figlio mio" from *Lucrezia Borgia* (Donizetti)

"Ella giammai m'amò" from *Don Carlo* (Verdi)

"Acerba voluttà" from *Adriana Lecouvreur* (Cilea)

"Teco io sto" from *Un Ballo in Maschera* (Verdi)

"Eri tu" from *Un Ballo in Maschera* (Verdi)

"Bei Mäennern" from *Die Zauberflöte* (Mozart)

March of the Priests from *Die Zauberflöte* (Mozart)

"Sein wir wieder gut" from *Ariadne auf Naxos* (R. Strauss)

"La fleur que tu m'avais jetée" from *Carmen* (Bizet)

"Quando m'en vo" from *La Bohème* (Puccini)

Aleko's Cavatina from *Aleko* (Rachmaninov)

"Seguidilla" from *Carmen* (Bizet)

"Forse la soglia... Ma se m'è forza perderti" from *Un Ballo in Maschera* (Verdi)

"E sia! Non risponde" from *Adriana Lecouvreur* (Cilea)

This event is FREE; no tickets are required. Senior/accessible seating and ADA parking is available on a first come, first served basis. Public parking will be extremely limited and alternative transportation, such as Muni (5, 7, 21, 33, N) and ridesharing apps are strongly recommended. Complimentary bicycle valet parking area is provided by the Bicycle Coalition on the east side of the meadow.

Bring a picnic and enjoy this outdoor, family-friendly concert. Food and beverages will also be available for sale at the event. Attendees are encouraged to bring refillable water bottles and make use of the water stations positioned around Robin Williams Meadow.

Artists and program are subject to change. For complete information about *San Francisco Chronicle Presents Opera in the Park*, call (415) 864-3330 or visit sfopera.com/operainthepark.

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San Francisco Opera is sponsored, in part, by: Julie Dickson, Jerome and Thao Dodson; The Dolby Family, Bertie Bialek Elliott; Keith and Priscilla Geeslin; Gordon P. Getty; John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn; Elizabeth B. Jamieson (in memoriam, Burgess Jamieson); Franklin and Catherine Johnson; Edmund W. and Jeannik Méquet Littlefield Fund; Steven M. Menzies; Bernard and Barbro Osher; Barbara Oshman; Jeff and Marieke Rothschild; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; Diane and Tad Taube; Phyllis C. Wattis Endowment Funds; Diane B. Wilsey; Barbara A. Wolfe and Anonymous (2).

Opera in the Park is made possible, in part, by Opening Weekend Grand Sponsor Diane B. Wilsey

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PRESS PHOTOS: High-resolution, downloadable event images are available at sfopera.com/press.

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