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San Diego Opera Announces 2011 International Season

- Puccini's *Turandot* opens the season in the spectacular **David Hockney** designs featuring the important house debut of soprano **Lise Lindstrom** and the return of soprano **Ermonela Jaho** and tenor **Carlo Ventre**.

January 29, February 1, 4 and 6, 2011

- Last seen in San Diego in 1992, and celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2011, Richard Strauss's bittersweet masterpiece *Der Rosenkavalier* features the return of soprano **Anja Harteros** in her role debut as the Marschallin. Joining her is returning bass-baritone **Andrew Greenan** as Baron Ochs. Making exciting Company debuts are mezzo-soprano **Anke Vondung** and soprano **Patrizia Ciofi**.

April 3, 6, 9 and 12, 2011

- Gounod's masterpiece *Faust* welcomes the return of the stars of last season's *Romeo and Juliet*, the American tenor **Stephen Costello** and his real life wife, soprano **Ailyn Pérez** with San Diego Opera favorite **Greer Grimsley** as Méphistophélès.

April 23, 26, 29 and May 1, 2011

- Bizet's *Carmen*, one of the most popular operas ever composed, closes the season with the long awaited Company debuts of mezzo-soprano **Nino Surguladze**, tenor **Salvatore Licitra** and soprano **Talise Trevigne**.

May 14, 17, 20 and 22, 2011

- Subscriptions begin at \$93 for three operas and \$124 for a full-series.
- The 2011 Season is Sponsored by a Generous Contribution from the Viterbi Family

San Diego, CA – Important artists, historic performances, long awaited role debuts and four stunning operas make up the 2011 San Diego Opera season.

The season opens on **Saturday, January 29, 2011 at 7 PM** with Giacomo Puccini's grand operatic spectacle, *Turandot*. A tale of mystery, intrigue and ultimately the triumph of love set in Imperial China, these performances mark the return of visual artist **David Hockney's** stunning designs. Making her house debut in the title role of Turandot is American soprano **Lise Lindstrom** who reprises her signature role. Of her house debut as Turandot at the Metropolitan Opera, *The New York Times* reported "she sang with chilling power and nailed the top notes. Her sound was impressively focused, with a vibrant vibrato on sustained tones and no wobble. The youthful shimmer of her singing was balanced by rich emotional maturity." These performances also mark the return of Albanian soprano **Ermonela Jaho** as the slave girl Liù and the return of San Diego favorite, the Uruguayan tenor **Carlo Ventre** as Calaf. Persian stage director **Lotfi Mansouri** returns to direct the action and Italian conductor **Edoardo Müller** brings his mastery of Puccini's repertory to the podium.

Last seen in 1991, Richard Strauss's masterpiece *Der Rosenkavalier* makes its triumphant return to the San Diego Opera stage on **Sunday, April 3, 2011 at 2 PM** in time to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the opera. *Der Rosenkavalier's* moving story of young love and the fear of growing older provides a perfect setting for the important role debut for **Anja Harteros** who sings the role of the Marschallin for the first time in career. She will be joined by returning British bass-baritone **Andrew Greenan** who will sing the role of Baron Ochs. Making important company debuts are German mezzo-soprano **Anke Vondung** in the trouser-role Octavian and Italian soprano **Patrizia Ciofi** as Sophie. German conductor **Christof Perick** returns to lead the orchestra through Strauss's rousing score, and **Lotfi Mansouri** directs the farcical action onstage.

Last heard here in 2001, Gounod's morality masterpiece *Faust* opens on **Saturday, April 23, 2011 at 7 PM**. These performances welcome back the stars of last season's *Romeo and Juliet*; tenor **Stephen Costello** as Faust and soprano **Ailyn Pérez** as his love interest Marguérite. Local favorite, American bass **Greer Grimsley**, returns to sing the role of Méphistophélès. San Diego Opera Resident Conductor **Karen Keltner** brings her mastery of the French repertoire to the podium, and stage director **David Gately** returns to lead the action.

Opening on **Saturday, May 14, 2011**, Bizet's immortal masterpiece *Carmen* is the final opera of the 2011 season. Last seen in 2006, these performances of the world's most popular opera mark the important debuts of Georgian mezzo-soprano **Nino Surguladze** in the title role and the long awaited Company debuts of famed Italian tenor **Salvatore Licitra** as Don José and American soprano **Talise Trevigne** as Micaëla. **Edoardo Müller** will lead the orchestra, and British stage director **Sonja Frisell** returns to stage the action.

As part of the ongoing effort to keep opera accessible and affordable to as wide an audience as possible, the lowest seat price for subscribers is \$31, making subscription packages for three operas available for as little as \$93 and a full season available for only \$124. Single ticket prices will be announced in the winter.

Pre-production artwork is available online at:
<http://www.sdopera.com/Company/News/2011Preview>

Purchasing Tickets

Three or four-opera subscriptions for the 2011 International Season are now available. Regular subscriptions range from \$93 - \$740 (some Saturday subscriptions slightly higher) and can be purchased by calling (619) 533-7000 or online at www.sdopera.com.

For information about single tickets please visit www.sdopera.com. Single ticket prices will be announced in the winter.

General Information

A widely respected member of the international opera community, *San Diego Opera* brings the world's finest artists to San Diego. Founded in 1965, and led for the last 27 years by General Director and Artistic Director Ian D. Campbell, San Diego Opera produces performances of the highest artistic quality while remaining financially stable.

www.sdopera.com

San Diego Opera 2011 International Season Performance

Schedule

Turandot

Giacomo Puccini

Saturday	January 29, 2011	7:00pm
Tuesday	February 1, 2011	7:00pm
Friday	February 4, 2011	8:00pm
Sunday	February 6, 2011	2:00pm

Der Rosenkavalier*

Richard Strauss

Sunday	April 3, 2011	2:00pm
Wednesday	April 6, 2011	7:00pm
Saturday	April 9, 2011	6:00pm
Tuesday	April 12, 2011	7:00pm

***Please note the change in days and times for these performances of *Der Rosenkavalier*.**

Faust

Charles Gounod

Saturday	April 23, 2011	7:00pm
Tuesday	April 26, 2011	7:00pm
Friday	April 29, 2011	8:00pm
Sunday	May 1, 2011	2:00pm

Carmen

Georges Bizet

Saturday	May 14, 2011	7:00pm
Tuesday	May 17, 2011	7:00pm
Friday	May 20, 2011	8:00pm
Sunday	May 22, 2011	2:00pm

Turandot

Giacomo Puccini

Sung in Italian with English translations above the stage

Last performed by San Diego Opera in 2004

Production owned by San Francisco Opera

January 29, February 1, 4 and 6 (matinee), 2011

Turandot: Lise Lindstrom*

Calaf: Carlo Ventre

Liu: Ermonela Jaho

Timur: Reinhard Hagen

Ping: Jeff Mattsey

Pang: Joel Sorensen

Pong: Joseph Hu

Director: Lotfi Mansouri

Conductor: Edoardo Müller

Sets: David Hockney

Costumes: Ian Falconer

*San Diego Opera debut

Select cast biographies for ***Turandot***

Lise Lindstrom, Turandot

San Diego Opera debut. American soprano Lise Lindstrom is well known for her portrayal of Turandot having made her Metropolitan Opera debut in the role in 2009. Companies with which she has performed Turandot include De Nederlandse Opera, Festival Ópera de Coruña, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Opera Hong Kong, Palm Beach Opera, Kentucky Opera, Orlando Opera, Cleveland Opera and the Savonlinna Festival. Notable performances include Senta in *The Flying Dutchman* with New Orleans Opera, Tosca with Glimmerglass Opera, Elisabeth and Venus in *Tannhäuser* with Greek National Opera and Suor Angelica with Opera Tampa. Other roles include Amelia in *A Masked Ball*, Ariadne in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Giulietta in *The Tales of Hoffmann*, Lady Rich in *Gloriana* and Magda in *The Consul*. Her concert work has brought her to the Washington National Cathedral and San Francisco Symphony, among others.

Carlo Ventre, Calaf

Uruguayan tenor Carlo Ventre made his San Diego Opera debut in 2005 as Gabriele in *Simon Boccanegra*, returning in 2008 as Radames in *Aida* and in 2009 for Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*. Notable highlights in his career include Arrigo in *I Vespri Siciliani* in Tokyo with Teatro Massimo Palermo, Pollione in *Norma* at Arena Sferistica Macerata in Italy, *Andrea Chénier* at Barcelona's Liceo, Cavaradossi in *Tosca* with Oper Frankfurt, Staatsoper Hamburg and Arena di Verona, Luigi in *Il tabarro* in Hamburg and Ricardo in *A Masked Ball* in Frankfurt. For his La Scala debut, he sang the Duke in *Rigoletto*, also appearing there as Ismaele in *Nabucco*. Roles for Welsh National Opera include Rodolfo in *La bohème* and Cavaradossi in *Tosca*. Other roles include Don José in *Carmen* and Alfredo in *La traviata*. He has sung in opera houses in Berlin, Rome, San Francisco, Vienna, St. Petersburg, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Washington, Verona, Chicago, Genoa and Cologne.

Ermonela Jaho, Liù

Albanian soprano Ermonela Jaho made her San Diego Opera debut in 2008 in the title role of *Mary, Queen of Scots (Maria Stuarda)*. Recent notable engagements include Cio-Cio-San in *Madama Butterfly*, Liù for the Opera Company of Philadelphia, Violetta in *La traviata* for her

Metropolitan Opera debut, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden debut and for L'Opera de Marseille, Marguerite in *Faust* at Finnish National Opera, Mimì in *La bohème* at Berlin Staatsoper, Michigan Opera Theatre, Opera Company of Philadelphia and Baltimore Opera, Giulietta in *I Capuleti ed i Montecchi* as well as Vitellia in *La Clemenza di Tito* in Avignon. Other recent performances include the title role of *Anna Bolena* for Opera de Lyon, the title role of *Zaira* for the Festival de Radio France in Montpellier, Micaëla in *Carmen* with Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, Madga in *La Rondine* at Teatro Giuseppe Verdi in Trieste and the title role of *Manon Lescaut* at L'Opera de Marseille. She made her professional debut as Violetta at the age of 17 in her native Tirana.

Reinhard Hagen, Timur

German bass Reinhard Hagen made his San Diego Opera debut in 2000 as Heinrich in *Lohengrin* returning in 2003 as Rocco in *Fidelio*, in 2006 as Raimondo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, in 2007 as Landgraf Hermann in *Tannhäuser* and in 2008 as Talbot in *Mary, Queen of Scots* and Ramfis in *Aida*. For several seasons Hagen was a member of the Deutsche Oper Berlin after his debut in *Tannhäuser*. He made his Metropolitan Opera debut as Sarastro in *The Magic Flute*, a role he has sung with L'Opera de Montreal, Opéra Bastille, Los Angeles Opera, Gran Teatro Liceu and Staatsoper Hamburg and Bayerische Staatsoper, among others. Other appearances include the King in *Aida* with Metropolitan Opera, Rocco in *Fidelio* with The Dallas Opera and Théâtre Châtelet, the King in *Lohengrin* with Staatsoper Hamburg, Seneca in *L'incoronazione di Poppea* in Los Angeles, Fasolt in *Das Rheingold*, Hunding in *Die Walküre*, the Commendatore in *Don Giovanni* and Titirel in *Parsifal* for San Francisco Opera.

Edoardo Müller, conductor

Italian conductor Edoardo Müller has led more than 30 productions in San Diego, beginning in 1980 with *Giovanna d'Arco*. In 2009, he conducted *Tosca*, *Rigoletto* and *Madama Butterfly* and last season he conducted *Nabucco*. Known worldwide for his mastery of the Italian operatic repertoire, he has enjoyed a long association with the Teatro alla Scala in Milan where he conducted *Aida*, *I due Foscari*, *Il trovatore*, *I masnadieri*, *La forza del destino*, *Ernani*, *The Barber of Seville* and *Anna Bolena*, among others. His career has taken him to the Metropolitan Opera, Teatro Municipal in Santiago, Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, Seattle Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, The Dallas Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Cincinnati Opera as well as companies in Paris, Rome and Tokyo.

Lotfi Mansouri, director

A native of Iran, director Lotfi Mansouri is the former General Director of San Francisco Opera and the Canadian Opera and made his San Diego Opera debut in 1973 directing *The Daughter of the Regiment*. Recent productions here include *Nabucco* in 2010, *Rigoletto* in 2009, *Cavalleria rusticana / Pagliacci* in 2008, *Boris Godunov* and *Samson and Delilah* in 2007, *The Barber of Seville* in 2006, *Die Fledermaus* and *Simon Boccanegra* in 2005 along with *Don Carlo*, *Turandot*, *Otello* and *Idomeneo* in previous seasons. He attended UCLA and took U.S. citizenship before becoming resident stage director at Opernhaus Zürich in 1976. He has directed at many opera houses throughout Italy including Teatro alla Scala. In North America, his work has been seen at the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera and in Chicago, Houston, Santa Fe, Philadelphia, Dallas and many other cities, and he has a lengthy association with Opera Australia at the Sydney Opera House. Six of his productions have been videotaped for telecast and commercial sale: *Mefistofele*, *Orlando furioso*, *Capriccio*, *Turandot*, *The Dangerous Liaisons* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*. In 2009, Mansouri was a recipient of a NEA Opera Honor for his contributions to the art form.

Der Rosenkavalier

Richard Strauss

Sung in German with English translations above the stage

Last performed by San Diego Opera in 1992

Sets and Costumes from San Francisco Opera

April 3 (matinee), 6, 9 and 12, 2011

Marschallin: Anja Harteros

Octavian: Anke Vondung*

Baron Ochs: Andrew Greenan

Sophie: Patrizia Ciofi*

Herr von Faninal: Hans-Joachim Ketelsen*

Marianne: Stephanie Weiss*

The Singer: Stephen Costello

Conductor: Christof Perick

Director: Lotfi Mansouri

Sets and Costumes: Thierry Bosquet

*San Diego Opera debut

Please note the change in the performances schedule for *Der Rosenkavalier*. Performances are:

Sunday, April 3, 2011 at 2:00 PM

Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 7:00 PM

Saturday, April 9, 2011 at 6:00pm

Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 7:00pm

Select cast biographies for *Der Rosenkavalier*

Anja Harteros, Marschallin

German soprano Anja Harteros made her San Diego Opera debut in 2004 as Violetta in *La traviata*, and returned in 2005 as Amelia in *Simon Boccanegra*. Her repertoire also includes Desdemona in *Otello*, Alice Ford in *Falstaff*, Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte*, the Countess in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*, Elettra in *Idomeneo: King of Crete*, Agathe in *Der Freischütz*, Eva in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, Elisabeth in *Tannhäuser* and the title roles in *Alcina* and *Arabella*. She has sung in all the great opera houses, including the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala, the state opera houses of Munich, Vienna, Berlin, Hamburg and Dresden, as well as the opera houses in Florence, Amsterdam, Paris, Tokyo, Lyon, Berlin, Frankfurt, and at the Edinburgh and Salzburg Festivals. Recent notable performances include Elisabeth in *Tannhäuser* and Amelia in *Simon Boccanegra* in Milan and Desdemona in *Otello* in Berlin. In recognition of her outstanding vocal and acting achievements, Harteros was appointed a Bavarian Kammersängerin in 2007.

Andrew Greenan, Baron Ochs

British bass-baritone Andrew Greenan made his San Diego Opera debut as Biterolf in *Tannhäuser* in 2008 and returned the same year to sing Lord Cecil in *Mary Queen of Scots (Maria Stuarda)*. Greenan has appeared at the Metropolitan Opera as Heinrich in *Lohengrin*, The Royal Opera, Covent Garden in the title role of *Simon Boccanegra*, Tom in *A Masked Ball*, and Crespel in *The Tales of Hoffmann*, Swallow in *Peter Grimes* with the Hamburgische Staatsoper, Klingsor in *Parsifal* with Grand Théâtre de Genève, and will come to San Diego directly from performances of Titirel in *Parsifal* with English National Opera. A former Company Principal at English National Opera, other engagements include Timur in *Turandot*, Rocco and Don Fernando in *Fidelio*,

Monterone and Sparafucile in *Rigoletto*, Commendatore in *Don Giovanni*, Nourabad in *The Pearl Fishers*, Sarastro in *The Magic Flute*, Gremin in *Eugene Onegin* and Zaccaria in *Nabucco*. An accomplished recording artist, he appeared on the Grammy Award-winning recording of *Les Troyens* with the London Symphony Orchestra with Sir Colin Davis.

Anke Vondung, Octavian

San Diego Opera debut. German mezzo soprano Anke Vondung made her debut at the Opernschule Mannheim as Nancy in Benjamin Britten's *Albert Herring*. She has enjoyed a long relationship with Semperoper Dresden where she sang for two seasons as a resident mezzo soprano and is now a frequent guest artist singing such roles as Siébel in *Faust*, Wellgunde in *Das Rheingold*, Waltraute in *Die Walküre*, Tebaldo in *Don Carlos*, Hansel in *Hansel and Gretel*, Meg Page in *Falstaff*, as well as the title role of *Carmen*, among others. She is known for her portrayal of Octavian which she recently performed at the Munich Opera Festival, Opéra Bastille and Deutsche Staatsoper. Other notable performances include Cherubino in *The Marriage of Figaro* and Dorabella in *Così fan tutte* at Bayerische Staatsoper. She made her Metropolitan Opera debut as Cherubino and returned to sing Annio in *La clemenza di Tito*. An active recitalist she has sung with many major orchestras around the world.

Patrizia Ciofi, Sophie

San Diego Opera debut. Italian soprano Patrizia Ciofi made her La Scala, Milan, debut as Violetta in *La traviata* returning for Amelia in *A Masked Ball*, the title role of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Corinna in *Il viaggio a Reims* and Ilia in *Idomeneo: King of Crete*. Recent engagements include Marie in *The Daughter of the Regiment* at Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona, Gilda in *Rigoletto* with the Vienna Staatsoper and Teatro Real in Madrid, Ophelia in *Hamlet* with Bayerische Staatsoper and Opéra de Marseille, Violetta with Teatro La Fenice in Venice, Amenaide in *Trancredi* at Teatro Regio in Turin, Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* for Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Cleopatra in *Julius Caesar in Egypt* at Bilbao Opera, Nannetta in *Falstaff* and Giulietta in *I Capuleti e i Montecchi* for Paris Opéra Bastille and Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro* and Poppea in *L'incoronazione d'Poppea* for Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, among others.

Hans-Joachim Ketelsen, Herr Von Faninal

San Diego Opera debut. German baritone Hans-Joachim Ketelsen has enjoyed a long history as a principal artist with Dresden's Semperoper where he has appeared as Jochanaan in *Salome*, Mandryka in *Arabella*, Orest in *Elektra*, Amfortas in *Parsifal*, Heerrufer and Telramund in *Lohengrin*, Geisterbote in *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, Kothner and Beckmesser in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, Kurwenal in *Tristan und Isolde*, Morone in *Palestrina*, Donner in *Das Rheingold*, Eisenstein in *Die Fledermaus*, Peter in *Hansel and Gretel*, The Speaker in *The Magic Flute* and as Faninal. He made his Bayreuth Festival debut as Kothner and for his Metropolitan Opera debut sang Mandryka, returning again for Beckmesser and Faninal. Other notable performances include Telramund for the opening of the New National Theatre in Tokyo and Gunther in *Götterdämmerung* at Teatro Real Madrid. He's been heard with the world's greatest companies including the Wiener Staatsoper, Bayerische Staatsoper, La Scala, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Teatro Real in Madrid, Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona and Leipzig Opera, among others. He has recorded Kothner in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* for Berlin Classics and EMI.

Stephanie Weiss, Marianne

San Diego Opera debut. San Diego born soprano Stephanie Weiss enjoys a long association with Deutsche Oper Berlin where she has performed such varied roles as Marianne, Frasquita in *Carmen*, Musetta in *La bohème*, The First Lady and The Second Lady in *The Magic Flute*, Gerhilde in *Walküre*, Schlafittchen in *Das Traumfresserchen*, The Overseer in *Elektra*, The Landlady in *Der Traumgorgo*, The Second Servant in *Die Ägyptische Helena* and Grimgerde in

Die Walküre, among others. Other notable performances include The First Lady at Berlin Staatsoper Unter den Linden, Musetta at Oper Frankfurt, The Novice in *Sour Angelica* with Deutsche Oper Berlin, Rose in *Lakmé* with the Opera Orchestra of New York and Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte* with Académie Lyrique de Vendôme.

Stephen Costello, The Singer

American tenor Stephen Costello made his San Diego Opera debut last season as Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*. He made his Metropolitan Opera debut in 2007 as Arturo in *Lucia di Lammermoor* and was then invited to sing Edgardo that same season. He recently sang Cassio in *Otello* with the Salzburg Festival, Rinuccio in *Gianni Schicchi* with Royal Opera Covent Garden, The Duke of Mantua in *Rigoletto* at Deutsche Oper Berlin, Edgardo at Fort Worth Opera, Camille in *The Merry Widow*, Leicester in *Mary, Queen of Scots (Maria Stuarda)*, the title role of *Roberto Devereux* with The Dallas Opera and Christian in *Cyrano* with the Opera Company of Philadelphia and at Italy's Spoleto Festival. He made his professional debut as Rodolfo in *La bohème* with Fort Worth Opera and his European debut as Nemorino in *The Elixir of Love* with Opéra National de Bordeaux. He was awarded a 2007 Career Grant for the Richard Tucker Music Foundation, as well as a 2006 Sara Tucker Study Grant. He won first prize in the 2006 George London Foundation for Singers Competition, First Prize and Audience Prize in the Giagiari Competition as well as First Prize in the Licia Albanese Puccini Foundation Competition.

Christof Perick, Conductor

German conductor Christof Perick made his San Diego Opera debut conducting *Fidelio* in 2003 and returned in 2006 for *The Magic Flute*. He is Music Director of Germany's Nürnberg Philharmonic and Opera, Music Director of the Charlotte Symphony and for several seasons was Principal Guest Conductor of the Sächsische Staatsoper, Dresden. Recent performances include *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Tannhäuser*, *Lohengrin*, *The Flying Dutchman* and *Die Entführung aus dem Serial*. He has held Music Director positions with the Niedersaechsisches Staatsorchester and Staatsoper in Hannover, Germany, the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, the Badische Staatskapelle Karlsruhe, and the Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Saarbrücken, Germany. For the Metropolitan Opera, Perick has conducted *Fidelio*, *Tannhäuser*, *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, *Hansel and Gretel* and *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*. At Lyric Opera of Chicago, he has conducted *Parsifal* and *The Magic Flute*, an opera he also conducted for San Francisco Opera.

Lotfi Mansouri, Stage Director

A native of Iran, director Lotfi Mansouri is the former General Director of San Francisco Opera and the Canadian Opera and made his San Diego Opera debut in 1973 directing *The Daughter of the Regiment*. Recent productions here include the season opener *Turandot*, *Nabucco* in 2010, *Rigoletto* in 2009, *Cavalleria rusticana / Pagliacci* in 2008, *Boris Godunov* and *Samson and Delilah* in 2007, *The Barber of Seville* in 2006, *Die Fledermaus* and *Simon Boccanegra* in 2005 along with *Don Carlo*, *Turandot*, *Otello* and *Idomeneo* in previous seasons. He attended UCLA and took U.S. citizenship before becoming resident stage director at Opernhaus Zürich in 1976. He has directed at many opera houses throughout Italy including Teatro alla Scala, Milan. In North America, his work has been seen at the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera and in Chicago, Houston, Santa Fe, Philadelphia, Dallas and many other cities, and he has a lengthy association with Opera Australia at the Sydney Opera House. Six of his productions have been videotaped for telecast and commercial sale: *Mefistofele*, *Orlando furioso*, *Capriccio*, *Turandot*, *The Dangerous Liaisons* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*. In 2009, Mansouri was a recipient of a NEA Opera Honor for his contributions to the art form.

Faust

Charles Gounod

Sung in French with English translations above the stage

Last performed by San Diego Opera in 2001

Sets and Costumes from the Lyric Opera of Chicago

April 23, 26, 29 and May 1 (matinee), 2011

Marguérite: Ailyn Peréz
Faust: Stephen Costello
Méphistophélès: Greer Grimsley
Valentin: Joshua Hopkins*
Siébel: Sarah Castle
Wagner: Scott Sikon

Conductor: Karen Keltner
Director: David Gately
Sets and Costumes: Robert Perdziola

*San Diego Opera debut

Select cast biographies for *Faust*

Ailyn Peréz, Marguerite

American soprano Ailyn Pérez made her San Diego Opera debut last season as Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*. She made her professional debut at Palm Beach Opera where she sang Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* and Soeur Constance in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*. She recently performed Amelia in *Simon Boccanegra* at Berlin's Deutsche Staatsoper Unter den Linden, Amelia at Milan's Teatro all Scala, Violetta in *La traviata* for Wiener Staatsoper, Juliette with the Salzburg Festival, the Four Heroines in *The Tales of Hoffmann* with Opera Theatre of St. Louis and Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro* with Michigan Opera Theatre, Boston Lyric Opera as well with the Salzburg Festival on a tour of Japan. Other notable performances include Violetta in *La traviata* with Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Amor in the world premiere of *Concierto para Mendez* with Los Angeles Opera and Gilda in *Rigoletto* for Opera Carolina. She has also toured the United States and Mexico on tour with Andrea Bocelli. Other roles in repertoire include the title role of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Adina in *The Elixir of Love*, Suzel in *L'amico Fritz*, Mimi in *La bohème* and Anna in *Le villi*. She was the 2007 winner of the Shoshana Foundation Career Grant.

Stephen Costello, Faust

American tenor Stephen Costello made his San Diego Opera debut last season as Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet* and returned earlier this season as the Singer in *Der Rosenkavalier*. He made his Metropolitan Opera debut in 2007 as Arturo in *Lucia di Lammermoor* and was then invited to sing Edgardo that same season. He recently sang Cassio in *Otello* with the Salzburg Festival, Rinuccio in *Gianni Schicchi* with Royal Opera Covent Garden, The Duke of Mantua in *Rigoletto* at Deutsche Oper Berlin, Edgardo at Fort Worth Opera, Camille in *The Merry Widow*, Leicester in *Mary, Queen of Scots (Maria Stuarda)*, the title role of *Roberto Devereux* with The Dallas Opera and Christian in *Cyrano* with the Opera Company of Philadelphia and at Italy's Spoleto Festival. He made his professional debut as Rodolfo in *La bohème* with Fort Worth Opera and his European debut as Nemorino in *The Elixir of Love* with Opéra National de Bordeaux. He was awarded a 2007 Career Grant for the Richard Tucker Music Foundation, as well as a 2006 Sara Tucker Study Grant. He won first prize in the 2006 George London Foundation for Singers Competition, First Prize and Audience Prize in the Giagiari Competition as well as First Prize in the Licia Albanese Puccini Foundation Competition.

Greer Grimsley, Méphistophélès

American bass-baritone Greer Grimsley made his San Diego Opera debut in *Lohengrin* in 2000, returned for *Fidelio* in 2003, *Samson and Delilah* in 2007 and as Scarpia in *Tosca* in 2009. He made his Metropolitan Opera debut as Captain Balstrode in *Peter Grimes* and has subsequently performed Escamillo in *Carmen*, Jokanaan in *Salome*, Scarpia in *Tosca*, Telramund in *Lohengrin* and Amfortas in *Parsifal*. Recent engagements include Wotan in Seattle Opera's *Ring Cycle*, the title role of *The Flying Dutchman* in Lithuania and Seattle Opera, the title role of *Macbeth* with Vancouver Opera, Don Pizarro in *Fidelio* with the Saint Louis Symphony, Amonasro in *Aida* with Portland Opera and Méphistophélès in *Faust* with New Orleans Opera. A frequent singer in Europe, Grimsley has performed leading roles at Deutsche Oper Berlin, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Royal Danish Opera, Prague National Theatre, Aarhus-Den Jyske Opera in Denmark, the Scottish Opera and the Stadttheater Basel in Switzerland, among others.

Joshua Hopkins, Valentin

San Diego Opera debut. Canadian baritone Joshua Hopkins made his Metropolitan Opera debut as Ping in *Turandot*. Other recent engagements include Papageno in *The Magic Flute* for Opera Lyra Ottawa, Santa Fe Opera and Arizona Opera, Olivier in *Capriccio* at Pacific Opera Victoria, Figaro in *The Barber of Seville* at Arizona Opera, Sid in *Albert Herring* at Santa Fe Opera, Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte* at Madison Opera, Valentin at Calgary Opera, Junius in *The Rape of Lucretia* with Central City Opera and Marcello in *La bohème* with Houston Grand Opera. Other notable performances have included appearances in *Pagliacci* with Opera Carolina, *Don Giovanni* and *La clemenza di Tito* at L'Opera de Montréal and *Carmen* at the Canadian Opera Company. A former member of the Houston Grand Opera Studio he has appeared in numerous productions with the Company. He is an active concert soloist and recitalist and has given performances at Carnegie Hall.

Sarah Castle, Siébel

New Zealand mezzo soprano Sarah Castle made her San Diego Opera debut in 2007 as Cherubino in *The Marriage of Figaro*, returned in 2008 as Lola in *Cavalleria rusticana* and last season appeared as Stephano in *Romeo and Juliet*. Recent engagements include the title role in Tan Dun's *Marco Polo* for the Netherlands Opera, Cherubino in *The Marriage of Figaro* for Seattle Opera, Fox in *The Cunning Little Vixen* for Israeli Opera, Nicklausse in *The Tales of Hoffmann* for Teatro Real, Hansel in *Hansel and Gretel* and Ruggiero in *Alcina* for Opera Australia and Prince Orlovsky in *Die Fledermaus* with Opera Company of Philadelphia. She has sung Dryad in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Siegrune in *Die Walküre* and Tisbe in *Cinderella* for Covent Garden, Oberto in *Alcina* for San Francisco Opera and Staatsoper Stuttgart, Olga in *Eugene Onegin* at Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie, Flosshilde in both *Das Rheingold* and *Götterdämmerung* and Grimgerde in *Die Walküre* with Bayreuther Festspiele and *Carmen* for both Opernhaus Zürich and New Zealand Opera.

Karen Keltner, Conductor

San Diego Opera's Resident Conductor, Karen Keltner, has been associated with the company since 1980 and has conducted a broad repertoire including last season's *La bohème*, *Romeo et Juliet*, and unexpectedly, the opening night of *La traviata*. Among the other productions which she has conducted for San Diego Opera are *Don Quixote*, *The Pearl Fishers*, *Samson and Delilah*, *Wozzeck*, *Carmen*, *The Conquistador*, *Così fan tutte*, *Thérèse Raquin*, *The Flying Dutchman*, *The Lighthouse*, *Cold Sassy Tree*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and *Rigoletto*. Guest engagements have been with the Washington National Opera, New York City Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, the Opera Company of Philadelphia, Winnipeg and Vancouver Operas (Canada), and l'Opéra National du Rhin, France, among many others. 2011 marks her 15th season as conductor with the Utah Festival Opera where in addition to conducting opera and concerts, she also indulges her passion

for the American musical by conducting each summer productions which have included *South Pacific*, *Carousel*, *Guy and Dolls*, *The Most Happy Fella*, *1776*, *The Sound of Music*, *Man of La Mancha*, and *I Do, I Do!*, among others.

David Gately, Stage Director

American stage director David Gately made his San Diego Opera debut in 2002 directing *Don Pasquale*, a production also seen at Kentucky Opera, Opera Colorado, Calgary Opera, Chautauqua Opera, Virginia Opera, Dayton Opera, Canadian Opera Company, Opera Omaha, Edmonton Opera and Fort Worth Opera. Recent productions of note include *The Elixir of Love* with Dallas Opera and Atlanta Opera, *Madama Butterfly* with Seattle Opera, *La bohème* with Florida Grand Opera, *Carmen* in New Orleans, *The Tales of Hoffmann* with Edmonton Opera, *The Magic Flute* with Cincinnati Opera and Vancouver Opera, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Florentine Opera and Glimmerglass Opera, *Falstaff* with Opera Omaha and *Rigoletto* with Utah Opera. Other productions include *The Barber of Seville* with Washington National Opera, Opera Colorado and Manitoba Opera, *Simon Boccanegra* for L'Opera de Montreal and *Before Night Falls* with Fort Worth Opera where he also directed an acclaimed production of *Dead Man Walking* and *Cinderella*, among others.

Carmen

Georges Bizet

Sung in French with English translations above the stage

Last performed by San Diego Opera in 2006

Sets and costumes from Utah Opera

May 14, 17, 20 and 22 (matinee), 2011

Carmen: Nino Surgurladze*
Don José: Salvatore Licitra*
Micaëla: Talise Trevigne*
Escamillo: Wayne Tigges
Frasquita: Rachel Copeland
Mercédès: Priti Gandhi
Zuniga: Kevin Langan
Dancaïro: Joshua Hopkins
Remendado: Joseph Hu
Morales: Scott Sikon

Conductor: Edoardo Müller
Director: Sonja Frisell
Sets: John Conklin
Costumes: Susan Memmott Allred

* San Diego Opera debut

Select cast bios for ***Carmen***

Nino Surgurladze, Carmen

San Diego Opera debut. Georgian mezzo soprano Nino Surgurladze made her professional debut as Marguerite in *La damnation de Faust* in Parma. Recent engagements include Siebel in *Faust* at La Scala, the title role of *Carmen* in Bologna, Dorabella in *Così fan tutte* at the Royal Opera

House, Covent Garden, Maddalena in *Rigoletto* at Teatro Real in Madrid, Magdalene in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* at Grand Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona, Nicklausse and the Muse in *The Tales of Hoffmann* for Teatro Regio and Olga in *Eugene Onegin* for the Lyric Opera of Chicago. In 2001 she joined the Academy Studio of La Scala and has performed roles there in productions of *Salome*, *Boris Godunov*, Donizetti's *Ugo, conte di Parigi*, Verdi's *Oberto, Conte di San Bonifacio* and *The Italian Girl in Algiers*.

Salvatore Licitra, Don José

San Diego Opera debut. Italian tenor Salvatore Licitra is a frequent singer at the world's greatest opera companies and concert stages. Recent engagements include the title role of *Ernani* at the Lyric Opera of Chicago and Opernhaus Zurich, Calaf in *Turandot*, Luigi in *Il Tabarro* and Radames in *Aida* at the Metropolitan Opera, Dick Johnson *La fanciulla del West* at San Francisco Opera, the title role of *Don Carlo* at Wiener Staatsoper, Caravadossi in *Tosca* at Deutsche Oper Berlin as well as with the Rome Opera on tour in Tokyo, Manrico in *Il trovatore* for Tel Aviv Opera, Ricardo for Washington National Opera, and Radames for Los Angeles Opera. Other notable performances include his debut at the Teatro Regio as Riccardo, a role he also performed at Arena di Verona and Alvaro in *La Forza del Destino* for La Scala. He made his Metropolitan Opera debut as Cavaradossi, stepping in at the last moment to replace Luciano Pavarotti. Additional performances include Pollione in *Norma*, Cavaradossi, the title role of *Andrea Chenier*, Radames and Alvaro for Wiener Staatsoper and Canio in *Pagliacci* and Turridu in *Cavalleria Rusticana* in the same evening at the Metropolitan Opera. His extensive recording credits include *Il trovatore* and *Tosca* both conducted by Maestro Muti, as well as two solo cds of Verdi, Puccini, and verismo arias. He also appears on the Opernhaus Zurich DVD of *Aida*.

Talise Trevigne, Micaëla

San Diego Opera debut. American soprano Talise Trevigne's performances include Violetta in *La traviata* with Birmingham Opera Company and Gilda in *Rigoletto* with Tulsa Opera. She made her Australian debut as The Beloved in the world premiere of *The Navigator*, a role she reprised at Moscow's Chekov International Arts Festival and Opéra Bastille. She originated the role of Pip in Jake Heggie's *Moby Dick* at The Dallas Opera, a role she'll reprise at San Diego Opera in 2012. She also created the role of June Gibbons in *The Silent Twins* for London's Almedia Opera. Other recent performances include her Dallas Symphony debut in *Carmina Burana*, Gilda for Tulsa Opera and Knoxville Opera, Mimi in *La bohème* for Hartford Opera Theatre and Violetta and Rosina in *The Barber of Seville* for San Jose Opera. Other roles in her repertoire are Nerea in *Deidamia*, Norina in *Don Pasquale*, Constance in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, Miranda in *The Tempest* and Sophie in *Der Rosenkavalier*.

Wayne Tigges, Escamillo

American baritone Wayne Tigges made his San Diego Opera debut as Zuniga in *Carmen* in 2006. Notable appearances include his Metropolitan Opera debut as Achilla in *Julius Caesar in Egypt*, Jochanaan in *Salome* with Arizona Opera, Donner in *Das Rheingold* and Zuniga and Escamillo for Los Angeles Opera. He also performed the Vicar in *Albert Herring* and Hercules in *Alceste* for Santa Fe Opera and his Opera National de Paris debut as Kolenaty in *The Makropolous Case*. Other appearances include the title roles in *Don Giovanni* and *The Marriage of Figaro* with Austin Lyric Opera, the Bonze in *Madama Butterfly* with Los Angeles Opera, the Speaker in *The Magic Flute*, the Doctor in *Pelleas et Melisande* and the Second Soldier in *Salome* for Cincinnati Opera and Sacerdote in *Nabucco* for Gran Teatre del Liceu. His many appearances with Lyric Opera of Chicago include Snook in the world premiere of *A Wedding*, Angelotti in *Tosca*, Sam in *A Masked Ball*, the Bonze in *Madama Butterfly* and Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet*.

Laura Portune, Frasquita

American soprano Laura Portune was a member of the San Diego Opera Ensemble from 2000-2002 and made her main-stage debut in *Madama Butterfly* in 2003, followed by Tebaldo/Celestial Voice in *Don Carlo* in 2004, Shepherd Boy in *Tannhäuser* in 2008 and Shepherd Boy in *Tosca* in 2009. Roles include Musetta in *La bohème*, Gilda in *Rigoletto*, Rosina in *The Barber of Seville*, Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Violetta in *La traviata*, Cunegonde in *Candide*, Sophie in *Der Rosenkavalier*, Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*, Phyllis in *Iolanthe* and Gianetta in *The Gondoliers*. She has sung in such houses as Dayton Opera, Opera Columbus, Des Moines Metro Opera, Lyric Opera of San Diego and Lake George Opera.

Priti Gandhi, Mercédès

Indian-born soprano Priti Gandhi made her San Diego Opera debut as the Mexican Woman in *A Streetcar Named Desire* in 2000, returning as Second Lady in *The Magic Flute* in 2001 and 2006, Emilia in *Otello* in 2003, Varvara in *Katya Kabanova* in 2004, Inez in *Il trovatore* in 2007, the High Priestess in *Aida* in 2008, the Second Niece in *Peter Grimes* in 2009, Musetta in *La bohème* and Anna in *Nabucco* last season. Other appearances include her New York City Opera debut in *Carmen*, *Lakmé* and The Fox in *The Little Prince* for Tulsa Opera, the High Priestess with Seattle Opera, the title role in *Gypsy Princess* and *Cinderella* for Lyric Opera San Diego, Opera Pacific debut in *The Magic Flute*, Waltraute in *Walküre* with Paris Châtelêt, Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* at the Theatre of the Estates, Dorabella in *Così fan tutte* with Austin Lyric Opera, Echo in *Ariadne auf Naxos* for Seattle Opera, the title role of *La Cenerentola* at Dayton Opera and her Los Angeles Opera debut in *Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny*. She sang Rosina in *The Barber of Seville* with Caramoor Music Festival and made her New York Philharmonic debut in *Elektra* at Lincoln Center.

Edoardo Müller, Conductor

Italian conductor Edoardo Müller has led more than 30 productions in San Diego, beginning in 1980 with *Giovanna d'Arco*. In 2009, he conducted *Tosca*, *Rigoletto* and *Madama Butterfly* and last season he conducted *Nabucco*. Known worldwide for his mastery of the Italian operatic repertoire, he has enjoyed a long association with the Teatro alla Scala in Milan where he conducted *Aida*, *I due Foscari*, *Il trovatore*, *I masnadieri*, *La forza del destino*, *Ernani*, *The Barber of Seville* and *Anna Bolena*, among others. His career has taken him to the Metropolitan Opera, Teatro Municipal in Santiago, Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, Seattle Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, The Dallas Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Cincinnati Opera as well as companies in Paris, Rome and Tokyo.

Sonja Frisell, Stage Director

British Stage Director Sonja Frisell made her San Diego Opera debut directing *Otello* in 2003. Recent productions include *Salome* for Arizona Opera and a return to La Scala for *L'occasione fa il ladro*. Previous seasons include *Don Carlo* in Chicago and Washington DC, *La Gioconda* and *La Cenerentola* at La Scala, *A Masked Ball* in Bologna, *Maometto II* and *Khovanschina* in San Francisco, *La forza del destino*, *Otello* and *The Magic Flute* in Washington DC, *Elena da Feltre* at the Wexford Festival, *Turandot* in Trieste and Calgiari, *Eugene Onegin* with the Arizona Opera, and *The Italian Girl in Algiers* at Covent Garden, San Francisco and in Verona. She has directed at the Metropolitan Opera, Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires, La Fenice in Venice, Teatro dell'Opera in Rome, Teatro Regio in Turin, Theatre de la Monnaie, Geneva Opera, Paris Opera, Bregenz Festival, Teatro Liceo in Barcelona, Houston Grand Opera, Washington National Opera, Seattle Opera, Canadian Opera Company and The Dallas Opera. Frisell received an Emmy Award in 1990 for the television broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera's production of *Aida*.

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