



**For immediate release:
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**Contact: Edward Wilensky
Telephone: 619.232.7636
Edward.Wilensky@sdopera.com**

All Single Tickets On Sale Sunday, October 3, 2010

2011 Season Includes *Carmen*, *Turandot*, *Der Rosenkavalier* and *Faust*

Introducing \$99 Orchestra Tickets

Best Prices Are Being Offered Until December 31, 2010

San Diego, CA – San Diego Opera is proud to announce single tickets are on sale to the general public on **Sunday, October 3, 2010** for all performances of the 2011 International Opera season.

Tickets can be purchased a variety of ways:

- **Online** anytime at **www.sdopera.com**. Purchasing online allows patrons the benefit of selecting their own seats from an interactive seat map and the ability to print their tickets at home.
- **By phone** by calling **619.533.7000**. Box office is open Monday-Friday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM to take orders. The box office will be open Monday, October 4, 2010 for phone orders.

- In person at the **San Diego Opera Administrative Offices located at 1200 Third Ave. 18th Floor, Civic Center Plaza, Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM**

Single ticket prices range from: \$35 to \$195 with some select seats on opening night a bit more. San Diego Opera is proud to offer new \$99 Orchestra level tickets this season.

For the 2011 International Season San Diego Opera is presenting:

- Puccini's *Turandot* – January 29, February 1, 4 and 6 (matinee), 2011
- Features the Company debut of Lise Lindstrom who has made *Turandot* her signature role.
- Features some of opera's "greatest hits" including the famous aria "Nessun Dorma."
- Sets by famed visual artist David Hockney.

China's icy Princess Turandot has built a wall of riddles around her heart to keep love away. Desired by every man, she wants none of them. Three impossible riddles are the test to win her love and if a suitor fails, they die. Heads roll until the mysterious Prince Calàf arrives on the scene, determined to marry Turandot and stop the bloodshed.

This legendary fable plays out in spectacular surroundings. Renowned artist David Hockney's color-saturated sets create a stunning backdrop as a massive chorus creates exhilarating music by the composer of *La bohème* and *Madama Butterfly*. The famous aria "Nessun dorma", sung and recorded by everyone from Pavarotti to pop idols, will be sung these performances by returning tenor Carlo Ventre, as Calàf. Lise Lindstrom, the Turandot of our time, makes her Company debut.

In Italian with English translations above the stage.

- Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier* – April 3 (matinee), 6, 9 and 12, 2011
- Features important role debuts of International Opera Stars Ferruccio Furlanetto and Anja Harteros.
- These performances mark the 100th Anniversary of premiere of this opera.

To celebrate the 100-year anniversary of Strauss' romantic masterpiece San Diego Opera presents Anja Harteros and Ferruccio Furlanetto in their long awaited role debuts.

The lushly scored music of Richard Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier* brings to life the story of the Marschallin, a beautiful and elegant noblewoman neglected by her husband. Her torrid affair with the handsome young Octavian brings her intense pleasure, but reinforces her fear of losing him, as well as her beauty and youth. International opera stars Ferruccio Furlanetto and Anja Harteros make their role debuts amidst the dazzling, 18th century opulence of the Austrian Empire. Rounding

out this all-star cast are Anke Vondung as the Marschallin's young lover Octavian and Patrizia Ciofi as the beautiful Sophie. Light and dark themes mingle in this masterpiece of love and loss, making *Der Rosenkavalier* one of the most beloved masterpieces of all time.

In German with English translations above the stage.

- Gounod's *Faust* – April 23, 26, 29 and May 1 (matinee), 2011
- Celebrates the return of last season's stars of *Romeo and Juliet* Stephen Costello and Ailyn Pérez
- Acclaimed bass Greer Grimsley returns to sing Méphistophélès

Old and disillusioned, Faust forfeits his soul to Méphistophélès in exchange for youth and pleasure. He seduces the virtuous Marguerite, then callously moves on, leaving her pregnant and ruined. In the end, taunted by Méphistophélès and threatened with damnation, Marguerite's only hope is to call upon the angels. Will they save her soul or will she join Faust in the yawning abyss of Hell?

Opera's new golden couple returns after their triumph in last season's *Romeo and Juliet* - tenor Stephen Costello sings Faust and soprano Ailyn Pérez is his Marguerite. They're joined by San Diego's favorite villain, Greer Grimsley, as a wickedly devilish Méphistophélès. Intricate sets and traditional costumes will recreate the Gothic world of 16th century Germany where Charles Gounod's gorgeous music, with its virtuoso arias and rousing choruses, will create a thrilling operatic spectacle.

In French with English translations above the stage.

- Bizet's *Carmen* – May 14, 17, 20 and 22 (matinee), 2011
- Company debut of mezzo-soprano Nino Surguladze as Carmen and famed tenor Salvatore Licitra as Don José

Naïve young soldier Don José falls for the gypsy Carmen, leaving his sweetheart Micaëla for a life of crime with Carmen's gang of smugglers. But when Carmen callously drops José for superstar "Toreador" Escamillo, his jealousy ignites, bursting into an emotional bonfire that destroys them all.

Making her Company debut, the mezzo-soprano Nino Surguladze brings her acclaimed Carmen to the San Diego Opera with charismatic tenor Salvatore Licitra as Don José and roguish baritone Wayne Tigges as Escamillo. Carmen's passionate music is so well-known and beloved that it has become immortalized as the quintessential opera. Our production will frame these celebrated melodies in a fittingly traditional setting: mantillas, lace, swirling capes, and the flair of classic Spain that will draw audiences deeply into an evening of unforgettable opera.

In French with English translations above the stage.

Purchasing Tickets

Single tickets for all operas are now on sale. Single ticket prices, through December 31, are \$35, \$75, \$90, \$115, \$155, \$195 (\$220 for select seats on opening night) and can be purchased by calling (619) 533-7000 or online at www.sdopera.com.

Three or four-opera subscriptions for the 2011 International Season are still available. Subscriptions range from \$108 - \$880 and can be purchased by calling (619) 533-7000 or online at www.sdopera.com

Tuesday Night Senior Discounts are also available for a full series four-opera subscription. Proof of age is required. Call (619) 533-7000 or online at www.sdopera.com for more information.

The 2011 International Season

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| <i>Turandot</i> | Giacomo Puccini | January 29, February 1, 4 and 6 (mat), 2011 |
| <i>Der Rosenkavalier</i> | Richard Strauss | April 3 (mat), 6, 9 and 12, 2011 |
| <i>Faust</i> | Charles Gounod | April 23, 26, 29 and May 1 (mat), 2011 |
| <i>Carmen</i> | Georges Bizet | May 14, 17, 20 and 22 (mat), 2011 |

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

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