



**For Immediate Release**

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## **San Diego Opera Announces Return of “Taste of Opera”**

*Wildly Popular Events Take Opera Out of the Theatre and into  
Restaurants for an Introduction to Art Form*

*Opera-Inspired Cooking Classes Spice Up Program*

*Dinners and Discussions Make For “Entertaining Entrées to Opera”*

**San Diego, CA** – San Diego Opera is pleased to announce the return of “Taste of Opera” for the third year; a series of events designed to offer an introduction to San Diego Opera’s 2011 season in informal and casual settings around creatively-themed dinners and events. Working off the successes of the 2010 “Taste of Opera”, this year offers an expanded menu of activities and events including a themed series of cooking classes at **Great News Discount Cookware and Cooking School** as well as “Entertaining Entrées to Opera” at some of San Diego’s hottest restaurants. **American Express** is the Presenting Sponsor of the 2011 Taste of Opera Series.

Chef Katherine Emmenegger from Great News Discount Cookware and Cooking School has created four cooking class menus inspired by each of our operas in 2011: *Turandot* (Chinese), *Der Rosenkavalier* (Austrian), *Faust* (Northern French) and *Carmen* (Spanish). Chef Emmenegger will once again be accompanied by sous chef (and San Diego Opera Geisel Director of Education and Outreach) Dr. Nicolas Reveles, who will entertain guests with facts and stories while these meals are being created. A complete listing of the menus, dates and times, can be found at the bottom of this release.

Continuing the popularity of last season’s events, Taste of Opera will continue to pair up a speaker with some of San Diego’s hottest restaurants for themed “Entertaining Entrées to Opera”. Dinners will be held **The Palm, Vigilucci’s, The University Club, Tapenade**

and **Café Sevilla**. A complete listing of events, dates and times can be found at the bottom of this release.

“Taste of Opera, now in its third year, is a wonderful series of events that helps demystify the greatest art form in the world. By going into the community and engaging our neighbors in casual discussions over dinner, participants get their first taste of opera and a great meal at some of the finest restaurants our city has to offer. Most of all, it is fun, which is what going to the opera is truly about,” comments Risë Walter, San Diego Opera’s Director of Marketing.

For more information and to RSVP to Taste of Opera events visit online at <http://www.sdopera.com/Experience/TasteOfOpera> or call (619) 533-7000. Reservations to the cooking classes must be made directly with Great News at the contact information below.

Taste of Opera 2010 – 2011 Events:

### **Cooking Classes at Great News Discount Cookware and Cooking School**

- Registration opens September 4, 2010
- Call 1-888-GR8-Chef or visit [www.great-news.com](http://www.great-news.com) to make reservations directly with Great News.
- All of the cooking class events cost \$54 per person and includes a tasting menu of the recipes prepared.
- All classes are at Great News, 1788 Garnet Ave., San Diego, CA 92109.
- Space is limited to 48 individuals and will sell-out. Reserve early.

***Turandot*** - Friday, October 22, at 6:00PM

Five harmonious elements reside in the score of the opera *Turandot*. Dr. Nicolas Reveles will be on hand to explain and entertain in his effective style of opera education, while Chef Katherine takes your taste buds on a journey to China, exploring the five elements of flavor in Chinese Cuisine.

Recipes: Shrimp Pot Stickers with Chili Dipping Sauce; Hot and Sour Soup; Crispy Beef with Steamed Rice; Szechuan Green Beans; Fortune Cookies.

***Der Rosenkavalier*** - Friday, November 12 at 6:00PM

*Der Rosenkavalier* takes the opera enthusiast on a whimsical adventure of forbidden love to the romantic city of Vienna. While Dr. Nicolas Reveles, master opera educator, entertains and informs on the fine points of this light hearted opera, Chef Katherine will prepare delicacies from this Austrian destination.

Recipes: "Kürbiscreme" Pumpkin Soup; Chicken Schnitzel with Riesling Braised Brussels Sprouts; "Schwammerlgulasch" Mushroom Sauce and Semmelknödel; Sacher Torte.

***Faust*** - Friday, February 18 at 6:00PM

Dark and ominous, *Faust* is a story with all the elements of deception and heartache presented with beautiful music. Dr. Nicolas Reveles brings this tale to life, explaining all of the details to enhance the opera experience. Chef Katherine prepares a feast of Northern French cuisine.

Recipes: Beet and Pear Salad; Bacon, Leek, and Cheese Custard Tart; Coq au Riesling; Devil's Black Magic Cake.

**Carmen** - Friday, March 18 at 6:00PM

The opera *Carmen* by Georges Bizet conveys emotions of passion and seduction. Chef Katherine will translate this enchanting music into the cuisine of Spain while Nicolas Reveles, will entertain the audience with stories and inside information on the opera. This is an evening of music and dining not to be missed.

Recipes: Pinchitos Morunos; Manchego Cheese, Olives and Roasted Nuts; Tuna Parsley and Olive Stuffed Roasted Peppers; Sherry Braised Chicken and Saffron Rice; "Brazo de Gitano" Gypsy's Arm - Rolled Sponge Cake.

### **Entertaining Entrees to Opera**

- Call San Diego Opera at (619) 533-7000 or visit <http://www.sdopera.com/Experience/TasteOfOpera> TO RSVP
- All events must be reserved in advance.

**Vigilucci's Ristorante**- Tuesday, November 9 at 6:30 pm

1300 Orange Avenue, Coronado, CA 92118

Kick off our Taste of Opera Season with an evening of delicious Italian fare and Puccini's *Turandot* as San Diego Opera's Dr. Nicolas Reveles takes guests on a journey through the legendary fable. Joining him is Adrian Bean, Licensed Acupuncturist and past winner of "BEST OF" in San Diego for acupuncture centers. \$55 per person includes 1 glass wine, 3 course prix fixe menu, tip & tax.

**The Palm** - Tuesday, December 7 at 6:30 pm

615 J Street, San Diego, CA 92101

Taste of Opera Season continues with Strauss' masterpiece of love and loss, *Der Rosenkavalier*. Dr. Nicolas Reveles discusses the light and dark themes and the 'presentation of the rose' ceremony. Joining him is Landscape Architect Greg Rubin with a discussion of water conservation, the California native rose and other native plants, their drought-tolerant qualities as well as their flexibility in landscape design. \$55 per person includes 1 glass wine, 3 course prix fixe menu, tip & tax.

**University Club Atop Symphony Towers** - Tuesday, January 11 at 6:30 pm

750 B Street, Suite 3400, San Diego, CA 92101

Join Dr. Nicolas Reveles in the newly renovated University Club Atop Symphony Towers, for breathtaking views and an exciting kickoff discussion of the 2011 season. Entertaining tidbits and musical excerpts on *Turandot*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Faust* and *Carmen*.

\$55 per person includes 1 glass wine, 3 course prix fixe menu, tip & tax.

**Tapenade** - Wednesday, March 23 at 6:30 pm

7612 Fay Avenue, La Jolla, CA 92037

Dr. Nicolas Reveles discusses the wickedly devilish themes in *Faust* and is joined by internationally renowned tenor (and our Romeo last season), Stephen Costello who stars as Faust. Add the delicious and authentic French fare of Tapenade and you have an unforgettable evening.

\$50 per person includes 1 glass wine, 3 course prix fixe menu, tip & tax.

**Café Sevilla** - Wednesday, April 27 at 6:00 pm

353 Fifth Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101

*Carmen* will sizzle and so does the new location of Café Sevilla! Dr. Nicolas Reveles will thrill audiences with the background of the traditionally Spanish *Carmen* and Kristina Cobarrubia, Director of Flamenco Arana, will discuss and present traditional dance and maybe give a lesson or two!

\$55 per person includes 1 glass wine, 3 course prix fixe menu, tip & tax.

### **The 2011 International Season**

<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

*Carmen* Georges Bizet May 14, 17, 20 and 22 (mat), 2011

**Purchasing Tickets**

Three or four-opera subscriptions for the 2011 International Season are currently on sale. Subscriptions range from \$108 - \$880 and can be purchased by calling (619) 533-7000 or online at [www.sdopera.com](http://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](http://www.sdopera.com) for more information.

Single Tickets will be on sale October 4, 2010.

**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](http://www.sdopera.com)

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