



Media Release

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San Diego Opera Names Patrick Mühlen-Schulte as Company's Chief Development Officer

San Diego, CA – San Diego Opera is pleased to announce that **Patrick Mühlen-Schulte** has been appointed to the position Chief Development Officer within the Company. The Chief Development Officer is the Company's principal fundraiser, responsible and accountable for achieving the annual and long-term goals for contributed income. Patrick and his staff of five will provide impetus and support to the fundraising efforts of the Board of Directors, the Board Chair, and the General Director. Patrick assumed his post on Monday, February 5, 2018 and was most recently employed with Los Angeles Opera as Associate Director of Development, Individual Giving.

"I'm thrilled that Patrick will be joining our Executive Team as Chief Development Officer," adds San Diego Opera General Director, David Bennett. "Patrick brings years of nonprofit management experience, most recently with Los Angeles Opera and Houston Grand Opera, and experience in cultural policy for the government of Australia. He is an inspiring and supportive leader, with a wide breadth of knowledge about our art form. I look forward to working directly with him to support the vision of San Diego Opera."

Prior to joining San Diego Opera, Mr. Mühlen-Schulte worked as an arts administrator and consultant to major performing arts companies and venues in the U.S. and Australia. He led development programs with the Houston Grand Opera and LA Opera. Notably, he worked with Opera Australia to produce the highly successful *Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour*, and achieved significant capital investment in the Sydney Opera House.

Prior to joining the US opera sector, he worked in New York as a corporate business development manager and external affairs executive with Marsh & McLennan, a global financial services and consulting firm. He has an extensive background as a senior policy advisor and chief of staff in the Australian government sector, leading teams in the finance, trade and cultural portfolios. In these roles, he gained success in Australian film investment, public sector financing, and major public to private asset transitions.

"This is an exciting time in San Diego Opera's evolution," shares Patrick Mühlen-Schulte. "There is great pride in this company and it's a privilege to be part of it under David Bennett's inspiring leadership and vision."

A native of Sydney Australia, Mr. Mühlen-Schulte holds a Juris Doctor with honors from the University of Technology, Sydney, and a Bachelor of Arts with honors from the University of Sydney, where he majored in vocal studies. He enjoys travelling to cities around the world and visiting great opera houses.

The 2017-2018 International Season

<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i>	Gilbert & Sullivan	October 14, 17, 20, and 22 (mat), 2017
<i>As One</i>	Laura Kaminsky	November 10, 11 and 12 (1 PM, mat), 2017
<i>Maria de Buenos Aires</i>	Ástor Piazzolla	January 26, 27 and 28 (mat), 2018
<i>Turandot</i>	Giacomo Puccini	February 24, 27, March 2, and 4 (mat), 2018
<i>Florencia en el Amazonas</i>	Daniel Catán	March 17, 20, 23, and 25 (mat) 2018
<i>One Amazing Night – Greer Grimsley & Lise Lindstrom in Concert</i>		May 5, 2018

San Diego Opera Mission Statement

The mission of San Diego Opera is to deliver exceptional vocal performances and exciting, accessible programs to diverse audiences, focusing on community engagement and the transformative power of live performance.

San Diego Opera Vision Statement

The San Diego Opera will be recognized internationally as a leading example of adaptability, innovation and sustainability in the operatic arts, promoting diversified programming and unique performance venues with world-class and emerging talent.

San Diego Opera Core Values Statement

Through excellence in innovative programming and education, SDO provides a lasting cultural service to the community.

- Our tradition of excellence in fully staged opera is augmented with new models of opera and venues. Our unique and deep commitment to the community propels us to explore ways of increasing affordability and accessibility.
- Through fiscal responsibility and nimble adaptation to the changing marketplace, we protect the future of San Diego Opera.
- Our educational and community involvement coupled with relevant programming will build the audience of the future.

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