

SD OPERA Media Release

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San Diego Opera’s “One Amazing Night” with baritone Stephen Powell and tenor Stephen Costello in Concert with the San Diego Symphony Closes San Diego Opera’s 2018-2019 Season.

May, 15, 2019 at The Balboa Theatre

San Diego, CA – San Diego Opera’s 2018-2019 season comes to close with a special one night only concert with baritone **Stephen Powell** and tenor **Stephen Costello** in an intimate concert with the San Diego Symphony at the Balboa Theatre on **Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 7 PM**. Stephen Powell, no stranger the Company, was last heard this season in the title role of Rigoletto and was recently heard as Grigorio Germont in 2017’s *La traviata* to popular and critical acclaim. He will be joined by tenor Stephen Costello who was last heard in recital in 2015 and on the main stage in 2013 as Tonio in *The Daughter of the Regiment*. Both will perform solo arias as well as duets from their vast operatic repertoire. They will be joined by the San Diego Symphony for this concert. Tickets are available online at <https://www.sdopera.org/get-tickets/single-tickets> or by calling (619) 533-7000 Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM.

Pre-production photos can be found online at: <https://sandiegoopera.smugmug.com/San-Diego-Opera-20172018-Preproduction-Artwork/>

The Soloists

Stephen Powell, Baritone

American baritone Stephen Powell made his Company debut as Ping in *Turandot* in 1997 and was heard that same year as Felipe Núñez in the world premiere of *The Conquistador* and as Dancaire in *Carmen*. He returned as Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*, Slim in *Of Mice and Men*, Clayton McAllister in *Cold Sassy Tree*, Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly*, Tonio in *Pagliacci*, a soloist in the Company’s 50th Anniversary Concert in 2015, Giorgio Germont in *La traviata* in 2017, and was last heard earlier this season in the title role of *Rigoletto*. Notable engagements include the title role of *Falstaff* with Virginia Opera, Giorgio Germont with Seattle Opera, Michigan Opera Theatre, Pittsburgh Opera, and Minneapolis Opera, the title role in *Rigoletto* with Lyric Opera Baltimore and Cincinnati Opera, Oliver Jordan in the World Premiere

of *Dinner at Eight* for Minnesota Opera, Jochanaan in *Salome* for Minnesota Orchestra, the Count in *The Marriage of Figaro* for Michigan Opera Theatre, Rodrigo in *Don Carlos* with the Caramoor Festival and Enrico in *Lucia di Lammermoor* with The Atlanta Opera and Los Angeles Opera. Other recent highlights include the title role of *Simon Boccanegra* with Warsaw's Ludwig van Beethoven Association, *Carmina Burana* with the Cleveland Orchestra, *Peer Gynt* with Leipzig's MDR Sinfonieorchester, Mozart's *Requiem* for St. Louis Symphony, and Iago in *Otello* with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra. He has been heard at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, L'Opéra de Montréal, Opera Company of Philadelphia, Florida Grand Opera, Utah Opera, Opera Cleveland, Florentine Opera, Arizona Opera, Kentucky Opera, and Portland Opera. An active concert recitalist he has been heard with the symphony orchestras of San Francisco, Atlanta, Houston, Milwaukee, Detroit, Nashville, Philadelphia, Dallas, Ottawa, Cincinnati, Baltimore, Rochester, Phoenix, Brooklyn, Rochester, North Carolina, Montréal, Zurich, as well as with the Handel and Haydn Society, among others. Mr. Powell made his first recital appearance with New York Festival of Song, with Steven Blier at the piano. He has subsequently performed at Weill recital hall singing Lee Hoiby's song cycle *I was There: Five Poems by Walt Whitman*, with the composer at the piano. He now performs frequently with his wife, soprano Barbara Shirvis, in three recital programs they created together: *Hearts Afire, love songs through the ages; Bellissimo Broadway!*; and *An American Celebration*. They also give Master Classes at Universities across the USA. Stephen Powell is an alumnus of the Lyric Opera of Chicago Center for American Artists.

Stephen Costello, Tenor

American tenor Stephen Costello made his San Diego Opera debut in 2010 as Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, returned in 2011 as the Singer in *Der Rosenkavalier* and Faust in *Faust*, in 2013 as Tonio in *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and was heard a soloist in recital in 2015. Notable appearances include Lensky in *Eugene Onegin* and a reprisal of Greenhorn in *Moby-Dick* for The Dallas Opera, a role he created for the world premiere. *Der Rosenkavalier* with Renée Fleming with the Boston Symphony, Romeo, the Duke in *Rigoletto*, and Lord Percy in *Anna Bolena* for the Metropolitan Opera, Rodolfo in *La bohème* at Madrid's Teatro Real, Camille in the *Merry Widow* for Paris Opera. Other recent highlights included several notable firsts: besides singing his first Des Grieux in Massenet's *Manon* at The Dallas Opera, and making house role debuts both as Verdi's Duke at Madrid's Teatro Real and Edgardo in a new production of *Lucia di Lammermoor* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden he also made his Santa Fe Opera debut in the title role of *Roméo et Juliette*. At the Vienna Staatsoper he sang Nemorino in a new staging of *The Elixir of Love*. Costello made his professional debut in 2005 with the Opera Orchestra of New York at Carnegie Hall. The following year brought his European debut, as Nemorino with Opéra National de Bordeaux, and his first appearances at The Dallas Opera and Fort Worth Opera, as Rodolfo in *La bohème*. Noteworthy subsequent debuts have included the Salzburg Festival as Cassio in *Otello*, Royal Opera, Covent Garden as Carlo in *Linda di Chamounix*, Lyric Opera of Chicago as Camille, the Glyndebourne Festival as Nemorino, and the Vienna Staatsoper and Berlin Staatsoper, both as Rodolfo. His performance as Cassio in Verdi's *Otello*, under Riccardo Muti's leadership at the Salzburg Festival, was released on DVD in 2010 (Major/Naxos), and his Royal Opera, Covent Garden debut in *Linda di Chamounix* was issued on CD a year later (Opera Rara). His appearance in San Francisco Opera's *Moby-Dick*, televised nationwide on PBS's Great Performances, was released on DVD in 2013 (SFO) and named an "Editor's Choice" by *Gramophone*. Similarly, his appearance alongside Renée Fleming, Joyce DiDonato, and other operatic luminaries in 2013's Richard Tucker Gala, which celebrated the legendary tenor's centennial, was broadcast on PBS's Live from Lincoln Center and subsequently issued on DVD. The same year saw the release of *here/after: songs of lost voices* (PentaTone), featuring the tenor's world premiere recording of Jake Heggie's *Friendly Persuasions: Homage to Poulenc*. A winner of the 2009 Richard Tucker Award, Stephen Costello has previously received other grants from the Richard Tucker Music Foundation, as well as taking First Prize in the 2006 George London Foundation

Awards Competition, First Prize and Audience Prize in the Giargiari Bel Canto Competition, and First Prize in the Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation Competition. A native of Philadelphia, he is a graduate of the city's famed Academy of Vocal Arts.

Performance Schedule

Wednesday May 15, 2019 7 PM

Get Connected

San Diego Opera on Twitter

Get frequent updates about San Diego Opera and opera in general by following us on Twitter. Follow tweets from backstage during a performance and learn about special offers and contests before anyone else by following us @SDOpera.

San Diego Opera on Facebook

San Diego Opera's Facebook page offers a place for fellow opera fans to discuss performances, opera news, connect with other fans and get up-to-date information on upcoming events. Look for "San Diego Opera" at <https://www.facebook.com/SanDiegoOpera/>

San Diego Opera on YouTube

Now viewers can watch a large portion of San Diego Opera's programming at their convenience on YouTube. Archived versions of *OperaTalk!*, *Stars in the Salon*, *Opera Spotlight*, our video podcast series and much more can be found on the San Diego Opera channel at:

<http://www.youtube.com/SanDiegoOpera>

San Diego Opera on Instagram

A picture is worth a thousand words! Take a look at what happens backstage and in the office on San Diego Opera's Instagram page. <http://instagram.com/sandiegoopera>

Purchasing Tickets

Tickets for "One Amazing Evening" are incredibly limited and be purchased at www.sdopera.org or by phone at 619.533.7000.

The 2017-2018 Season

<i>The Marriage of Figaro</i>	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	October 20, 23, 26, and 28 (mat), 2018
<i>All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914</i>	Peter Rothstein	December 7, 8, and 9 (mat), 2018
<i>Rigoletto</i>	Giuseppe Verdi	February 2, 5, 8, and 10 (mat), 2019
<i>Three Decembers</i>	Jake Heggie	March 8, 9, 10 (mat), 2019
<i>Carmen</i>	Georges Bizet	March 30, April 2, 5, and 7 (mat) 2019
<i>One Amazing Night –Stephen Powell and Stephen Costello</i>		May 15, 2019

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

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.

www.sdopera.org

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