

SD OPERA Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Contact: Edward Wilensky
Edward.Wilensky@sdopera.org

**San Diego Opera's 2020-2021 season continues with a
filmed presentation of *All Is Calm: The Christmas
Truce of 1914* and singalong of holiday favorites led by
San Diego Opera Chorus members**

**Monday, December 21, 2020 at 7:00 PM
Del Mar Fairgrounds Parking Lot
(2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.)**

***San Diego Opera Chorus members to open with a
concert of holiday favorites including an audience sing-
along***

***Drive-in film presentation recorded from 2018 San
Diego Opera premiere***

San Diego, CA – San Diego Opera is pleased to announce the continuation of its 2020-2021 season with a drive-in filmed encore presentation of the 2018 SDO production of *All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914* on Monday, December 21, 2020 at 7 PM at the Del Mar Fairgrounds parking lot (2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.). Prior to the screening of the film will be a live concert of holiday favorites starring members of the San Diego Opera Chorus including a singalong that patrons can enjoy from the comfort and safety of their own car.

This family-friendly *a capella* opera tells the story of the Christmas truce of 1914, when soldiers from France, the United Kingdom, and Germany ventured from their trenches into no-man's land to share food

and exchange gifts on or around the Christmas holiday. Most interactions ended with the singing of Christmas carols and fighting resumed the next day.

Created by Theater Latté Da's artistic director, Peter Rothstein, with musical arrangements by Erick Lichte and Timothy C. Takach, *All Is Calm* is a retelling of firsthand accounts of this truce and uses Christmas carols, patriotic tunes, trench songs, and spoken text from the letters and diaries of soldiers. Told through the unparalleled medium of the human voice, *All Is Calm* explores the universal desire for humanity, peace, and comradery, and what we can achieve when we work together.

“When we produced *All Is Calm* in 2018, the audience response was overwhelming, and we've received requests to produce it again since then. Although current safety protocols in response to COVID-19 make it impossible for us to produce it live now, I'm thrilled to be able to share a beautifully filmed performance from 2018 with our audiences,” shares David Bennett, San Diego Opera's General Director. “Preceded by live holiday music favorites with members of the San Diego Opera chorus in a sing-along format, this is guaranteed a unique, fun and moving holiday experience for the whole family.”

Since the emergence of COVID-19 San Diego Opera has continued to closely monitor the recommendations of public health and government officials and realized that a traditional season in a traditional theatre is impossible to contemplate right now. Based on the successes of San Diego Opera's drive-in *La bohème*, the Company developed this alternative plan for presenting *All Is Calm*. Like *La bohème*, patrons will remain in their cars for the duration of the performance and socially distanced protocols will be enforced should the patron need to briefly leave their vehicle. Patrons will be able to listen to the audio through their car stereo which will be broadcast via an FM transmitter.

The 2018 production was a co-production with Bodhi Tree Concerts and SACRA/PROFANA and was built and owned by San Diego Opera. It was filmed for live televised broadcast by KPBS. It was directed by **Alan E. Hicks** and conducted by **Juan Carlos Acosta** and features costume design by **Denitsa Bliznakova** and lighting by **Anne E. McMills**. San Diego Opera's **Tim Wallace** was the set designer. The dialect coach was **Vanessa Dinning**.

The ensemble cast of male voices are tenors **Jon Keenan, Chad Frisque, Alexis Alfaro, Timothy Simpson, Bernardo Bermudez, Daniel Moyer, Victor Morris**; baritones **Michael Sokol, Anthony Whitson-Martini, Andrew Konopak, Jonathan Nussman, Matthew Fallesen**; and basses **Shelby Condray, Joshua Arky, Walter DuMelle, and Christopher Stevens**.

Performance Schedule

Monday December 21, 2020 7:00 PM

Get Connected

San Diego Opera Podcast Series

Get to know the artists and operas of the 2018-2019 Season. These insights into the singers and productions can be enjoyed by opera fans as well as those who are new to the art form. Casual and fun, this is a great way to learn about our artists and the operas they star in. Watch online at <http://www.sdopera.org/Company/Education/Podcasts>. These videos are also available on our YouTube Channel: <http://www.youtube.com/SanDiegoOpera>

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 are \$100 and \$135 (premium parking) per car. Ticket holders may bring as many guests as their car has seatbelts. Guests are required to watch the film from their vehicle and wear face coverings should they need to briefly leave the vehicle to use the restroom facilities.

Please visit <https://www.sdopera.org/season/2020-2021-season/all-is-calm> for more information or to purchase tickets.

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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