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San Diego Opera Board of Directors Rescind Vote to Close

San Diego Opera Announces 2015 Season

Crowd Fund Effort Total \$2,116,376 In Donations

San Diego, CA – San Diego Opera’s Board of Directors voted today to rescind the decision to close the Company after nearly two months of careful analysis, deliberation and fundraising. The Company originally announced its closure and the sale of its assets on March 19, 2014. The original closure date was scheduled to occur on April 14, 2014, the day after the Company’s final sold-out performance of *Don Quixote*. A vote by the Board on March 31, 2014, delayed that closure by two weeks until April 29, 2014. Another vote by the Board on April 18, 2014, extended that closure date to at least May 19, 2014. Today’s vote on May 16, 2014, overturns the original decision to close.

“The public spoke, we listened, and we’re open for business,” shares Board President Carol Lazier, “and do we have some great news to share with you!”

In light of this news, San Diego Opera is announcing its 2015 season, the Company’s 50th. *La bohème*, *Don Giovanni*, and *Nixon in China* are the three operas being performed at the San Diego Civic Theatre. The Company will also celebrate its 50th anniversary with special **Gala Concerts** of favorite arias, duets, ensembles and choruses with the San Diego Symphony at Copley Symphony Hall. Additional events and performances are in the works, and will be announced shortly.

The Company has also announced that the ongoing crowd funding effort has resulted in a total of \$2,116,376 in donations from 2461 of donors as of midnight Sunday, May 18, 2014. 48% of these donors have never given before and represent gifts from six countries - Austria, Australia, Canada, England, Italy, Mexico & 36 States. The gifts range from \$10 - \$50,000 with a median gift of \$100. Now that the \$1 million goal has been reached, and the Company has announced a 2015 season, both triggers of the escrow account have been met and donations will be moved from the escrow account into the Company's 2015 fund to be used for the just-announced season.

The 2015 Season

- San Diego Opera pays tribute to the first opera it produced in 1965, Giacomo Puccini's *La bohème*, with a production new to San Diego audiences. Featuring the important house debuts of tenor **David Lomelí** as Rodolfo, soprano **Alyson Cambridge** as Mimì and soprano **Sara Gartland** as Musetta. San Diego Opera's resident conductor **Karen Keltner** conducts.

January 24, 27, 29 and February 1 (matinee), 2015 – San Diego Civic Theatre

- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Don Giovanni* makes a welcome return to the San Diego Opera in a production new to the Company. Making his house debut in one of his signature roles as the titular Don Giovanni is bass-baritone **Ildebrando D'Arcangelo**. Soprano **Ellie Dehn** returns as Donna Anna. Also making a notable Company debut is soprano **Myrtò Papatanasu** as Elvira. Conductor **Daniele Callegari** returns to conduct.

February 14, 17, 20 and 22 (matinee), 2015 – San Diego Civic Theatre

- John Adams' *Nixon in China* makes its San Diego Opera debut in a stunning multimedia-heavy production. Making Company debuts are baritone **Franco Pomponi** as Richard Nixon, soprano **Maria Kanyova** as Pat Nixon, baritone **Chen-Ye Yuan** as Chou En-Lai and tenor **Alfred Kim** as Mao Tse-Tung. Baritone **Richard Paul Fink** returns to sing Henry Kissinger and **Joseph Mechavich** returns to conduct.

March 14, 17, 20 and 22 (matinee), 2015 – San Diego Civic Theatre

- San Diego Opera celebrates 50 years with special **Gala Concerts** featuring favorite arias, duets, ensembles from operas with an all-star cast including Lise Lindstrom as well as special surprise guests. **Karen Kamensek** returns to conduct.

April 18 and 19 (matinee), 2015 – Jacobs Music Center - Copley Symphony Hall

- Tickets start at \$35 for subscribers.

- Subscriptions begin at only \$105 for the three opera season and \$140 for a full series including the 50th Anniversary Gala Concert.

Internationally renowned singers **Lise Lindstrom, Morgan Smith, Kathleen Kim** and **Ellie Dehn** all make welcome returns to San Diego Opera to celebrate the Company's 50th season. The Company is also happy to welcome notable house debuts from **Ildebrando D'Arcangelo, David Lomelí, Alyson Cambridge, Myrtò Papatanasii, Franco Pomponi, Maria Kanyova, Alfred Kim, and Chen-Ye Yuan**. Returning conductors are **Joseph Mechavich, Daniele Callegari, Karen Kamensek, and Karen Keltner**.

The season opens on **Saturday, January 24, 2015 at 7 PM** with Giacomo Puccini's beloved tragic opera *La bohème*. A classic in any season, this production, which is new to San Diego Opera, honors the first opera the Company produced in 1965. In highly anticipated Company debuts are soprano **Alyson Cambridge** as Mimì, tenor **David Lomelí** as Rodolfo and soprano **Sara Gartland** as Musetta. Returning singers include baritone **Morgan Smith** (last seen as Starbuck in 2012's *Moby-Dick*) as Marcello and **Malcolm MacKenzie** (seen last season as Belcore in *The Elixir of Love*) as Schaunard. San Diego Opera's Resident Conductor, **Karen Keltner**, conducts.

The season continues with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's classic opera *Don Giovanni*, based on the legend of Don Juan and his 2,065 conquests. *Don Giovanni* opens on Valentine's Day, **Saturday, February 14, 2015 at 7 PM**, in a production new to the Company. Making his Company debut in what has become his signature role is bass-baritone **Ildebrando D'Arcangelo** in the title role. Soprano **Ellie Dehn** (last seen as Mimì in 2010's *La bohème*) returns to sing Donna Anna. Also making notable House debuts are soprano **Myrto Papatanasii** as Elvira and tenor **Paul Appleby** as Ottavio. Returning bass **Kristopher Irmiter** (last heard as the Second Priest in 2012's *Murder in the Cathedral*) sings Masetto and returning bass **Reinhard Hagen** (Ramfis in 2013's *Aida*) sings the Commendatore. Conductor **Daniele Callegari** returns to lead the orchestra from the podium.

The San Diego premiere of John Adams's political drama *Nixon in China* opens on **Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 7 PM**. This multimedia-heavy production about President Nixon's historic trip features the Company debuts of baritone **Franco Pomponi** as President Nixon, soprano **Maria Kanyova** as Pat Nixon, baritone **Chen-Ye Yuan** as the Chinese Premier Chou En-Lai, and tenor **Alfred Kim** as Chairman Mao Tse-Tung. Returning as Madame Mao Tse-Tung is soprano **Kathleen Kim** (seen last season as Oscar in *A Masked Ball*) and bass **Richard Paul Fink** (last seen in the title role of 2010's *Nabucco*) as Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Conductor **Joseph Mechavich**, who conducted 2012's *Moby-Dick*, returns to lead the orchestra.

San Diego Opera pays tribute to its history in a special series of two **50th Anniversary Gala Concerts** with a selection of arias, duets and choruses featuring soprano **Lise Lindstrom** and special surprise guests on **Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, April 19**

(matinee), 2015 at 7 PM at the Jacobs Music Center - Copley Symphony Hall,
conducted by **Karen Kamensek**.

A subscription for three operas begins at a low \$105 and \$140 for a full series including the 50th Anniversary Gala Concert. Casts and repertoire are subject to change.

Pre-production artwork is available online at: <http://sandiegoopera.smugmug.com/>
Select the “2015 Pre-Production artwork and artist headshot gallery”.

Purchasing Tickets

Subscriptions range from \$105 for a three-opera series to \$935 for a full season package (Orchestra level subscription and the 50th Gala Anniversary Concert at the Jacobs Music Center - Copley Symphony Hall). Some Saturday and Sunday subscriptions are slightly higher. Subscriptions can be purchased by calling (619) 533-7000 or online at www.sdopera.com.

For information about single tickets please visit www.sdopera.com. Single ticket prices will be announced in the winter.

www.sdopera.com

San Diego Opera 2015 International Season Performance
Schedule

La bohème

Giacomo Puccini

San Diego Civic Theatre

Saturday	January 24, 2015	7:00pm
Tuesday	January 27, 2015	7:00pm
Thursday	January 29, 2015	7:00pm
Sunday	February 1, 2015	2:00pm

Don Giovanni

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

San Diego Civic Theatre

Saturday	February 14, 2015	7:00pm
Tuesday	February 17, 2015	7:00pm
Friday	February 20, 2015	7:00pm
Sunday	February 22, 2015	2:00pm

Nixon in China

John Adams

San Diego Civic Theatre

Saturday	March 14, 2015	7:00pm
Tuesday	March 17, 2015	7:00pm
Friday	March 20, 2015	7:00pm
Sunday	March 22, 2015	2:00pm

50th Anniversary Gala Concert

Jacobs Music Center - Copley Symphony Hall

Saturday	April 18, 2015	7:00pm
Sunday	April 19, 2015	2:00pm

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La bohème

Giacomo Puccini

Sung in Italian with English translations above the stage
San Diego Civic Theatre

January 24, 27, 29 and February 1 (matinee), 2015

Mimi: Alyson Cambridge*

Musetta: Sara Gartland*

Rodolfo: David Lomelí*

Marcello: Morgan Smith

Schaunard: Malcolm MacKenzie

Colline: Christian Van Horn*

Alcindoro/Benoit: Scott Sikon

Conductor: Karen Keltner

*San Diego Opera debut

Select cast biographies for *La bohème*

Alyson Cambridge, Mimi

San Diego Opera debut. American soprano Alyson Cambridge is a graduate of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and Grand Prize Winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. She made her Metropolitan Opera debut in 2004 as Frasquita in *Carmen* and has since sung numerous roles with the company over the past seven seasons, including Bianca in *La rondine* and Crobyle in *Thaïs*. Other recent highlights include her Lyric Opera of Chicago debut as Giulietta in *The Tales of Hoffmann* and Julie in the highly-acclaimed new production of *Show Boat*, Washington National Opera as Musetta in *La bohème*, Clara in *Porgy and Bess* and Julie in *Show Boat*, her Deutsche Oper Berlin debut as Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*, Polish National Opera as Violetta in *La traviata*, Opera Theatre of St. Louis as Mimi, Juliette in *Romeo et Juliette* and Frasquita, Los Angeles Opera as Clara in *Porgy and Bess*, with PORT Opera as Donna Elvira and Musetta, the Hungarian State Opera, Florentine Opera and Boston Lyric Opera for Mimi, and solo concert performances with the Vienna Kammerorchester, Munich Philharmoniker, San Francisco Symphony, National Symphony Orchestra, Festival de Saint-Denis, and a special recital for the US Justices of the Supreme Court, amongst others, including performances under the batons of Seiji Ozawa, Sir Simon Rattle, Frederic Chaslin and Emmanuel Villaume. Her debut CD, "From the Diary of Sally Hemings", a song cycle by William Bolcom, was released in 2010.

David Lomelí, Rodolfo

San Diego Opera debut. Mexican tenor, David Lomelí made his New York debut as Nemorino in *The Elixir of Love* at New York City Opera. Notable recent debuts include performing at Deutsche Oper Berlin as Alfredo in *La traviata*, Pittsburgh Opera as Edgardo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Opéra de Lille as Macduff in *Macbeth*, Santa Fe Opera as Rodolfo, Canadian Opera Company as The Duke in Verdi's *Rigoletto*, Houston Grand Opera as Alfredo, New York City Opera as Nemorino in *The Elixir of Love*, and The Glyndebourne Festival as Rodolfo. In 2006, he won first place in Plácido Domingo's prestigious Operalia competition – the first artist ever to win top prize in both the opera and zarzuela categories. Important concert engagements were performances of the Verdi *Requiem* with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Berlin Philharmonic under the batons of Maestros Dudamel and Janssons. He has also sung in concert

with the Oslo Philharmonic, Prague Philharmonic, Hamburg Symphony and the Munich Radio Orchestra. Additional performances include Lord Riccardo Percy in *Anna Bolena* with Opéra National de Boudreaux and Oper Köln, Deutsche Oper Berlin as The Duke, Leicester in *Mary, Queen of Scots* for Oper Frankfurt, Rodolfo at Theater Basel in Switzerland and Pittsburgh Opera, Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni* with Michigan Opera Theater, and the title role in Gounod's *Faust* at Madison Opera, Alfredo, Harry in *The Girl of the West*, and Rinuccio in *Gianni Schicchi* with San Francisco Opera, and with the Los Angeles Opera as Rodolfo and Javier in Federico Moreno Torroba's zarzuela *Luisa Fernanda*. He is a graduate of both the San Francisco Opera Adler Fellowship and Merola Opera Program.

Sara Gartland, Musetta

San Diego Opera debut. American soprano Sara Gartland is a former Adler Fellow with San Francisco Opera. With San Francisco Opera she has performed Micaëla in *Carmen*, Pat/Ann in the world premiere of Christopher Theofandis' *Heart of a Soldier*, Barbarina in *The Marriage of Figaro*, and Gerhilde in *Die Walküre*. Recent notable engagements include Juliette in *Romeo et Juliette* with Des Moines Metro Opera, Adina in *The Elixir of Love* with Austin Lyric Opera, Violetta in *La traviata* and Curley's Wife in *Of Mice and Men* with Utah Opera, Gretel in *Hansel and Gretel* with Opera San Jose, Alexandra in *Regina* with Des Moines Metro Opera and Norina in *Don Pasquale* with Opera Iowa. She has appeared on the concert stage with the Elmhurst Symphony in Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*, Cheyenne Symphony in *Carmina Burana*, Central City Opera, and Colorado University's Boulder Wind Symphony in *Four Maryland Songs*.

Karen Keltner, Conductor

San Diego Opera's Resident Conductor Karen Keltner has been associated with the Company since 1982 and has conducted a broad repertoire for San Diego Opera including *Faust*, *La bohème*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Don Quixote*, *The Pearl Fishers*, *Samson and Delilah*, *Wozzeck*, *Carmen*, *The Conquistador*, *Così fan tutte*, *Thérèse Raquin*, *The Flying Dutchman*, *The Lighthouse*, *Cold Sassy Tree*, *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Rigoletto*. Other engagements have been with Utah Festival Opera, Opéra National du Rhin, Strasbourg, New York City Opera, Anchorage Opera, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Glimmerglass Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, and Opera Carolina. Keltner gives master classes for singers in universities and cities where she guest conducts.

Don Giovanni

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Sung in Italian with English translations above the stage

San Diego Civic Theatre

February 14, 17, 20 and 22 (matinee), 2015

Don Giovanni: Ildebrando D'Arcangelo*

Conductor: Daniele Callegari

Donna Anna: Ellie Dehn

Donna Elivira: Myrtò Papatanasu*

Zerlina: TBD

Ottavio: Paul Appleby*

Masetto: Kristopher Irmiter

Commendatore: Reinhard Hagen
Leporello: Alex Esposito*

*San Diego Opera debut

Select cast biographies for *Don Giovanni*

Ildebrando D’Arcangelo, Don Giovanni

San Diego Opera debut. Italian bass baritone Ildebrando D’Arcangelo is known for his interpretation of Don Giovanni. In 2010 he premiered two new productions at the Deutsch Oper Berlin and Vienna Staatsoper and then in 2011 a new production for La Scala in Milan, followed by a new Zeffirelli production at Arena di Verona. In 2012 he recorded the role for Deutsche Grammophon as Festspielhaus Baden-Baden as well as performances at Los Angeles Opera and the Salzburg Festival. He performs regularly at La Scala, the Vienna Staatsoper, the Theater an der Wien, Bayerische Staatsoper, the Liceu Barcelona, London’s Royal Opera, Covent Garden, the Opéra Bastille, as well as the Salzburg and Baden-Baden Festivals. Recent engagements include the Verdi *Requiem* at the Hollywood Bowl with Maestro Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Escamillo in *Carmen* at the Los Angeles Opera, Don Ruy Gomez de Silva in *Ernani* for Rome Opera, Alidoro in *La Cenerentola* and Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte* for Vienna Staatsoper, Selim in *Il Turco in Italia* for Bayerische Staatsoper and the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, Mustafa in *L’Italiana in Algeri* for Opéra national de Paris, and Méphistophélès in *La damnation de Faust* for Deutsch Oper Berlin. He is an active recording artist. In addition to the aforementioned Don Giovanni, Deutsche Grammophon has released a solo album of Handel arias and a second CD, “Mozartissimo”, dedicated to the composer with whom he is most identified. Other recordings include Rossini’s *Stabat Mater*, Haydn’s *L’Anima del filosofo*, *La bohème*, Verdi’s *Requiem*, *La Sonnambula*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, and Rossini’s *Otello* among others.

Ellie Dehn, Donna Anna

American soprano Ellie Dehn made her Company debut in 2010 as Mimì in *La bohème*. Recent engagements include Teatro Lirico di Cagliari for Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte*, Musetta in *La bohème* with Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* at Teatro Massimo in Palermo, Euryanthe in Von Weber’s *Euryanthe* at the Bard Festival, Teatro alla Scala debut as Antonia in *The Tales of Hoffmann*, the Metropolitan Opera as Donna Elvira and Musetta, and both Helena in Britten’s *Midsummer Night’s Dream* and Musetta at Rome’s Teatro dell’ Opera. She is well known for her portrayal of Countess Almaviva in *The Marriage of Figaro* with performances at Houston Grand Opera, San Francisco Opera and Tulsa Opera, Donna Anna with performances at the Ravinia Festival, Bayerische Staatsoper, Opera Colorado and PORT Opera, and Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* with the Spoleto Festival. Other notable performances include Rosaura in the world premiere of Spratlan’s *Life is a Dream* in Santa Fe, Agathe in *Der Freischütz* in Geneva, Madame Cortese in *Il viaggio a Reims* in Bilbao, Freia in *Das Rheingold* in Los Angeles, Juliette in *Romeo and Juliette* with Minnesota Opera, and the title role in William Walton’s *Troilus and Cressida* at the Opera Theater of St. Louis. She is a frequent guest on Garrison Keillor’s *A Prairie Home Companion*.

Myrtò Papatnasiu, Elvira

San Diego Opera debut. Greek soprano Myrtò Papatnasiu’s recent performances include the title role of *Alcina* and Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte* at Opéra National de Paris, Violetta in *La traviata* at

Vienna Staatsoper, The Dallas Opera, Opéra de Montréal, Grand Théâtre de Genève, Il teatro de Macerata, Teatro dell'Opera de Roma, Welsh National Opera and Opera de Oviedo, Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* at Théâtre des Champs Elysées de Paris, Vienna Staatsoper, De Nederlandse Opera, Teatro delle Muse, Il teatro de Macerata, and Teatro Carlo Felice, Musetta in *La bohème* at the Metropolitan Opera, the title role of *Iphigénie en Aulide* at Theater an der Wien, Alcina at Die Staatstheater Stuttgart, Fiordiligi at the Royal Danish Theatre, and the title role of Rusalka at La Monnaie in Brussels.

Paul Appleby, Ottavio

San Diego Opera debut. American tenor Paul Appleby's recent engagements include Fritz in *The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein* at Santa Fe Opera, Brian in *Two Boys*, Chevalier de la Force in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, Hylas in *Les Troyens*, Demetrius in *The Enchanted Island*, and Brighella in *Ariadne auf Naxos* at the Metropolitan Opera, Ferrando in *Così fan tutte* for his Canadian Opera Company debut as well as with Oper Frankfurt and Boston Lyric Opera, Tamino in *The Magic Flute* for his Washington National Opera debut, Tom Rakewell in *The Rake's Progress* for Oper Frankfurt, Agenore in *Il Re Pastore* with Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Gomatz in *Zaide* at Wolf Trap Opera. An active concert recitalist, he has performed Britten's *Les Illuminations* at Maverick Concerts in Woodstock, Britten's *Serenade for Tenor Horn and Strings*, and *Spring Symphony*, at Lincoln Center with the New York Philharmonic, performances of the *Mozart Requiem* with the Pittsburgh Symphony, in Pittsburgh and on tour to Vienna, and Beethoven's *Mass in C Major* with the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra, among others. He is the recipient of the 2012 Leonore Annenberg Fellowship, the 2012 Top Prize by the Gerda Lissner Foundation, a 2012 Martin E. Segal Award from Lincoln Center, and a 2011 Richard Tucker Career Grant. He was a National Winner of the 2009 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

Daniele Callegari, Conductor

Italian conductor Daniele Callegari made his Company debut in 2013 with *Aida*. He was the Principal Director of the Wexford Opera Festival from 1998 to 2001 and was the Chief Conductor of the Royal Flanders Philharmonic Orchestra in Antwerp from 2002 to 2008. He is a regular guest at the world's leading opera companies and symphonies including Metropolitan Opera and Carnegie Hall of New York, Canadian Opera of Toronto, Washington National Opera, Bayerische Staatsoper, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Staatsoper Unter den Linden, Vienna Staatsoper Opera, Carlo Felice di Genova, Comunale di Bologna, Dresden Musik Festspiele, Frankfurt Oper, Gurzenich Orchester, Liceu of Barcelona, Macerata Opera, Massimo di Palermo, Massimo Bellini di Catania, MDR Orchester, Muncher Rundfunk Orchester, National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland, New Japan Foundation, Opéra Marseille, Orchestra Regionale della Toscana, Orquestra Sinfonica de Madrid, Philharmonique de Montecarlo, Regio di Parma, Sao Carlos in Lisbon, Théâtre de La Monnaie in Brussels, Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, Teatro Verdi di Trieste, Orchestra Sinfonica della RAI and Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia di Roma. Recent operas he has conducted include *Rigoletto*, *La bohème*, *Les Huguenots*, *Falstaff*, *Così fan tutte*, *I due Foscari*, *Turandot*, *Pagliacci*, *Cavalleria rusticana*, *A Masked Ball*, *La traviata*, *The Force of Destiny*, *Aida*, *Simon Boccanegra*, *The Elixir of Love*, *Madama Butterfly* and *Carmen*, among many others. His discography includes *Alice* by Testoni and Wolf-Ferrari's *I quattro Rusteghi* for Agorà, *La traviata* for Bongiovanni, *La Gioconda* by Ponchielli, Mascagni's *Messa di Gloria*, *Stabat Mater* by Pergolesi, *Il trovatore* and *Oberto conte di San Bonifacio* and a CD dedicated to concert arias by Mozart for Fonè.

Nixon in China

John Adams

Sung in English with English text above the stage
San Diego Civic Theatre

March 14, 17, 20 and 22 (matinee), 2015

Richard Nixon: Franco Pomponi*
Pat Nixon: Maria Kanyova*
Mao Tse-Tung: Alfred Kim*
Chou En-Lai: Chen-Ye Yuan*
Henry Kissinger: Richard Paul Fink
Madame Mao Tse-Tung: Kathleen Kim

Conductor: Joseph Mechavich

*San Diego Opera debut

Select cast biographies for *Nixon in China*

Franco Pomponi, Richard Nixon

San Diego Opera debut. Baritone Franco Pomponi's notable performances include Pentheus in Hans Werner Henze's *The Bassarids*, Richard Nixon and the title role of *Sweeney Todd* at Paris' Théâtre du Châtelet, the title role of *Hamlet* at the Gran Teatro del Liceu in Barcelona and Opéra de Marseille, the title role of *Don Giovanni* for The Bolshoi Opera and Opéra Nationale in Montpellier which was broadcast on Radio France, Zurga in *The Pearl Fishers* for Opernhaus Zürich, Nick Shadow in *The Rake's Progress* at Palermo's Teatro Massimo, as Ford in *Falstaff* for the Santa Fe Opera and the Canadian Opera Company, Hérode in Massenet's *Hérodiade* for U.K.'s Dorset Opera, Golaud in *Pelleas et Mélisande* for the Nationale Reisopera in The Netherlands; Count Di Luna in *Il trovatore* for Austin Lyric Opera; Carbon in *Cyrano de Bergerac* at Théâtre du Châtelet, and Guglielmo in David McVicar's production of *Così fan tutte* for L'Opéra National du Rhin in Strasbourg. He has sung Escamillo in *Carmen* for New York City Opera, the Los Angeles Opera, Dorset Opera, Toulon, France, PORTOpera Theatre, Maine, Florida Grand Opera, Qatar Philharmonic, and United Arab Emirates. The Metropolitan Opera has heard him as Schaunard in *La bohème*, Count Dominik in *Arabella* and Presto in *Les Mamelles de Tirésias*. For the Lyric Opera of Chicago, where he was a member of the Lyric Opera Center for American Artists, he was heard as Malatesta in *Don Pasquale*, as well as Germont in *La traviata* for the Grant Park Music Festival. Other performances include Fritz the Pierrot in *Die Tote Stadt* at Teatro Massimo in Palermo, Paolo Albiani in *Simon Boccanegra* for Grand Théâtre Genève; Lescaut in *Manon Lescaut* and Frederic in *Lakmé* at Spoleto USA; Valentin in *Faust* at Opera Theatre of St. Louis, The Four Villains in *The Tales of Hoffmann* for Nationale Reisopera, Netherlands, Portland Opera, Utah Festival and The Grant Park Music Festival, Chicago, and Stanley Kowalski in *A Streetcar Named Desire* for the New Orleans Opera and the Tennessee Williams Festival.

Maria Kanyova, Pat Nixon

San Diego Opera debut. American soprano Maria Kanyova is well known for her portrayal of Pat Nixon which she has performed with San Francisco Opera, the Lyric Opera of Kansas City, the Canadian Opera Company, Opera Colorado, the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Chicago Opera Theatre and in concert with the Ravinia Festival and Phoenix Symphony. Her performances at

Opera Colorado were recorded for the Naxos label for commercial release. Other notable performances include Violetta in *La traviata* at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, New York City Opera, Portland Opera and Utah Opera, Mimì in *La bohème* with New York City Opera, Houston Grand Opera and The Dallas Opera, Cio-Cio San in *Madama Butterfly* with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, New Orleans Opera, Tulsa Opera, Madison Opera and Central City Opera, Nedda in *Pagliacci* with the The Dallas Opera and New York City Opera, Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* with Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Glimmerglass Opera as well as Donna Elvira with the Los Angeles Opera and Opera Colorado, Susanna in Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* with Opera Colorado and Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Adina in *The Elixir of Love* with Boston Lyric Opera and Opera Colorado, Gretel in *Hänsel and Gretel* with the Los Angeles Opera as well as the Dew Fairy/Sandman with the Lyric Opera of Chicago and the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Tatyana in *Eugene Onegin* with Boston Lyric Opera, Utah Opera and Opera Pacific, the title role in *Suor Angelica* with New York City Opera, Konstanze in Mozart's *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* with Opera Colorado, Oscar in *A Masked Ball* with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Blanche de la Force in *The Dialogues of the Carmelites* with Glimmerglass Opera, and Corinna in *Il Viaggio a Reims* with New York City Opera. She created the role of the Wedding Planner in William Bolcom's *A Wedding* at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Elle Burling in Tobias Picker's *Emmeline* at Santa Fe Opera, Annabelle in John Philip Sousa's *The Glass Blowers* for Glimmerglass Opera, Leya in Shulamit Ran's *Between Two Worlds* with the Lyric Opera of Chicago Center for America Artists, and Miriam in Mark Adamo's *Gospel of Mary Magdalene* at San Francisco Opera.

Alfred Kim, Mao Tse-Tung

San Diego Opera debut. Korean tenor Alfred Kim was a member of the Staatstheaters in Kassel and Wiesbaden before joining the ensemble at Oper Frankfurt after making his house debut as Carlo in *I Masnadieri*. During his time in Frankfurt his roles included Ismaele in *Nabucco*, Rodolfo in *La bohème*, Gabriele Adorno in *Simon Boccanegra*, Hoffmann in *The Tales of Hoffmann*, Cavaradossi in *Tosca*, Alfredo Germont in *La traviata*, the title role of *Don Carlo*, and Henri in *Die sizilianische Vesper*. Other notable performances include Radames in *Aida* at Teatro de la Maestranza in Sevilla, Calaf in *Turandot* for the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, and Deutsch Oper Berlin, Cavaradossi for Rome Opera, Don José in *Carmen* for the Daegu International Opera Festival in Korea and Teatro Municipal de Santiago, Don Alvaro in *La forza del destino* for Barcelona's Gran Teatre del Liceu, Mao Tse-Tung for Paris' Théâtre du Châtelet, and Manrico in *Il trovatore* for Théâtre du Capitole in Toulouse. He won the 1997 Belvedere international singing competition, second prize in the 1998 ARD Music Competition in Munich and was awarded a special prize at the 2002 Operalia competition in Paris. He is an active concert soloist as well.

Richard Paul Fink, Henry Kissinger

American baritone Richard Paul Fink made his San Diego Opera debut as Pritschitsch in *The Merry Widow* in 1985, returning that same season for Zaretsky in *Eugene Onegin*, Escamillo in *Carmen* in 1992 and the title role of *Nabucco* in 2010. Notable engagements in his international career include the title role of *The Flying Dutchman* for Calgary Opera and the Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Klingsor in *Parsifal*, Kurwenal in *Tristan und Isolde*, George Wilson in *The Great Gatsby* and Edward Teller in *Doctor Atomic* at the Metropolitan Opera, Alberich in *the Ring Cycle* for the Metropolitan Opera, Seattle Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin and San Francisco Opera, Amonasro in *Aida*, Jochanaan in *Salome* and Don Pizarro in *Fidelio* for Seattle Opera, Telramund in *Lohengrin* for Houston Grand Opera and the Water Sprite in *Rusalka* for Canadian Opera Company. He has appeared with Paris Opéra Bastille, Berlin Staatsoper, the Salzburg Festival,

Teatro Real in Madrid, Teatro Municipal in Chile, Washington National Opera, Hamburgische Staatsoper, Sydney Opera and New York City Opera in roles as varied as Nabucco, Macbeth, Rigoletto, the Four Villains in *The Tales of Hoffmann*, Iago in *Otello*, Scarpia in *Tosca*, Gerard in *Andrea Chenier* and Nick Shadow in *The Rak's Progress*.

Joseph Mechavich, Conductor

American Conductor Joseph Mechavich made his Company debut in the 2012 season leading the performances of *Moby-Dick*, which he also conducted for Calgary Opera. He is the Principal Conductor and Music Director for Kentucky Opera, where he has conducted *La bohème*, *The Marriage of Figaro* and *Carmen*. Recent performances include *Romeo and Juliette* for Florida Grand Opera, *Susannah* for The Florentine Opera, *The Barber of Seville* at Washington National Opera, *Porgy and Bess* at Deutsche Oper Berlin, *Madama Butterfly* at New York City Opera, *La bohème* at Dayton Opera and *Cendrillon* at the Aspen Music Festival. Mechavich was the Principal Conductor for Opera Birmingham from 2004-10, conducting *Turandot*, *Madama Butterfly*, *La bohème*, *La traviata*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *The Elixir of Love*, *Aida*, *La Cenerentola* and *The Barber of Seville*. He has also presided over highly-recognized productions for Calgary Opera, Utah Opera, Tulsa Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Sugar Creek Festival, Pine Mountain Music Festival, Oberlin Opera Theatre, Lake George Opera Festival, Virginia Opera, Fargo-Moorhead Opera and Spokane Opera. Others companies with which he has collaborated include Austin Lyric Opera, New Orleans Opera, Mobile Opera, Nevada Opera and Berkshire Opera.

50th Anniversary Gala Concert

Jacobs Music Center – Copley Symphony Hall

Featuring Special Guests

Conducted by Karen Kamensek

April 18 and 19 (matinee), 2015

Karen Kamensek, Conductor

American conductor Karen Kamensek made her Company debut last season for *The Elixir of Love*. She has been the music director of Staatsoper Hannover since 2011 where she recently conducted *Suor Angelica*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *Il barbero di Siviglia*, *Così fan tutte*, *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, *Das Rheingold*, *Die Walküre* and *Ariadne auf Naxos*. She cooperates closely with Philip Glass whose work *Orphée* she performed as the world premiere with the Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra in New York. She also conducted Glass' world premiere of *Les Enfants Terribles* at the Spoleto Festival in the USA, and his composition for Büchner's play *Wozzeck* performed at the New York Shakespeare Festival. As a guest, she conducted at the Opera Australia in Melbourne for *Cavalleria rusticana/Pagliacci*, the Deutsche Oper Berlin for *La bohème*, the Komische Oper Berlin for *La bohème* and *Der Vogelhändler*, the Opéra National de Bordeaux for *Idomeneo*, the Dortmund Opera for *La bohème*, the Frankfurt Opera for *The Turn of the Screw*, *Roméo et Juliette*, *Death in Venice*, and *La traviata*, the Staatsoper Hannover for the ballet *The Firebird*, *Pictures of an Exhibition*, *Carmen*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment*, the Hamburgische Staatsoper for *The Elixir of Love*, *Madama Butterfly*, *A Masked Ball*, and *Otello*, the Royal Danish Theatre in Copenhagen for *Pelléas et Mélisande*, the Staatstheater Stuttgart for *La bohème*, the Volksoper Wien for *Herzogin von Chicago*, the State Opera in Prague for *La*

bohème, the Oldenburgisches Staatstheater for *Il trovatore* and at the Opéra National de Bordeaux for *Jenufa* as well as at WDR Festival in Duisburg for Glass' *Civil Wars*. She regularly performs concerts with the Hamburger Philharmoniker, Staatsorchester Hannover, Basel Sinfonietta, Bruckner Orchestra Linz, Duisburger Philharmoniker, Philharmonisches Orchester Freiburg, Staatsorchester Braunschweig, Vlaams Radio Orchester Brussels, Philharmonisches Staatsorchester Halle, Klagenfurter Symphonieorchester, Slovenien Philharmonic Orchestra Ljubljana, Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra in Kuala Lumpur, Monterey Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonie Maribor, the Orchestra of the MDR, Radio Symphonie Orchester Wien as well as Odense Symphony Orchestra.

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