

Opera in the Park

9/8/2013

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SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE PRESENTS
SAN FRANCISCO OPERA IN THE PARK
40th ANNIVERSARY

as performed

Sunday, September 8, 2013, 1:30pm Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park

Sopranos: Susannah Biller, Elizabeth Futral, Marina Harris, Heidi Stober

Mezzo-Sopranos: Laura Krumm, Renée Rapiér

Tenors: Ramón Vargas, Chuanyue Wang

Baritone: Joo Wan Kang; Basses-Baritones: Philippe Sly, Wayne Tigges; Bass: Ildar Abdrazakov

with Nicola Luisotti, Music Director of San Francisco Opera,

conducting the San Francisco Opera Orchestra

Kay Stern, Concertmaster

Master of Ceremonies: David Gockley, General Director of San Francisco Opera

7:50 VERDI: *Nabucco* Orchestra
Overture

5:00 ROSSINI: *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* Joo Won Kang
Largo al factotum

Figaro boastfully introduces himself as a "factotum," a versatile man of varied talents in addition to being a consummate barber, making him so much in demand that everyone constantly calls for him by name: "Figaro! Figaro!"

6:00 MOZART: *Idomeneo* Heidi Stober
Zeffiretti lusinghieri

The captive Trojan princess Ilia is in love with Idamante, prince of Crete, whose father is sending him away from court. In her aria she asks the gentle breezes to fly to Idamante to tell him of her love and ask him to remain faithful.

4:30 PUCCINI: *La Bohème* Chuanyue Wang
Che gelida manina

The penniless poet Rodolfo meets the seamstress Mimì when she knocks at his unheated garret seeking to light her candle. Clutching her "freezing hand" to warm it in his own, he tells her of his life and dreams, and confesses that her beautiful eyes have brought him newfound hope.

3:30 J. STRAUSS, JR: *Die Fledermaus* Susannah Biller
My Dear Marquis

The chambermaid Adele has secretly borrowed one of her mistress's fancy gowns and sneaked off to Prince Orlofsky's fancy party. Recognized by her master (who is masquerading as a marquis), the clever Adele laughs her way out of a ticklish situation.

5:00 PUCCINI: *Le Villi* Marina Harris
Se come voi

Anna's fiancé Roberto is about to leave on a journey to collect his inheritance. She puts a bouquet of forget-me-nots in his traveling case, and expresses her hopes that they will constantly remind him of her.

4:15 ROSSINI: *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* Ildar Abdrazakov
La Calunnia

The crafty Don Basilio explains how a slanderous rumor can destroy an enemy, starting as a whisper that gradually grows into a roaring explosion, leaving the hapless opponent lying crushed in the dust.

4:00 MOZART: *Le Nozze di Figaro* Laura Krumm
Voi che sapete

The lovesick teenage pageboy Cherubino is just discovering girls, and asks the Countess and her maid Susanna to explain the strange new sensations he is feeling: he trembles and sighs, burns and freezes, and is filled with inexplicable desires.

6:30 VERDI: *Luisa Miller* Ramón Vargas,
Quando le sere al placido

To save her father's life, Luisa has been coerced into writing to her beloved Rodolfo declaring that she never loved him and will marry another. Stunned and angry at her apparent betrayal, Rodolfo recalls the peaceful evenings when they used to gaze into each other's eyes with heartfelt devotion.

First Half Total: 47:30 min.

INTERMISSION

4:00 KERN: *Show Boat* Orchestra, conducted by Robert Mollicone
Overture (arranged by Robert Russell Bennett)

Jerome Kern's Show Boat, with lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, opened in 1927. With its themes of racial prejudice and tragic but enduring love, it is one of the most influential works of American musical theater. The overture features some of its best loved melodies, including "Misery," "Ol' Man River," "Why Do I love You?," "Make Believe," and "Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man."

4:15 GOUNOD: *Roméo et Juliette* Heidi Stober
Je veux vivre

At a party celebrating her sixteenth birthday, Juliet, who is betrothed to Paris, sings a breathless waltz song, excitedly exclaiming that she wants to revel in the exhilaration of youth before surrendering to the joys and pains of love.

2:40 BOITO: *Mefistofele* Ramón Vargas
Dai campi, dai prati

On Easter Sunday, Faust voices his sense of the profound calm in the "fields and meadows" of the natural world around him, and feels enveloped in the sacred mystery of divine peace and meditation.

5:40 RACHMANINOV: *Aleko* Wayne Tigges
Aleko's Cavatina: Ves' tabor spit

Weary of his privileged life, Aleko ran off with a band of Gypsies and fathered a child by the beautiful Zemfira, but she has now tired of him and taken a younger lover. Alone, Aleko broods on his disastrous romance and his failed dream of fleeing the cares of the everyday world.

5:10 LEHÁR: *The Merry Widow* Elizabeth Futral
Vilja

At her villa in Paris the wealthy and glamorous widow Hanna Glawari is giving a garden party. She sings a song about a lovely mountain sprite or "Vilja" who roams the highlands of Hanna's homeland Pontevdria and innocently tempts hunters with her beauty before vanishing.

3:20 MOZART: *Don Giovanni* Heidi Stober and Phillippe Sly
Là ci darem la mano

The relentless womanizer Giovanni suavely woos the peasant girl Zerlina (on her wedding day, no less), promising to marry her himself. At first reluctant, she gradually yields to his charm, exclaiming "Andiam" ("Let's go!")

4:30 ROSSINI: *L'Italiana in Algeri* Renée Rapiér
Cruda sorte

Shipwrecked and taken captive by an Algerian ruler, the plucky Isabella at first bemoans her "cruel fate," but quickly pulls herself together, confident that she knows her way around men. After all, what they all want is a beautiful woman to make them happy!

3:00 TUTINO: *La Ciociara (Two Women)* Chuanyue Wang
Sogni Romani (Roman Dreams)

Based on a musical theme from Marco Tutino's new opera Two Women (La Ciociara), scheduled to premiere in June 2015, this love song to the city of Rome envisions the fabled Italian capital at night: "The city sleeps . . . like a dream without age. The echo of eternity envelops Rome and will not awaken her."

7:45 VERDI: *Attila* Ildar Abdrazakov
Uldino! . . . Mentre gonfiarsi l'anima...Oltre quel' limite

Preparing to march his troops on Rome, Attila describes a disturbing dream in which an old man seized him and warned: "Stay back! The way is closed to you. This is the land of the gods!" But Attila soon shakes off his fear, defying the omen, and fiercely orders his men to prepare for battle.

ENCORES: Not in printed program:

3:30 DI CAPUA Ramón Vargas
O sole mio

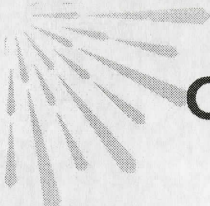
3:00 PUCCINI: *La Bohème* Tutti soprani
Quando m'en vo

3:15 VERDI: *La Traviata* Tutti
Brindisi

Second Half Total: 50 min (including encores)

TOTAL MUSIC: 97.5 min (plus speeches and applause)

9/4/2013kc 2:00pm



San Francisco Chronicle Presents

OPERA IN THE PARK

by San Francisco Opera

40th Anniversary

A FREE concert on Sunday, September 8, 1:30 p.m. • Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park



Ildar Abdrazakov



Susannah Biller



Elizabeth Futral



David Gockley



Marina Harris



Joo Wan Kang



Laura Krumm



Nicola Luisotti



Robert Mollicone



Renée Rapier



Philippe Sly



Kay Stern



Heidi Stober



Wayne Tigges



Ramón Vargas



Chuan Yue Wang

Sopranos: Susannah Biller, Elizabeth Futral, Marina Harris, Heidi Stober; Mezzo-Sopranos: Laura Krumm, Renée Rapier
Tenors: Ramón Vargas, Chuan Yue Wang; Baritone: Joo Wan Kang; Bass-Baritones: Philippe Sly, Wayne Tigges; Bass: Ildar Abdrazakov
with Nicola Luisotti, Music Director of San Francisco Opera,
and Robert Mollicone conducting the San Francisco Opera Orchestra; Kay Stern, Concertmaster
Master of Ceremonies: David Gockley, General Director of San Francisco Opera

PROGRAM

This Concert is Dedicated to the Memory of Lotfi Mansouri, General Director of San Francisco Opera, 1988–2001

VERDI: Nabucco

Overture Orchestra

ROSSINI: Il Barbiere di Siviglia

"Largo al factotum" Joo Wan Kang
Figaro boastfully introduces himself as a "factotum," a versatile man of varied talents in addition to being a consummate barber, making him so much in demand that everyone constantly calls for him by name: "Figaro! Figaro!"

MOZART: Idomeneo

"Zeffiretti lusinghieri" Heidi Stober
The captive Trojan princess Iliia is in love with Idamante, prince of Crete, whose father is sending him away from court. In her aria she asks the gentle breezes to fly to Idamante to tell him of her love and ask him to remain faithful.

PUCCINI: La Bohème

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The penniless poet Rodolfo meets the seamstress Mimì when she knocks at his unheated garret seeking to light her candle. Clutching her "freezing hand" to warm it in his own, he tells her of his life and dreams and confesses that her beautiful eyes have brought him newfound hope.

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"Se come voi" Marina Harris
Anna's fiancé Roberto is about to leave on a journey to collect his inheritance. She puts a bouquet of forget-me-nots in his traveling case and expresses her hope that they will constantly remind him of her.

ROSSINI: Il Barbiere di Siviglia

"La Calunnia" Ildar Abdrazakov
The crafty Don Basilio explains how a slanderous rumor can destroy an enemy, starting as a whisper that gradually grows into a roaring explosion, leaving the hapless opponent lying crushed in the dust.

MOZART: Le Nozze di Figaro

"Voi che sapete" Laura Krumm
The lovesick teenage pageboy Cherubino is just discovering girls, and he asks the Countess and her maid Susanna to explain the strange new sensations he is feeling: he trembles and sighs, burns and freezes, and is filled with inexplicable desires.

VERDI: Luisa Miller

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BOITO: Mefistofele

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On Easter Sunday, Faust voices his sense of the profound calm in the "fields and meadows" of the natural world around him, and he feels enveloped in the sacred mystery of divine peace and meditation.

RACHMANINOV: Aleko

"Ves' labor spit!" Wayne Tigges
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LEHÁR: Die Lustige Witwe

"Vilja" Elizabeth Futral
At her villa in Paris, the wealthy and glamorous widow Hanna Glawari is giving a garden party. She sings a song about a lovely mountain sprite or "Vilja" who roams the highlands of Hanna's homeland Pontevedria and innocently tempts hunters with her beauty before vanishing.

MOZART: Don Giovanni

"Là ci darem la mano" Heidi Stober, Philippe Sly
The relentless womanizer Don Giovanni suavely woos the peasant girl Zerlina—on her wedding day, no less—promising to marry her himself. At first reluctant, she gradually yields to his charm, exclaiming "Andiam!" ("Let's go!")

ROSSINI: L'italiana in Algeri

"Cruda sorte" Renée Rapier
Shipwrecked and taken captive by an Algerian ruler, the plucky Isabella at first bemoans her "cruel fate," but quickly pulls herself together, confident that she knows her way around men. After all, what they all want is a beautiful woman to make them happy!

VERDI: Atila

"Uldinol... Mentre gonfarsi l'anima... Oltre quel limite" Ildar Abdrazakov
Preparing to march his troops on Rome, Atila describes a disturbing dream in which an old man seized him and warned: "Stay back! The way is closed to you. This is the land of the gods!" But Atila soon shakes off his fear, defying the omen, and fiercely orders his men to prepare for battle.

CONCERT NOTES

The San Francisco Chronicle Presents Opera in the Park concert is a musical gift to the Bay Area in partnership with San Francisco Opera, San Francisco Parks Trust, The CW Bay Area/CBS 5 and Classical 102.1 KDFC.

Kurt Herbert Adler, the late general director of San Francisco Opera, founded the annual free concert in 1971 as a way of making opera more accessible to the public. The concert is presented in the tradition of Luisa Tetrazzini, who in 1914 sang an aria in a ceremony dedicating a statue of Verdi in Golden Gate Park.

From 1973 until his death in February 1988, Adler conducted every Opera in the Park concert but one. The exception was 1980, the year the orchestra was rained out and the performers sang with the accompaniment of a single piano.

Since then, crowds of up to 20,000 have come to the park every September to see the stars of the current San Francisco Opera season perform al fresco. Opera legends from Pavarotti and Domingo to Sills and Horne have performed at Opera in the Park. The program concludes each year with the traditional champagne finale, "Libiamo" from La Traviata.

For 37 years the Hearst Corporation has been associated with Opera in the Park. It is pleased to present this one-of-a-kind annual event.

HIGHLIGHTS

10 a.m.: Rehearsal for all singers and orchestra. Singers will be in street clothes.

1:30 p.m.: Concert begins

—INTERMISSION—

3:30 p.m.: Finale "Libiamo"

All the principal artists have graciously agreed to donate their services for this aftermoon's concert. They appear courtesy of the American Guild of Musical Artists, Inc. We would also like to acknowledge: AFM, Local 6; I.A.T.S.E., Local 16.

SPONSORS

Opera in the Park is made possible, in part, by Opening Weekend Grand Sponsor Diane B. Wilsey. Additional support provided by the William & Gretchen Kimball Fund, Kaiser Permanente, and Scharffen Berger Chocolate Maker.

KAISER PERMANENTE. thrive



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