

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND SINGLE TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S 2024–25 SEASON

102nd Season opening weekend features Music Director Eun Sun Kim on the podium September 6 for Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera* and *Opera Ball*, free *Opera in the Park* concert on September 8







Eun Sun Kim and the San Francisco Opera Orchestra; *Opera Ball*; *Opera in the Park*. Photos: Matthew Washburn (left), Drew Altizer Photography (center), Cory Weaver (right)

Season features the West Coast premiere of Poul Ruders and Paul Bentley's The Handmaid's Tale, Eun Sun Kim conducting Wagner's Tristan und Isolde and a 200th-anniversary performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony

Mainstage repertory showcases international casts in new-to-San Francisco stagings of *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Tristan und Isolde* and Mozart's *Idomeneo* with revivals of Bizet's *Carmen* and Puccini's *La Bohème*

Additional events include Carmen Encounter and a Pride Concert

Dolby Family discounted ticket program back by popular demand

Subscriptions and single tickets available at <u>sfopera.com</u> and (415) 864-3330 Livestream tickets go on sale July 31

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (July 24, 2024) — San Francisco Opera's 102nd season opens September 6 with Caroline H. Hume Music Director **Eun Sun Kim** leading a weekend of festivities. *Opera Ball*, co-presented by San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Opera Guild, ushers in the 2024–25 Season with celebrations at City Hall and the War Memorial Opera House along with the opening of a new-to-San Francisco Opera production of Giuseppe Verdi's UN BALLO IN MASCHERA. On Sunday, September 8 Kim will lead the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and stars of the new season in the annual, free *Opera in the Park* concert at Robin Williams Meadow in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Highlights of the Fall Season include Leo Muscato's production of UN BALLO IN MASCHERA (September 6–27) conducted by Eun Sun Kim. American tenor Michael Fabiano, Armenian soprano Lianna Haroutounian, the fast-rising Mongolian baritone Amartuvshin Enkhbat in his Company debut, Chinese soprano Mei Gui Zhang and Romanian mezzo-soprano Judit Kutasi star in Verdi's fast-paced work. Next comes the West Coast premiere of THE HANDMAID'S TALE (September 14–October 1), composer Poul Ruders and librettist Paul Bentley's acclaimed operatic adaptation of the best-selling novel by Margaret Atwood. Mezzo-soprano Irene Roberts heads an assemblage of riveting stage artists in this vision of a dystopic American future where women are held in child-bearing servitude. Karen Kamensek conducts the new co-production by San Francisco Opera and The Royal Danish Theatre which is directed by John Fulljames.

Wagner's path-breaking masterpiece TRISTAN UND ISOLDE (October 19–November 5) returns to the War Memorial Opera House stage for the first time in nearly two decades with Eun Sun Kim at the helm. Simon O'Neill and Anja Kampe are featured in the title roles in director Paul Curran's production from Venice's Teatro La Fenice. Along with her leadership of towering operas by Verdi and Wagner, Kim will lead the amassed forces of the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus and four vocal soloists in Beethoven's Ninth Symphony (October 26) in a special, one-night-only performance honoring the work's 200th anniversary.

The Fall Season concludes with Francesca Zambello's production of CARMEN (November 13–December 1) featuring mezzo-soprano Eve-Maud Hubeaux as Carmen and soprano Louise Alder as Micaëla, both in their American debuts, tenor Jonathan Tetelman performing Don José for the first time and bass-baritone Christian Van Horn as Escamillo. Benjamin Manis joins the Company to conduct this spectacular revival. The Company's popular Encounter series returns on November 21 with CARMEN ENCOUNTER where attendees take in the first portion of Bizet's opera followed by an immersion in the world of *Carmen* within a transformed Opera House.

The 2025 Summer Season opens with Puccini's LA BOHÈME (June 3–21) in John Caird's production with two brilliant casts including Pene Pati and Evan LeRoy Johnson as Rodolfo and Karen Chia-ling Ho and Nicole Car as Mimì with maestro Ramón Tebar on the podium. Mozart's early masterpiece IDOMENEO (June 14–25) takes the stage in director Lindy Hume's new-to-San Francisco Opera production inspired by the turbulent seas off the Tasmanian coast. Music Director Eun Sun Kim leads a sterling Mozartian cast of Matthew Polenzani as Idomeneo, Daniela Mack as his son, Idamante, Elza van den Heever as Elettra and Ying Fang in her Company debut as the Trojan princess, Ilia. On June 27, San Francisco Opera presents a special Pride Concert celebrating the LGBTQIA+ community with an evening of music, immersive projections and more.

OPENING WEEKEND (September 6–8)

The Company's new season opens Friday, September 6 with *Opera Ball*, the annual benefit co-presented by San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Opera Guild. The celebratory evening of music, community and philanthropy begins with a cocktail reception and sumptuous dinner at City Hall. Guests then proceed to the Opera House where the curtain rises on the new season with Music Director Eun Sun Kim leading Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera*. Dancing and late-night bites await back at City Hall after the opera.

Opera Ball is made possible, in part, by Opening Weekend Grand Sponsor Diane B. Wilsey and is co-chaired by Romana D. Bracco and Valerie Crane Dorfman. Proceeds benefit a wide range of artistic initiatives at San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Opera Guild's education programs which reach thousands of students in K-12 classrooms and afterschool programs. For more information, visit sfopera.com/operaball.

BRAVO! CLUB, the community of young professionals and opera lovers, will kick off the new season on September 6 with a special Cocktail Celebration. Visit sfopera.com/bravo for more information.

Opening weekend concludes with the *San Francisco Chronicle Presents Opera in the Park* on Sunday, September 8. The free annual concert showcases Eun Sun Kim, the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and stars of the Company's fall season at Robin Williams Meadow in Golden Gate Park.

DISCOUNTED TICKETS

Since 2022, the Dolby Family's *Opera for the Bay* discounted tickets program has welcomed more than 15,000 new and returning San Francisco Opera audience members into the Opera House at a ticket price of \$10. Due to the overwhelming success of the program, *Opera for the Bay* tickets will continue to be offered for each San Francisco Opera mainstage performance during the 2024–25 Season. Those with a home address zip code between 94000-95999 who have not purchased tickets in the past three years are eligible to purchase two *Opera for the Bay* tickets which go on sale at noon roughly one month prior to the opening of each production. Inventory is limited and sell out quickly. On-sale dates for Dolby Family's *Opera for the Bay* tickets for the 2024–25 Season are:

UN BALLO IN MASCHERA and THE HANDMAID'S TALE

TRISTAN UND ISOLDE and BEETHOVEN 9

CARMEN

CARMEN ENCOUNTER

LA BOHÈME

IDOMENEO and PRIDE CONCERT

August 6

August 27

October 8

October 15

April 22

April 29

LIVESTREAMS

The third performance of each mainstage opera during the 2024-25 Season will be livestreamed. Tickets for the opera streams include a 48-hour on-demand viewing window. Tickets will be available beginning July 31 for \$27.50. All times below are Pacific Time (PT). For more information visit sfopera.com/digital/livestream.

UN BALLO IN MASCHERA

THE HANDMAID'S TALE

TRISTAN UND ISOLDE

CARMEN

LA BOHÈME

IDOMENEO

Sunday, September 20 at 7:30 PM

Sunday, October 27 at 1 PM

Tuesday, November 19 at 7:30 PM

Tuesday, June 10 at 7:30 PM

Friday, June 20 at 7:30 PM

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SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S 2024-25 SEASON

All performances take place at the War Memorial Opera House (301 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco), unless otherwise noted.



OPERA BALL

Friday, September 6, 5 p.m.

The 102nd season kicks off with the party of the year, an evening of cocktails, dinner, opera and dancing in City Hall and the Opera House. Opera Ball proceeds benefit a wide range of artistic initiatives at San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Opera Guild's education programs.



UN BALLO IN MASCHERA by Giuseppe Verdi

September 6 (8 p.m.), 11 (7:30 p.m.), 15 (2 p.m.), 18 (7:30 p.m.), 21 (7:30 p.m.), 24 (7:30 p.m.) 27 (7:30 p.m.)

Conducted by Eun Sun Kim; Production by Leo Muscato

Cast: Lianna Haroutounian, Michael Fabiano, Amartuvshin Enkbat*, Judit Kutasi, Mei Gui Zhang♪



OPERA IN THE PARK

Sunday, September 8 at 1:30 p.m.

Eun Sun Kim conducts the free, annual concert at Robin Williams Meadow in Golden Gate Park with the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and stars of the new season.



WFST COAST PRFMIFRF

THE HANDMAID'S TALE by Poul Ruders and Paul Bentley September 14 (7:30 p.m.), 17 (7:30 p.m.), 20 (7:30 p.m.), 22 (2 p.m.), 26 (7:30

Conducted by Karen Kamensek; Production by John Fulljames Cast: Irene Roberts♪, Lindsay Ammann*♪, Sarah Cambidge♪, John Relyea♪

This opera closely follows the themes and narratives of Margaret Atwood's novel, including imagery, scenes and themes reflective of the dystopian setting. Viewer discretion is advised.



Note new start time for evening performances
TRISTAN UND ISOLDE by Richard Wagner
October 19 (6 p.m.), 23 (6 p.m.), 27 (1 p.m.); Nov 1 (6 p.m.), 5 (6 p.m.)
Conducted by Eun Sun Kim; Production by Paul Curran*
Cast: Simon O'Neill, Anja Kampe, Annika Schilcht*, Wolfgang Koch*,



NINTH SYMPHONY by Ludwig van Beethoven Saturday, October 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Eun Sun Kim conducts the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus with soloists Jennifer Holloway, Annika Schlicht, Russell Thomas and Kwangchul Youn in performance marking the work's 200th anniversary.



CARMEN by Georges Bizet

November 13 (7:30 p.m.), 16 (7:30 p.m.), 19 (7:30 p.m.), 22 (7:30 p.m.), 24 (2 p.m.), 26 (7:30 p.m.), 29 (7:30 p.m.); December 1 (2 p.m.)

Conducted by Benjamin Manis*; Production by Francesca Zambello

Cast: Eve-Maud Hubeax**, Jonathan Tetelman♪, Louise Alder**♪,

Christian van Horn



THE FUTURE IS NOW: ADLER FELLOWS IN CONCERT

Friday, November 15 at 7:30 p.m. at Herbst Theatre

The Company's resident artists, the Adler Fellows, perform in their final concert
of the year with the San Francisco Opera Orchestra.



SAN FRANCISCO OPERA CHORUS IN CONCERT

Sunday, November 17 at 2 p.m. at the Dianne and Tad Taube Atrium Theater Chorus Director John Keene leads the artists of the San Francisco Opera Chorus with Associate Concert Master Fabrizio Corona at the piano.



CARMEN ENCOUNTER

Thursday, November 21 at 7:30 p.m.

After experiencing the first part of *Carmen* in the theater, audience members immerse themselves in the world of Bizet's opera within a transformed Opera House at this encounter which is part opera, part party.



LA BOHÈME by Giacomo Puccini

June 3 (7:30 p.m.), 7 (7:30 p.m.), 10 (7:30 p.m.), 12 (7:30 p.m.), 13 (7:30 p.m.), 15 (2 p.m.), 18 (7:30 p.m.), 19 (7:30 p.m.), 21 (7:30 p.m.)

Conducted by Ramón Tebar; Production by John Caird

Cast: Pene Pati/Evan LeRoy Johnson, Karen Chia-ling Ho♪/Nicole Car, Lucas

Meachem/Will Liverman*, Andrea Carroll*/Brittany Renee, Bogdan Talos*



IDOMENEO by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

June 14 (7:30 p.m.), 17 (7:30 p.m.), 20 (7:30 p.m.), 22 (2 p.m.), 25 (7:30 p.m.) Conducted by Eun Sun Kim; Production by Lindy Hume* Cast: Matthew Polenzani, Daniela Mack, Ying Fang*, Elza van den Heever



PRIDE CONCERT

Friday, June 27 at 7:30 p.m.

The 2025 Summer Season draws to a close with a celebration of the Bay Area's LGBTQIA+ community that is an evening of music, immersive projections and more.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Single tickets for San Francisco Opera's 2024-25 Season are priced from \$28 to \$438. Subscriptions for the Company's 102nd Season are priced from \$120 to \$2,530 for Full Series (5–6 productions), \$526 to \$1,619 for Half Series (2–4 productions) and a Design Your Own (DYO) option (minimum three operas). A \$2 per-ticket facility fee is included in Balcony 1, 2 and 3 zone prices; all other zones include a \$3 per-ticket facility fee. For tickets and more information, contact the San Francisco Opera Box Office at 301 Van Ness Avenue, call (415) 864-3330 or visit at stopera.com. For information about subscriber benefits and special series subscriptions, including the Student & Teacher Series offering 50% off select Full and Half Series, visit sfopera.com/subscribe.

Ticket packages are available for *Opera Ball* and the BRAVO! Cocktail Dinner Opening Night Celebration at sfopera.com/operaball.

Dolby Family's *Opera for the Bay* program provides \$10 tickets to Bay Area residents (home address zip code between 94000-95999) who have not purchased tickets in the past three years. *Opera for the Bay* tickets go on sale at noon roughly one month prior to the opening of each production and are limited to two seats per eligible patron. Go to <u>sfopera.com/dolby</u> for more information.

Tickets for livestreams of San Francisco Opera's mainstage presentations are \$27.50 and will go on sale July 31.

The War Memorial Opera House is located at 301 Van Ness Avenue. Patrons are encouraged to use public transportation to attend San Francisco Opera performances. The War Memorial Opera House is within walking distance of the Civic Center BART/Muni Station and near numerous bus lines, including 5, 21, 47, 49 and F Market Street. For further public transportation information, visit bart.gov and sfmta.com.

Gifts of all sizes help create San Francisco Opera's programs and are much appreciated. To donate visit sfopera.com/donate.

All casting, programs, schedules and ticket prices are subject to change. For further information about San Francisco Opera's 2024–25 Season, visit sfopera.com.

San Francisco Opera is sponsored, in part, by: Norby Anderson; Julie Dickson, Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson; The Dolby Family, Carol and Dixon Doll; Bertie Bialek Elliott; Peter Fenton and Kate Greer; Keith and Priscilla Geeslin; Gordon P. Getty; Louise Gund; John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn; Elizabeth B. Jamieson (in memoriam, J. Burgess Jamieson); Franklin and Catherine Johnson; Edmund W. and Jeannik Méquet Littlefield Fund; Steven M. Menzies; Bernard and Barbro Osher; Jeff and Marieke Rothschild; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; Dianne and Tad Taube; Phyllis C. Wattis Edowment Funds; Diane B. Wilsey; Barbara A. Wolfe.

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Un Ballo in Maschera is made possible, in part, by Opening Weekend Grand Sponsor Diane B. Wilsey; Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson; Keith and Priscilla Geeslin; the San Francisco Opera Guild; John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; The Thomas Tilton Production Fund.

The Handmaid's Tale is made possible, in part, by Phyllis C. Wattis Endowment Funds; Marcia Barinaga and Corey Goodman; Bob Ellis; Louise Gund; John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; and this project is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.



Tristan and Isolde is made possible, in part, by Anonymous; Dr. and Mrs. William M. Coughran; John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn; Bernard and Barbro Osher; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; and Barbara A. Wolfe.

Beethoven 9 is made possible, in part, by Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson; John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn; Bernard and Barbro Osher; Jeff and Marieke Rothschild; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; and Dianne and Tad Taube.

Carmen is made possible, in part, by Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson; Edmund W. and Jeannik Méquet Littlefield Fund; Glenn H. Reid; Jeff and Marieke Rothschild; and Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem.

Carmen Encounter is made possible, in part, by Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson, Edmund W. and Jeannik Méquet Littlefield Fund; Glenn H. Reid; Jeff and Marieke Rothschild; and Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem.

La Bohème is made possible, in part, by Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson; Bertie Bialek Elliott; Staffan and Margareta Encrantz; John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn; Elizabeth B. Jamieson (in memoriam, J. Burgess Jamieson); Franklin and Catherine Johnson; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; and Dianne and Tad Taube.

Idomeneo is made possible by Louise Gund.

San Francisco Opera livestreams are made possible, in part, by George and Leslie Hume.

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San Francisco Opera is a member of



PRESS PHOTOS: Artist headshots and production images for the 2024-25 Season are available at sfopera.com/press.

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