



*Opera* SAN JOSÉ  
SEASON 2018 | 2019



EPIC. ICONIC. OPERA.



LARRY HANCOCK  
General Director  
JOSEPH MARCHESO  
Music Director

**SOME SEASONS** stand out for their promise, and the 2018–2019 season has great promise. Each of these operas was chosen for its unique ability to capture and hold attention, either through comedy, epic subject matter and an astonishing score, or its deep revelation of character. Each of them has proven to deliver the elements that make opera great.

We will open with Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio*, an opera we have been shy to approach in the past. With special funding from The Packard Humanities Institute, which will allow us to create appropriate sets and engage the specialty voices it requires, we expect a wonderful experience with a Mozart opera that will receive its Opera San José première. A comedy, Mozart's *Abduction* offers a richly varied score with both depth of character and buffoonery. Set in Turkey, we discover two European women who have been captured and kept in a harem. Of course, the whole evening is about managing their liberation without getting anyone killed. It shouldn't be surprising that this Mozart opera, like all his operas, is about character, devotion, courage, and funny business, all in one. Charming, from start to finish, it is a Mozart masterpiece, and we are very happy to be able to present it as it should be produced, at last!

*Pagliacci* (clowns) is one of the most iconic of all operas, and Leoncavallo created his one true masterpiece when he composed this stunning drama. It transcends time and place, as similar actions play out everywhere. It is universal, and, for many, it is uniquely powerful. The image of the clown who must create laughter while his whole world is burning has become one of the icons of theatre. We are very pleased to create a new production of this classic opera.

What some consider the most important novel penned by an American has been developed as an epic opera. Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick* has been conceived for the opera stage by librettist Gene Scheer and composer Jake Heggie. It has had many performances across the country since its 2010 Dallas premiere, but now it has a new production and Opera San José is one of five co-producers that include, Pittsburgh Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, and Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona, and Utah Opera, which is the lead producer. As you might imagine, *Moby-Dick* requires a large cast of impressive men, many of whom must be brought to San José from distant cities. It's an expensive undertaking, and we are indebted to the Carol Franc Buck Foundation for its generous support of this magnificent classic.

The opera that got me caught up in this art form was *Madama Butterfly*. I'm not alone. It is an opera that haunts and demands to be seen again. It will have been five years since Cio-Cio-San sang "Un bel di vedremo" on our stage, and I am very happy that stage director Brad Dalton has agreed to recreate his truly affecting production for us to close our season in 2019.

It is a great pleasure to invite you to join Opera San José for its thirty-fifth season. I hope you will find it moving and unforgettable.

LARRY HANCOCK, GENERAL DIRECTOR

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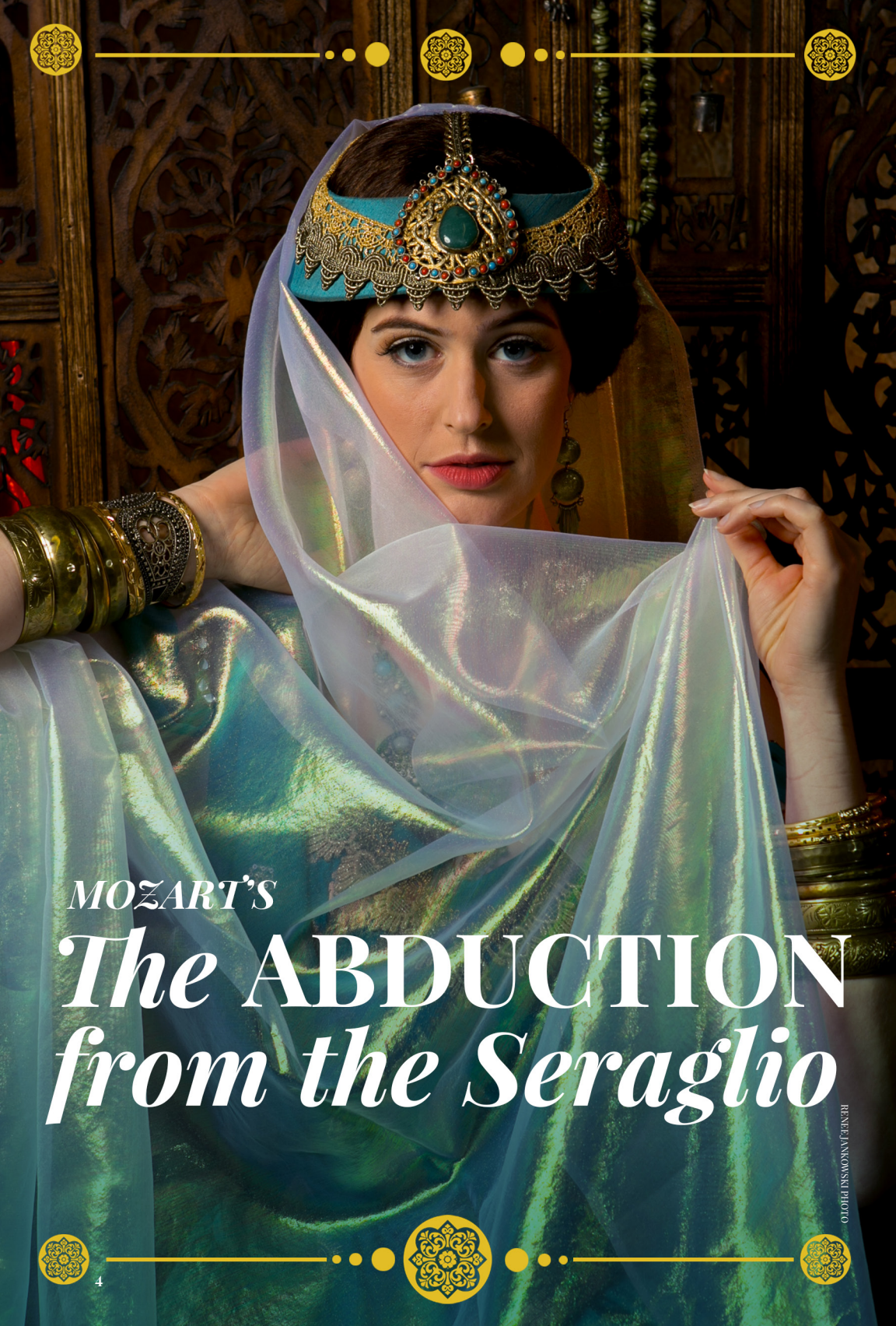
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MOZART'S  
*The ABDUCTION  
from the Seraglio*

RENE JANKOWSKI PHOTO

# Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio*

## Synopsis

Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio* tells the story of Konstanze and her maid Blonde, who find themselves in the Harem of Pasha Salim! Thrust into action, Belmonte, the gallant nobleman, assisted by his servant Pedrillo, attempts to rescue the women from the confines of their Turkish harem and sinister overseer, Osmin, who is determined to keep Konstanze for his master and have Blonde for himself.

**SUNG IN GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUPERTITLES.**

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Composer  
Christoph Friedrich Bretzner, Librettist  
Donato Cabrera, Conductor  
Michael Shell, Stage Director

## Performances

September 2018  
15 / 16 / 20 / 23 / 28 / 30

## Cast

*Konstanze*  
Rebecca Davis

*Belmonte*  
Matthew Grills

*Blonde*  
Katrina Galka

*Osmin*  
Ashraf Sewailam

*Abduction offers a richly varied score with both depth of character and classic Mozart whimsy.*





*Leoncavallo's*



# PAGLIACCI



PAT KIRK PHOTO

# *Leoncavallo's* PAGLIACCI

## Synopsis

The saga of a jilted lover and a jealous husband, *Pagliacci* tells the tale of Canio, the leader of a traveling commedia dell'arte troupe. Canio is the clown who must laugh, and make others laugh, while masking his grief after learning that his wife Nedda will leave him for another man. In the end, art meets tragedy in a rage of passion and jealousy.

**SUNG IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUPERTITLES.**

Ruggero Leoncavallo, Composer / Librettist  
Christian Reif, Conductor  
Chuck Hudson, Stage Director

## *Performances*

November 2018  
17 / 18 / 20 / 25 / 30  
December 2, 2018

## *Cast*

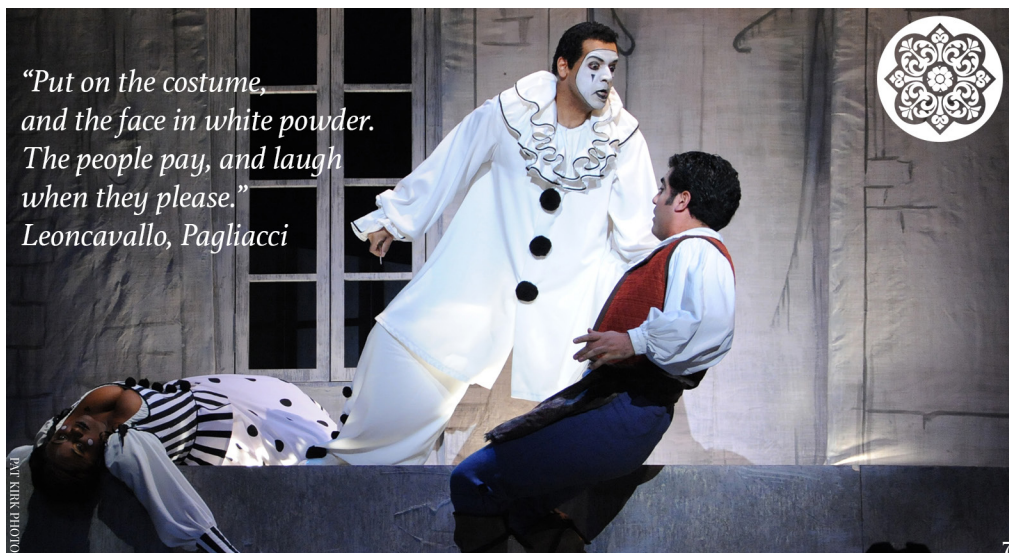
*Canio*  
TBD

*Nedda*  
Maria Natale

*Beppe*  
Mason Gates

*Sylvio*  
Emmett O'Hanlon

*"Put on the costume,  
and the face in white powder.  
The people pay, and laugh  
when they please."  
Leoncavallo, Pagliacci*





*Music by* JAKE HEGGIE  
*Libretto by* GENE SCHEER  
**MOBY-DICK**

This production was made possible by generous contributions from the Janet Quinney Lawson Foundation, the AHE/CI Trust, the Carol Franc Buck Foundation, and is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.



*Music by Jake Heggie*  
*Libretto by Gene Scheer*

# MOBY-DICK

## *Synopsis*

*Moby-Dick* is an opera based on the classic novel by Herman Melville. Set in 1820, it tells the story of Captain Ahab of the whaleship Pequod, who after losing one of his legs to an enormous white whale, becomes obsessed with finding and destroying the creature at any cost. Only one crew member, first mate Starbuck, realizes the deadly implications of Ahab's obsession and the risks to the ship's crew. Since its 2010 debut at the Dallas Opera, Jake Heggie and Gene Scheer's opera adaption of Melville's classic novel has captivated audiences with its inventive storytelling, spectacular music, sets and visual effects.

**SUNG IN ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUPERTITLES.**

Jake Heggie, Composer  
Gene Scheer, Librettist  
Joseph Marcheso, Conductor  
Kristine McIntyre, Stage Director

## *Performances*

February 2019  
9 / 10 / 14 / 17 / 22 / 24

## *Cast*

*Captain Ahab*  
Richard Cox  
*Starbuck*  
Justin Ryan  
*Queequeg*  
Ashraf Sewailam  
*Pip*  
Jacqueline Echols  
*Captain Gardiner*  
Trevor Neal



*Giacomo Puccini's*  
***Madama Butterfly***



PAT KIRK PHOTO



# *Puccini's* *Madama Butterfly*

## *Synopsis*

This is Puccini's heartbreaking love story of betrayal about an American naval officer who marries a young Japanese girl out of convenience only to leave her as she faithfully awaits his return. Set in 1890's Japan, this is Puccini's devastating saga of devotion, tradition, and sacrifice, and one of the most beloved operas of all time.

**SUNG IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUPERTITLES.**

Giacomo Puccini, Composer  
Luigi Illica & Giuseppe Giacosa, Librettist  
Joseph Marcheso, Conductor  
Brad Dalton, Stage Director

## *Performances*


April 2019  
13, 14, 18, 21, 26, 28

## *Cast*

*Cio-Cio-San*  
Maria Natale  
*B.F. Pinkerton*  
Dane Suarez  
*Sharpless*  
Trevor Neal  
*Goro*  
Mason Gates



*A beautifully crafted opera  
of love and sorrow.*



“Opera San José is everything we want in an opera company: a GORGEOUS theater, BEAUTIFUL costumes, well devised sets, an excellent orchestra, and AMAZING voices.”

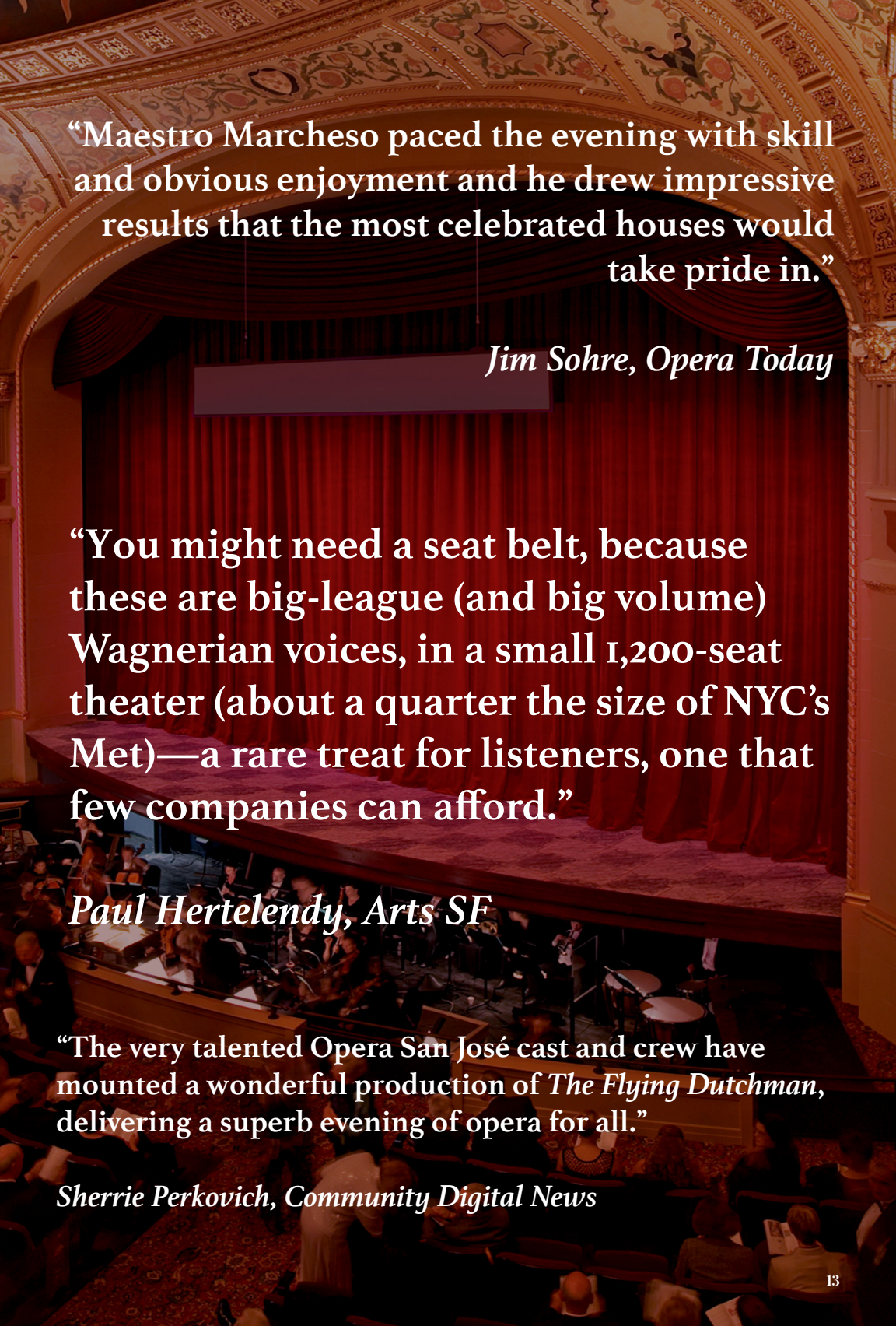
*Cynthia Newton, patron*

“EXCITING young talent, BEAUTIFUL sets and the AMAZING California Theatre in downtown San José. All these attributes create a grand yet intimate experience.”

*Chris Ayers, patron*

“I am a third year subscriber and I keep coming back to Opera San José because the productions are such a great mix of Classic and Modern. The California Theatre is so BEAUTIFUL and my friend and I share a love for the productions as well as the opera previews with General Director Larry Hancock.”

*Tina Fujihira, patron*



“Maestro Marcheso paced the evening with skill and obvious enjoyment and he drew impressive results that the most celebrated houses would take pride in.”

*Jim Sohre, Opera Today*

“You might need a seat belt, because these are big-league (and big volume) Wagnerian voices, in a small 1,200-seat theater (about a quarter the size of NYC’s Met)—a rare treat for listeners, one that few companies can afford.”

*Paul Hertelendy, Arts SF*

“The very talented Opera San José cast and crew have mounted a wonderful production of *The Flying Dutchman*, delivering a superb evening of opera for all.”

*Sherrie Perkovich, Community Digital News*

# CONDUCTORS & STAGE DIRECTORS



## *The Abduction from the Seraglio*



DONATO CABRERA, Conductor

Opera San José debut. Music Director of the California Symphony and the Las Vegas Philharmonic. Orquesta de Concepción; San Francisco Opera; Portland Opera; Lyric Opera of Chicago; San Francisco Ballet; Metropolitan Opera; Los Angeles Philharmonic; Ravinia Festival; Hartford Symphony; New West Symphony, Chicago Symphony Orchestra.



MICHAEL SHELL, Stage Director

Opera San José: *Silent Night, La bohème, Italian Girl in Algiers*; Piedmont Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Indiana University Opera Theater; Virginia Opera; Opera Omaha; Opera Theatre of Saint Louis; Florida Opera Festival; Opera Philadelphia; Santa Fe Opera; North Carolina Opera; Western Plains Opera; Opera Roanoke; University of Oklahoma.

## *Pagliacci*



CHRISTIAN REIF, Conductor

Opera San José debut. San Francisco Symphony Resident Conductor; New World Symphony; International Festival Heidelberger Frühling; Berkeley Symphony; Orchestre National de Lyon, Indianapolis Symphony; Bruckner Orchestra Linz; San Francisco Conservatory of Music Orchestra; The Juilliard Orchestra, Israel Chamber Orchestra, Nürnberger Symphoniker, Meininger Hofkapelle, Georgian Chamber Orchestra, Salzburg Chamber Soloists; Munich Chamber Opera.



CHUCK HUDSON, Stage Director

Opera San José debut. Cape Town Opera (South Africa); Cincinnati Opera; Florida Grand Opera; Minnesota Opera; Atlanta Opera; Sacramento Opera; Austin Lyric Opera; Hawaii Opera Theatre; Opera Cleveland; Seattle Opera; San Francisco Opera Center; Wolf Trap Opera; Opera Santa Barbara; The Children's Theatre Festival of Houston; New City Theatre; Chicago's Fox Valley Shakespeare Festival.

## *Moby-Dick*



JOSEPH MARCHESO, Conductor

Music Director and Principal Conductor of Opera San José: *The Flying Dutchman, Silent Night, Tosca, Rigoletto, Where Angels Fear to Tread, Hansel and Gretel, Suor Angelica, Gianni Schicchi, La traviata, Faust, La bohème, La Cenerentola, Manon, Carmen, The Elixir of Love*; San Francisco Opera; Opera Theater of St. Louis; Festival Opera; San Francisco Conservatory of Music.



KRISTINE MCINTYRE, Stage Director

Opera San José debut. Tulsa Opera; Toledo Opera; Lyric Opera of Kansas City; Kentucky Opera; Utah Opera; Des Moines Metro Opera; Madison Opera; Michigan Opera Theatre; Anchorage Opera; Arizona Opera; Portland Opera; Tacoma Opera; Austin Lyric Opera; Pittsburgh Opera; Newmark Theatre Portland; Kentucky Opera; Opera Santa Barbara.

## *Madama Butterfly*



JOSEPH MARCHESO, Conductor

Music Director and Principal Conductor of Opera San José: *The Flying Dutchman, Silent Night, Tosca, Rigoletto, Where Angels Fear to Tread, Hansel and Gretel, Suor Angelica, Gianni Schicchi, La traviata, Faust, La bohème, La Cenerentola, Manon, Carmen, The Elixir of Love*; San Francisco Opera; Opera Theater of St. Louis; Festival Opera; San Francisco Conservatory of Music.



BRAD DALTON, Stage Director

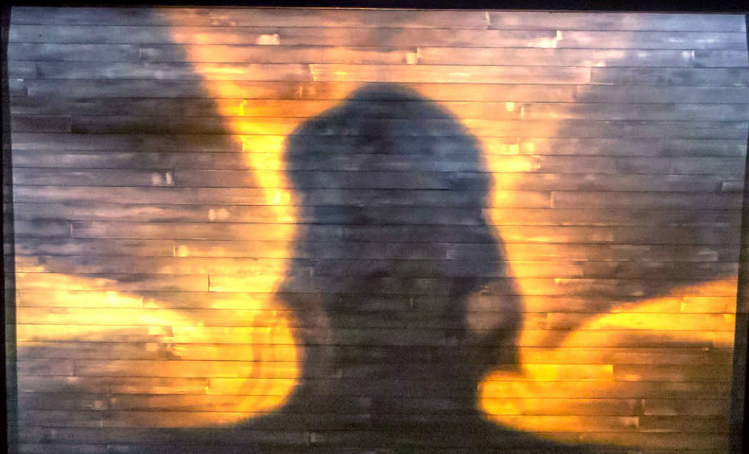
Opera San José: *Rigoletto, Madama Butterfly, Il trovatore, Faust, Idomeneo, Anna Karenina, Così fan tutte, The Flying Dutchman*; Metropolitan Opera; San Francisco Opera; State Opera of South Australia; Pittsburgh Opera; Opera Boston; Washington Opera; San Diego Opera; Austin Lyric Opera; Barbican Centre (London); Houston Grand Opera; National Shakespeare Conservatory.

# SUPERTITLES AT EVERY PERFORMANCE

*English translations appear throughout each opera,  
keeping you in the know.*



I ask you, angel,  
am I the object of your ridicule?



BOB SHOULDER PHOTO

**“The supertitles are so helpful, they really make the  
whole experience so successful and accessible to those  
who might be new to opera”**

*Amanda Griffith, patron*

# ENRICH YOUR EXPERIENCE

## OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2018 / 11PM  
*The Abduction from the Seraglio*

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019 / 11PM  
*Moby-Dick*

THE CALIFORNIA THEATRE

Join the cast and creative teams behind Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio* and composer Jake Heggie and librettist Gene Scheer's *Moby-Dick* following their opening night performances and toast the creators of these operas.

Tickets: \$25. Call (408) 437-4450.

## GENERAL DIRECTOR'S DINNER

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2019 / 7PM  
THE CALIFORNIA THEATRE

Join General Director Larry Hancock for our annual black-tie evening on the stage of the California Theatre. This year's celebration, on the set of *Moby-Dick* with the artistic team and cast members present, is your chance for a true insider's opera experience and to toast new friends and old.

For more information call (408) 437-4450.

## FREE PREVIEWS

SEPTEMBER 4, 2018  
*The Abduction from the Seraglio*

NOVEMBER 6, 2018  
*Pagliacci*

JANUARY 29, 2019  
*Moby-Dick*

APRIL 2, 2019  
*Madama Butterfly*

Opera San José will host FREE previews of each opera production on the 3rd floor of the California Theatre in downtown San Jose from noon to 1:00PM on the Tuesday, one week prior to the opening of each opera.

## INTRODUCTION TO OPERA

### PRIOR TO EVERY PERFORMANCE

Before each performance in the California Theatre, General Director Larry Hancock will share his thoughts on the opera, discuss the plot, characters, the composer, and answer your questions, greatly enriching your opera experience.

Each 45-minute Introduction to Opera is FREE with performance ticket. 6:30PM prior to evening performances; 1:30PM prior to Sunday matinees.

*"We were surprised by the world-class quality of the productions at Opera San José and the California Theatre is beautiful."*

MICHAEL BUCZEK, PATRON



RENE JANOWSKI PHOTO

# YOUR SUBSCRIBER ADVANTAGES

## SAVE UP TO 55%

You'll receive significant savings over individual ticket prices by purchasing the entire season at once. Choose a series and save up to 55%. Details on page 18!

## BRING YOUR FRIENDS

As a subscriber, you'll get exclusive access to private sales when you may purchase additional single tickets at a 20% discount, before they go on sale to the general public.

## FREE, EASY EXCHANGES

If your schedule changes, it's easy to exchange your seats for another date of the same opera. We will do our best to find you comparable seats. 48-hour notice is required.

## FREE REPLACEMENTS

Have you ever lost your tickets or left them at home? No problem. As a subscriber, the Box Office will reprint your tickets the day of the performance at no additional cost to you.

## FREE UPDATES

Stay informed via our website, [operasj.org](http://operasj.org), which includes podcasts, videos, calendar, news and events. In addition, subscribers will be sent up-to-the-minute eNews with information about the productions, creative teams, cast changes, best available seating, special offers and more.

## THE BEST SEATS

Subscribers receive priority when it comes to seating upgrades.

## GUARANTEED SEATS

You select your seat location, based on availability, and those seats are yours for the whole season! Subscribers may renew their seats for all seasons to come.



*"It was an incredibly fun and glamorous way to spend my birthday. The music was beautiful and the set was visually impressive. We all had a lot of fun and now I am hooked! I am looking forward to seeing what happens in the next production."*

CHRISTIANA SAMUELS, PATRON

# SEATING & TICKET OPTIONS

## SERIES, DAYS, TIMES & DATES

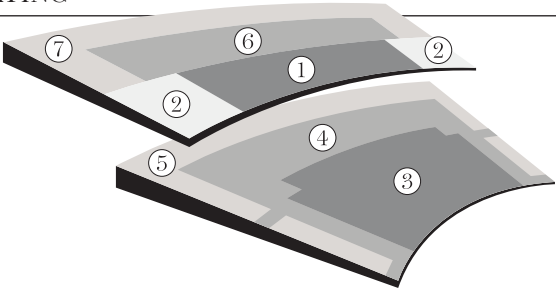
SERIES	A	B	C	D	E	F
DAY	Sat	Sun	Thu	Sun	Fri	Sun
TIME	8PM	3PM	8PM	3PM	8PM	3PM
The Abduction from the Seraglio	Sep 15	Sep 16	Sep 20	Sep 23	Sep 28	Sep 30
Pagliacci	Nov 17	Nov 18	Nov 20*	Nov 25	Nov 30	Dec 2
Moby-Dick	Feb 9	Feb 10	Feb 14	Feb 17	Feb 22	Feb 24
Madama Butterfly	Apr 13	Apr 14	Apr 18	Apr 21	Apr 26	Apr 28

\*November 20th performance falls on a Tuesday

## CALIFORNIA THEATRE SEATING

### SECTION

- 1 Grand Tier Dress
- 2 Grand Tier Sides
- 3 Orchestra Dress
- 4 Orchestra
- 5 Orchestra Ring
- 6 Mezzanine
- 7 Mezzanine Ring



## SEAT LOCATION AND FOUR-OPERA SERIES PRICES

SERIES	A	B	C	D	E	F
SECTION						
1 Grand Tier Dress	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
2 Grand Tier Sides	\$452	\$452	\$452	\$452	\$452	\$452
3 Orchestra Dress	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
4 Orchestra	\$352	\$352	\$352	\$352	\$352	\$352
5 Orchestra Ring	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
6 Mezzanine	\$252	\$252	\$252	\$252	\$252	\$252
7 Mezzanine Ring	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100

## THE CALIFORNIA THEATRE ADDRESS

The California Theatre is at 345 South First Street between San Carlos and San Salvador in downtown San José. The theatre is equipped with wheelchair access and assistance for the hearing impaired.

# TICKET ORDER FORM

## FOUR WAYS TO ORDER

ONLINE [operasj.org](http://operasj.org)

PHONE (408) 437-4450 (box office phone lines are open M-F, 9AM to 6PM)

FAX (408) 437-4455 anytime

MAIL Opera San José / 2149 Paragon Drive / San José, CA 95131-1312

Please make your check payable to Opera San José.

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

NAME			Please charge my:  <input type="radio"/> VISA <input type="radio"/> MASTERCARD <input type="radio"/> DISCOVER <input type="radio"/> AMEX		
ADDRESS					
CITY	STATE	ZIP	ACCT. NUMBER:		
E-MAIL			EXP. DATE:		SECURITY CODE:
PHONE			SIGNATURE:		

## SEASON TICKETS FOR A SERIES OF ALL FOUR OPERAS

Series Letter (1st choice) _____	Section Number _____	
Series Letter (2nd choice) _____	Section Number _____	
_____	X \$ _____	= \$ _____
# OF 4-OPERA SERIES	FIRST CHOICE PRICE	
	Handling Fee	= \$ <b>10.00</b>
City Facility Usage Fee* = _____	X \$ <b>4.00</b>	= \$ _____
# OF 4-OPERA SERIES	Tax-Deductible Gift	= \$ _____
	GRAND TOTAL	= \$ _____

If you do not receive confirmation that we have your season ticket order within two weeks of placing the order, please email [boxoffice@operasj.org](mailto:boxoffice@operasj.org) to confirm that your request has been received. All sales are final. When you return your tickets as a donation, the IRS considers the full price of the returned tickets a charitable contribution. For ticket exchanges please email [boxoffice@operasj.org](mailto:boxoffice@operasj.org) or call the box office for instructions. Ticket exchanges are based on seating availability. If you upgrade your seat to a more expensive area additional fees will be required. Please allow 48 business hours for any exchange. Event dates, times, prices, fees and artists are subject to change without notice. Tickets to individual operas will go on sale April 1, 2018 for subscribers and June 1, 2018 for non-subscribers.

\*This citywide fee of \$1.00 per ticket (\$4.00 for a season subscription) is to help ensure that the California Theatre and all city theatres are maintained to a proper standard. This fee does not go to Opera San José.



*Opera San José*

2149 Paragon Drive  
San José, CA 95131-1312  
OPERASJ.ORG (408) 437-4450

Non-Profit  
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Permit 4206  
San José, CA



*Opera San José*

## 4-OPERA SUBSCRIPTION: ONLY \$100!



MOZART'S

*The Abduction  
from the Seraglio*

SEPTEMBER 15-30, 2018



Music by JAKE HEGGIE  
Libretto by GENE SCHEER

*Moby-Dick*

FEBRUARY 9-24, 2019



LEONCAVALLO'S

*Pagliacci*

NOVEMBER 17 -  
DECEMBER 2, 2018



PUCCINI'S

*Madama Butterfly*

APRIL 13-28, 2019



GET YOUR TICKETS NOW

OPERASJ.ORG (408) 437-4450



Performances are made possible in part by a Cultural Affairs Grant from the City of San José.