

January 2, 2019

Opera San José Presents Jake Heggie & Gene Scheer's

Moby-Dick

What: On February 9th, Opera San José's 35th season continues with Jake Heggie & Gene Scheer's *Moby-Dick*.

The Bay Area is home to a number of internationally celebrated composers, and 17 years ago Jake Heggie became a major international player when he premiered *Dead Man Walking* at the San Francisco Opera. It went on to become one of the most performed and highly lauded contemporary operas of the century, and his *Moby-Dick*, which premiered at the Dallas Opera in 2010, has now been presented in opera companies from Australia to Washington D.C. and Calgary to Los Angeles. Opera San José is very pleased to be a co-producer of a new production of *Moby-Dick* headed by Utah Opera with fellow co-producers Pittsburgh Opera, Chicago Opera Theatre, and the Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona. This epic is one of the most absorbing dramas for the opera stage, requiring not just brilliant singing, but fully-fledged actors who can sing these powerful roles. *Moby-Dick* is an event not to be missed.

This production from Opera San José is funded in part by a City of San José Cultural Affairs grant and a grant from the Carol Franc Buck Foundation.

Moby-Dick will be sung in English with English supertitles. Runtime is approximately two hours and forty minutes. Opera San José presents six performances of this opera, opening in San José's California Theatre on February 9, 2019, closing February 24, 2019. The California Theatre is at 345 S. First Street in downtown San José.

Tickets: Tickets are available by phone, online, and at the Opera San José Box Office at 2149 Paragon Drive in San José. Prices range from \$10 for students, ages 25 and younger with a current student ID. Tickets are \$55, \$75, \$95, \$115, \$145, \$179, and \$185 for adults.

Box office phone: (408) 437-4450 or go to OPERASJ.ORG.

Who: Composer: Jake Heggie
Librettist: Gene Scheer
Conductor: Joseph Marcheso
Stage Director: Kristine McIntyre
Assistant Conductor: Christopher Ray
Set Designer: Erhard Rom
Costume Designer: Jessica Jahn
Costume Director: Alyssa Oania
Lighting Designer: Pamila Z. Gray
Wigs/Makeup: Christina Martin
Chorus Master: Christopher James Ray



Cast:

Ahab	Richard Cox
Greenhorn	Noah Stewart
Starbuck	Justin Ryan
Queequeg	Ashraf Sewailam
Pip	Jasmine Habersham
Gardiner	Trevor Neal
Flask	Mason Gates
Stubb	Eugene Brancoveanu
Dagoo	Babatunde Akinboboye

Dates: Performances: February 9, 10m, 14, 17m, 22, and 24m.

Time: “m” indicates matinee at 3PM; all other performances are at 8PM

Location: California Theatre, 345 South 1st Street (between San Carlos and San Salvador), San José, CA

***Moby-Dick* Preview:** January 29, 2019 from 12PM – 1PM, San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, 560 S. First Street in downtown San José. Free vocal preview with members of the cast. For information, call Opera San José at (408) 437-4450.

Introduction to Opera: General Director Larry Hancock will present a free 45-minute talk to ticket holders about the opera at the California Theatre before each performance of *Moby-Dick*. The talk begins at 6:30pm prior to evening performances and at 1:30pm prior to Sunday matinees. No reservations required.

***Moby-Dick* Symposium:** Friday, February 8, 2019 from 3:30PM – 5:30PM. KQED Silicon Valley Arts, Culture and Tech reporter Rachel Myrow will moderate two panel discussions featuring *Moby-Dick* composer Jake Heggie and principal artists from the production at the California Theatre Rehearsal Room. Purchase tickets at OPERASJ.ORG (\$20 per person) or call (408) 437-4450.

Press Room: www.operasj.org/news-events/press-room

To learn more about *Moby-Dick*, please visit OPERASJ.ORG

Performances supported, in part, by a Cultural Affairs grant from the City of San José.

About Opera San José

Opera San José, performing at the beautiful California Theatre in downtown San José, is a professional, regional opera company that is unique in the United States. Maintaining a resident company of principal artists, Opera San José specializes in showcasing the finest young professional singers in the nation. In addition to mainstage performances, Opera San José maintains extensive educational programs in schools and in the community at large, and offers preview lectures and Introduction to Opera talks for all mainstage productions.



Contact:
Chris Jalufka
Communications Manager
jalufka@operasj.org

###