



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 27, 2010

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MUSIC AT KOHL MANSION PRESENTS OPERA GALA SUNDAY, NOV. 14, 7 PM
SAN FRANCISCO OPERA SEASON HIGHLIGHTS and more will be performed by
four San Francisco Opera Adler Fellows and pianist John Churchwell

PROGRAM:

Highlights from:

Mozart: Le Nozze di Figaro and Don Giovanni

Puccini: Madama Butterfly and Turandot

Massenet: Werther

Handel: Xerxes

Bizet: Carmen

POST-CONCERT GALA RECEPTION:

Complimentary Champagne and Refreshments with the Artists immediately following concert.

TICKETS:

\$60/\$50 (two or more)

Seating is by **general admission**. The Box Office opens one hour prior to concert.
(Call 650.762.1130 for information on special member seating and benefits.)

PURCHASE TICKETS:

Mail: Music at Kohl Mansion, 2750 Adeline Drive, Burlingame, CA 94010.

Phone: 650.762.1130 / Fax: 650.343.8464.

Online: www.musicatkohl.org/tickets. Full Season Subscription still available.

LOCATION:

Great Hall, Kohl Mansion, 2750 Adeline Drive, Burlingame, CA.

Directions: 650.762.1130 / www.musicatkohl.org/guide

Parking is convenient and complimentary. Music at Kohl is wheelchair accessible.

Burlingame, CA, October 27, 2010- -- **Music at Kohl Mansion** presents an **Opera Gala Celebration Concert on Sunday, November 14, 2010 at 7 pm**, featuring four of the **San Francisco Opera**'s current **Adler Fellows** performing highlights of the 2010 San Francisco Opera Season and more.

The gala concert features soprano **Leah Crocetto**, mezzo-soprano **Maya Lahyani**, tenor **Brian Jagde**, and baritone **Austin Kness**, with San Francisco and Metropolitan Opera assistant conductor **John Churchwell**, piano. The four soloists, currently performing with the company under the prestigious Adler Fellowship residency program, are graduates of the San Francisco Opera's renowned Merola Opera Program whose alumni have enjoyed superstar status on major operatic stages world-wide for more than a half century. This special **non-subscription** concert will be followed by an elegant champagne reception with the artists. The event supports Music at Kohl Mansion's *Kohl for Kids* program, serving more than 4,500 school children in grades pre-K – 12 annually.

About the Artists: A recent winner of the 2010 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, soprano **Leah Crocetto**, a second-year Adler Fellow, made her San Francisco Opera debut as Sister Dolcina in Puccini's *Il Trittico*. This season, Leah appears with the Company in *Aida* and *Cyrano de Bergerac*. First-year Adler Fellow **Maya Lahyani** has been awarded scholarships by the American-Israeli Cultural Foundation, the Ronen Foundation, and the Israeli Vocal Arts Institute. She regularly took part in the International Opera Summer Program in Tel Aviv. She appears at SFO this season in *Die Walküre*, *The Girl of the Golden West*, *Werther*, *Cyrano de Bergerac* and *The Makropoulos Case*. First-year Adler Fellow **Brian Jagde** recently made the transition from baritone to lyric tenor, and made his SF Opera debut last summer in *The Girl of the Golden West*. He is appearing this season in *Aida* and *The Makropoulos Case*. Having performed the role of Don Giovanni with the Merola Opera Program in 2008, baritone and second-year Adler Fellow **Austin Kness** appears this season in *Faust*, *The Girl of the Golden West*, *Werther*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Cyrano de Bergerac* and *The Makropoulos Case*. One of the leading collaborative pianists of his generation, **John Churchwell** enjoys a career on the concert stage as well as in the nation's leading opera houses. For the past fourteen years Mr. Churchwell

has been an assistant conductor for both the Metropolitan Opera and the San Francisco Opera. In that time he has assisted on more than 85 productions and has collaborated with some of the world's leading conductors.

Adopt an Instrument: For the fifth consecutive season, Music at Kohl Mansion is partnering with Bay Area nonprofit **Music in Schools Today** (MUST) to place donated instruments in the hands of public school children. Members of the audience are invited to help tomorrow's artists today, by donating or pledging musical instruments they no longer use. Instruments will be collected at all concerts this season. The value of donated instruments is tax-deductible. Learn more at www.musicatkohl.org or www.mustcreate.org.

About Music at Kohl Mansion: Located just 15 miles south of San Francisco, Music at Kohl's Chamber Music Series has been a favorite of music lovers from as far away as San Jose, Marin County and East Bay communities for over a quarter-century. Housed in a beautiful 1912 Tudor-style estate in Burlingame, Music at Kohl has earned a solid reputation among musicians as a favorite place to perform, both for its splendid acoustics and warm, enthusiastic audiences. Since 1993, Music at Kohl has reached out to provide quality music education programs in local schools. Family and Children's Concerts have also become an integral part of Music at Kohl, integrating a consistently outstanding series of artists and repertoire for audiences of all ages. Programs are made possible by generous contributions from individuals, business and foundations. Major in-kind support is provided by the **San Mateo Daily Journal**. The **Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport** is the Official Hotel of Music at Kohl Mansion.

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Information: www.musicatkohl.org or 650.762.1130. **High resolution photos:** www.musicatkohl.org/press.

All programs, artists and repertoire are subject to change.