



SAN FRANCISCO
OPERA

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA PRESENTS INAUGURAL PRIDE CONCERT JUNE 27
HOSTED BY MONÉT X CHANGE

MUSIC DIRECTOR EUN SUN KIM AND ROBERT MOLLICONE CONDUCT
SAN FRANCISCO OPERA ORCHESTRA WITH SOLOISTS
JAMIE BARTON, BRIAN MULLIGAN, NIKOLA PRINTZ



Monét X Change, Eun Sun Kim, Robert Mollicone, Jamie Barton, Brian Mulligan, Nikola Printz
Photos: Lindsey Ruth, Cody Pickens, Devlin Shand, Stacey Bode, Dario Acosta, Destiny Grace

POST-PERFORMANCE DANCE PARTY WITH DJ JUANITA MORE!

SAN FRANCISCO OPERA MARCHES AT 55TH SF PRIDE PARADE JUNE 29

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (May 22, 2025) — Coinciding with San Francisco's annual Pride Weekend, San Francisco Opera celebrates the LGBTQIA+ community with a special *Pride Concert* featuring immersive projections and a post-show dance party on Friday, June 27 at the War Memorial Opera House. *RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars* Season Four winner and classically trained singer [Monét X Change](#) hosts the concert. San Francisco Opera's Caroline H. Hume Music Director [Eun Sun Kim](#) and [Robert Mollicone](#) lead the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and soloists [Jamie Barton](#), [Brian Mulligan](#) and [Nikola Printz](#). [Tal Rosner](#)'s video designs fill the hall, and [Justin A. Partier](#) is the night's lighting designer. Concluding San Francisco's Pride Weekend, on Sunday, June 29, the Company joins other local arts institutions to march in the 55th Annual San Francisco Pride Parade.

The musical programming for the *Pride Concert* features works by opera composers, including Leonard Bernstein, Jake Heggie, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky and Camille Saint-Saëns; songs from screen and stage, such as *A Star Is Born* (1954), *Mame* and *La Cage aux Folles*; and folk, pop, jazz and disco tunes by Indigo Girls, Freddie Mercury and Melissa Etheridge, among others.

Music Director Eun Sun Kim, who also leads this summer's production of Mozart's *Idomeneo* (June 14-25), will kick off the concert with the Overture to Leonard Bernstein's *Candide* before handing the baton to Maestro Robert Mollicone to conduct the remainder of the program. The multihyphenate artist, comedian and podcast host **Monét X Change**, who has previously performed at Colorado Opera, Minnesota Opera and New Jersey Symphony and Lincoln Center, emcees the celebration of LGBTQIA+ pride.

Mezzo-soprano **Jamie Barton** returns to the opera house where she has performed in productions of *Norma*, Wagner's *Ring* cycle, *Roberto Devereux* and *Rusalka*. When Barton headlined the Last Night of the BBC Proms in 2019 and waved a Pride flag, conductor Sakari Oramo shared with *BBC Music*, "there was a wave of love and acceptance and appreciation." Barton shares stories about this moment and her queer identity as part of San Francisco Opera's Webby Award-winning digital portrait series in the episode titled [In Song: Jamie Barton](#). The Grammy-nominated and Richard Tucker Award-winning artist's social media presence serves as a hub for conversations about body positivity, social justice issues and LGBTQ+ rights. This fall Jamie Barton returns to San Francisco Opera as Sister Helen Prejean in Jake Heggie and Terrence McNally's *Dead Man Walking*.

In demand at top opera houses and concert stages around the world, baritone **Brian Mulligan**'s engagements with the Company have ranged from works by Richard Wagner and Richard Strauss to 20th-century classics, such as Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd* and John Adams' *Nixon in China*. Of his most recent San Francisco appearance as Telramund in Wagner's *Lohengrin* (a production that is the subject of the NorCal Emmy award-nominated film [Eun Sun Kim: A Journey Into Lohengrin](#)) San Francisco Classical Voice exclaimed, "You will not hear this role better sung, from Mulligan's tonal beauty to his scrupulous legato and exemplary diction." Mulligan will return to the Bay Area this fall as Amfortas for San Francisco Opera's new production of Wagner's final opera, *Parsifal*.

When they were in the Merola Opera Program in 2022, Oakland artist **Nikola Printz** curated an "extraordinary" (*San Francisco Chronicle*) vocal recital for the Schwabacher Recital Series that was a love letter to all forms of gender expression. For three years the aerialist and singer has been a part of San Francisco Symphony's *Holiday Gaiety* variety show. On the opera stage, Printz recently portrayed the title role of Bizet's *Carmen* in San Francisco Opera's immersive opera-meets-party *Encounter* series, as well as with Festival Opera and Opera San José. They created the role of Billie Jean King in the world premiere of Laura Karpman's *Balls* for Opera Parallèle and was the alto soloist in Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* with San Francisco Ballet and Vallejo Symphony.



(photos: Reneff-Olson Productions, Kristen Loken, Drew Altizer Photography)

Pride Concert Event Highlights:

- Pre-show Happy Hour with discounted food and drinks
- Interactive Altar of Remembrance by the Marigold Project
- LGBTQIA+ Historical Exhibit by the GLBT Historical Society
- Sections of the AIDS Memorial Quilt display by the National AIDS Memorial
- Pre-show discussion with Suzanne Ford, executive director of SF Pride
- Concert with soloists Jamie Barton, Brian Mulligan and Nikola Printz
- Post-show dance party with DJ Juanita MORE!

From 6:30–7:30 p.m., visit the Altar of Remembrance at the top of the Van Ness Ave. steps and community displays by the GLBT Historical Society and National AIDS Memorial on the Grand Tier level. Concessions will offer a pre-show happy hour with discounted food and drink options. At 6:35 p.m. ticketholders are invited to a pre-concert talk by SF Pride Executive Director Suzanne Ford. The 80-minute concert, hosted by Monét X Change, begins at 7:30 p.m. and features soloists Jamie Barton, Brian Mulligan and Nikola Printz, with Eun Sun Kim and Robert Mollicone conducting the San Francisco Opera Orchestra. The show is followed by a dance party with DJ Juanita MORE! Community partners for the event include SF Pride, The Tenderloin Museum, National AIDS Memorial, Compton's Cafeteria Riot, Marigold Project, GLBT Historical Society and Twin Peaks Tavern. For more information, visit: sfopera.com/pride.

Pride Concert concludes the mainstage events of San Francisco Opera's 2025 Summer Season. The season opens June 3 with Puccini's *La Bohème* (June 3–21) and includes Music Director Eun Sun Kim conducting Mozart's *Idomeneo* (June 14–25). For more information, visit sfopera.com.

SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE PARADE

Sunday, June 29 at 10:30 a.m.

Market Street from Beale Street to 8th Street in San Francisco



San Francisco Pride Parade 2024 (photo: Reneff-Olson Productions)

On Sunday, June 29, cheer on members of San Francisco Opera and other arts organizations at the 55th annual San Francisco Pride Parade, one of the oldest celebrations of LGBTQIA+ identity in the world. For more information about the 55th San Francisco Pride Parade and Celebration, visit sfpride.org.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Tickets for *Pride Concert* range from \$30–\$225 and are available at the San Francisco Opera Box Office (301 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco), by calling (415) 864-3330 and online at sfopera.com. San Francisco Opera Box Office hours are Monday 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (Saturdays phone only). 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.

Standing-room tickets are \$10 and will be available for purchase the day of the concert beginning at 10 a.m. at the Box Office window. Standing-room tickets are sold for cash only and are limited to two per person.

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, 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 appreciated. To donate visit sfopera.com/donate.

A pre-concert talk with SF Pride Executive Director Suzanne Ford takes place 55 minutes prior to the performance.

All casting, programming, schedule and ticket prices are subject to change. For further information, visit sfopera.com.

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

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Yamaha is the official piano of San Francisco Opera.

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Downloadable press photos of San Francisco Opera's past Pride celebrations and artists headshots are available at sfopera.com/press.

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