



39TH SEASON OF SCHWABACHER RECITAL SERIES CONTINUES WITH
APRIL 12 CONCERT AT THE TAUBE ATRIUM THEATER

Countertenor Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen and Pianist Carrie-Ann Matheson
Collaborate on Program Ranging from
Jewish Hymns to American Songbook Favorites

Tickets available at sfopera.com/srs and (415) 864-3330



Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen, Carrie-Ann Matheson

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (March 16, 2023) — The 39th season of the Schwabacher Recital Series, presented by San Francisco Opera Center and the Merola Opera Program, continues Wednesday, April 12 with a program by countertenor Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen and pianist Carrie-Ann Matheson at San Francisco's Dianne and Tad Taube Atrium Theater in the Veterans Building.

The Schwabacher Recital Series presents emerging and esteemed artists from around the globe, performing an eclectic selection of song literature and new works in the intimacy of a recital setting. The final concert of the season, on May 18, will highlight the artistic partnership of mezzo-soprano Erin Wagner and pianist Shawn Chang.

APRIL 12, TAUBE ATRIUM THEATER
ARYEH NUSSBAUM COHEN AND CARRIE-ANN MATHESON

On April 12, the Schwabacher series will feature the varied and remarkable artistry of countertenor Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen and pianist Carrie-Ann Matheson. About the music in this

recital, Nussbaum Cohen said: "We will be presenting a wide-ranging program that showcases many of the styles and eras of music that I most enjoy singing. Though on the opera stage, my voice type means that I'm limited to Baroque and contemporary works, what I love about singing recitals is that they allow me to sing a broader variety of works that showcase an even wider range of my artistic passions. We will be performing songs by Quilter, Florence Price, H. Leslie Adams, Clara Schumann, Jewish hymns by Janowski and Ravel, Duparc, arias by Handel and some "Great American Songbook" style selections."

Acclaimed as a "complete artist" by *The New York Times*, Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen was a winner of the 2017 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and the 2023 George and Nora London Foundation Competition. He joined the Merola Opera Program in 2016, was an Adler Fellow in 2018 and 2019 and made his Company debut starring as Medoro in Handel's *Orlando*. Of that performance, the *San Francisco Chronicle* said, "his tone strong and gleaming, his phrasing endlessly eloquent." His first commercial recording—Kevin Fuch's *Poems of Life* with the London Symphony Orchestra—won the 2019 Grammy Award in the Best Classical Compendium category. A highly sought-after opera and concert soloist, recent and future engagements include performances with the Bavarian State Opera, Komische Oper Berlin, Glyndebourne Festival and the Metropolitan Opera.

San Francisco Opera Center and Merola Opera Program Artistic Director Carrie-Ann Matheson has a multi-faceted international career as a pianist, conductor and educator. Matheson was a tenured member of the Metropolitan Opera's full-time music staff as assistant conductor, prompter and vocal coach before joining the conducting and coaching staff at Opernhaus Zürich in 2014. Especially in demand as a recital pianist, she has collaborated with opera's greatest luminaries, including Rolando Villazón, Jonas Kaufmann, Piotr Beczala, Benjamin Bernheim, Diana Damrau, Thomas Hampson and Joyce DiDonato.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION

Tickets (general seating) are \$30. Tickets can be purchased at the San Francisco Opera Box Office (301 Van Ness Avenue) in person, by phone at (415) 864-3330 and online at sfopera.com/srs.

Please note: Student rush tickets, subject to availability, are available for \$15 at each venue 30 minutes prior to each recital. (Limit of two tickets per person; valid ID is required.) Artists, programs, schedules and ticket prices are subject to change.

The Dianne and Tad Taube Atrium Theater is a state-of-the-art performance venue utilizing the Constellation® acoustic system from Berkeley-based Meyer Sound. The Taube Atrium Theater is part of San Francisco Opera's Diane B. Wilsey Center for Opera, located on the fourth floor of the Veterans Building at 401 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco.

For the May 18 concert, the San Francisco Conservatory of Music's Barbro Osher Recital Hall is located at 200 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco.

For complete information about the Company's health and safety protocols, visit sfopera.com/safetyfirst.

To ensure flexibility for patrons, no-fee exchanges will be accepted up to two hours before performances. Patrons may donate tickets for a tax deduction until curtain time.

2023 SCHWABACHER RECITAL SERIES

Presented by San Francisco Opera Center and Merola Opera Program

Artists and programs subject to change.

Wednesday, April 12, at 7:30 p.m.

Dianne and Tad Taube Atrium Theater

Veterans Building, fourth floor, 401 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco, CA 94102

Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen, countertenor

Carrie-Ann Matheson, pianist

PROGRAM includes:

- Roger Quilter—*Three Shakespeare Songs* (Come Away, Death; O Mistress Mine; Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind)
 - H. Leslie Adams—Prayer from *Nightsongs*
 - Florence Price—Night; Sunset
 - Clara Schumann—Four songs from Op. 13 (Ich stand in dunklen Träumen; Sie liebten sich beide; Die Liebe saß als Nachtigall; Der Mond kommt still gegangen)
 - Max Janowski—Avinu Malkeinu
 - Maurice Ravel—Kaddish from *Deux Mélodies Hébraïques*
 - Georg Frederic Handel—from *Saul*: O Lord, Whose Mercies Numberless; Impious Wretch
 - Henri Duparc—L'Invitation au voyage; Chanson triste; Phidylé
 - Erroll Garner—Misty
 - Cole Porter—I Get a Kick Out of You
-

Thursday, May 18, at 7:30 p.m.

San Francisco Conservatory of Music Barbro Osher Recital Hall

200 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102

Erin Wagner, mezzo-soprano

Shawn Chang, pianist

Everything must change program includes works by:

- Franz Schubert
- Shawn Chang
- Stefania Turkewich
- Viktor Ullmann
- Radiohead
- Bernard Ighner

ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO OPERA CENTER AND MEROLA OPERA PROGRAM

San Francisco Opera Center was created in 1982 by then-General Director Terence A. McEwen to oversee the operation and administration of the education and training programs initiated by Kurt Herbert Adler in 1954. Providing a coordinated sequence of performance and study opportunities for young artists, San Francisco Opera Center represents a new era in which young artists of major operatic potential can develop through intensive training and performance, under the aegis of a major international opera company.

Under the guidance of San Francisco Opera Center Artistic Director Carrie-Ann Matheson and General Director Markus Beam, with support from San Francisco Opera General Director Matthew Shilvock, the Opera Center has trained and introduced many young stars from around the world to the international opera stage through its resident artist programs.

Initially founded as the San Francisco Opera/Affiliate Artists program in 1975, the Adler Fellowship Program is one of the nation's most prestigious performance-oriented residencies for advanced young singers and pianists. Each year, Adler Fellows are sponsored by individual donors and institutional funders to help cover the cost of their fellowship, and sponsors affiliated with the Adler Program have the opportunity to attend private studio classes with the Fellows and develop nurturing relationships with them.

Alumni from the Adler Fellowship Program include sopranos Leah Crocetto, Heidi Melton, Melody Moore, Patricia Racette, Nadine Sierra, Ruth Ann Swenson, Elza van den Heever and Deborah Voigt; mezzo-sopranos Zheng Cao, Kendall Gladen, Daniela Mack and Dolora Zajick; countertenors Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen and Gerald Thompson; tenors Brian Jagde, Sean Panikkar and Alek Shrader; baritones Eugene Brancoveanu, Alfredo Daza, Mark Delavan and Lucas Meachem; bass-baritones John Relyea, Philip Skinner and Daniel Sumegi; and basses Magnús Baldvinsson and Kenneth Kellogg.

Widely regarded as the foremost opera training program for aspiring singers, pianists and stage directors, the Merola Opera Program has served as a proving ground for hundreds of artists. Many Merola alumni are now among the most recognized names in the opera world.

Every summer the program offers young operatic artists the rare opportunity of studying, coaching and participating in master classes with established professionals for twelve weeks.

Participants also perform in complete opera productions, concerts and recitals. Offered free of charge for all participants, the Merola Opera Program is unique in the industry in many ways. Merola was the first young artist program to provide financial support to developing artists for five years following participation.

The Merola Opera Program is a financially independent organization with a separate 501(c)3 which operates in close collaboration with the San Francisco Opera Center and San Francisco Opera.

Since 2015, Merola Opera Program has been the sole sponsor of three of the four annual Schwabacher Recitals.

For more information on the San Francisco Opera Center, Adler Fellowship and Merola Opera Program, visit sfopera.com and merola.org.

The Schwabacher Recital Series is endowed in perpetuity by the generosity of celebrated Bay Area singer, scholar and teacher James Schwabacher and sponsored by the Merola Opera Program.

Yamaha is the official piano of San Francisco Opera. Pianos are generously provided by Piedmont Piano Company.

####

To obtain further press information, including artist headshots, please visit sfopera.com/press or contact:

San Francisco Opera Communications:

Julia Inouye (415) 565-6430 / jinouye@sfopera.com

Jeffery McMillan (415) 565-6451 / jmcmillan@sfopera.com

Teresa Concepcion (415) 565-6470 / tconcepcion@sfopera.com