



SAN FRANCISCO  
OPERA

FIRST THREE PERFORMANCES OF BEETHOVEN'S *FIDELIO*, LED BY MUSIC DIRECTOR EUN SUN KIM, MARK FIRST LIVESTREAMS IN COMPANY HISTORY

NEW PRODUCTION DIRECTED BY MATTHEW OZAWA, STARRING ELZA VAN DEN HEEVER, RUSSELL THOMAS AND GREER GRIMSLEY, OPENS OCTOBER 14

Livestream Tickets on Sale Today at 1 pm  
Visit [sfopera.com](https://sfopera.com) or call (415) 864-3330



*Fidelio* set renderings by Alexander V. Nichols

San Francisco, CA (October 5, 2021) — Virtual tickets for San Francisco Opera's livestreams of its new production of Ludwig van Beethoven's *Fidelio*—a brand-new online offering by the Company—go on sale today, October 5 at 1pm PT.

San Francisco Opera will share, beyond the walls of the Opera House, two of its fall productions (*Fidelio* and *Così fan tutte*) from Music Director Eun Sun Kim's inaugural season. Offered for the first time in Company history, the livestream option for select performances enables audiences to experience San Francisco Opera from anywhere in the world. Each streamed performance will be presented live only (on-demand feature will not be available). For more information, visit [sfopera.com/online](https://sfopera.com/online).

Opera fans can livestream these *Fidelio* performances: October 14 at 7:30pm PT; Sunday, October 17 at 2pm PT and Wednesday, October 20 at 7:30pm PT. Virtual livestream tickets are \$25 and go on sale on October 5 at 1pm PT.

Director Matthew Ozawa's new production updates *Fidelio*'s setting from an eighteenth-century prison to a modern government detainment center. For this highly anticipated production of Beethoven's only opera, Eun Sun Kim conducts the San Francisco Opera Orchestra, Chorus and a cast headed by Elza van den Heever as Leonore, Russell Thomas as her husband, Florestan, and Greer Grimsley as Don Pizarro. Ozawa's production features the work of set and projection designer Alexander V. Nichols, costume designer Jessica Jahn and co-lighting designers JAX Messenger and Justin A. Partier. San Francisco Opera Chorus Director Ian Robertson prepares the Opera Chorus for the Act I Prisoner's Chorus and the opera's finale, two massive scenes comparable to Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" from the 9th Symphony in cathartic energy and exaltation.

Coinciding with *Fidelio*, the Company's latest episode of its podcast, *North Stage Door*, features interviews about the opera with director Matthew Ozawa, former Arizona Governor and United States Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano, San Francisco Opera Chorus Director Ian Robertson and San Quentin State Prison Public Information Officer Samuel Robinson and incarcerated persons at San Quentin. To listen to the episode, go to [sfopera.com/northstagedoor](https://sfopera.com/northstagedoor). In partnership with the William James Association's Prison Arts Project, an exhibition of artwork by incarcerated persons at San Quentin State Prison, who were inspired by the themes and story of *Fidelio*, will be displayed at the War Memorial Opera House lobby from October 14 to 30. *Fidelio* ticketholders can view the exhibit in person, and images will be also available to the general public at [sfopera.com/fidelio](https://sfopera.com/fidelio). The Commonwealth Club will host a public, in-person conversation about this collaboration on October 25 at 2:30pm. Tickets will be available soon at [commonwealthclub.org/events](https://commonwealthclub.org/events).

The Company's new production of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, directed by Michael Cavanagh and led by Maestro Henrik Nánási, will be offered as a livestream on Sunday, November 21 at 2pm PT; Tuesday, November 23 at 7:30pm PT and Saturday, November 27 at 7:30pm PT. Virtual tickets for *Così fan tutte* will go on sale in late October.

## TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR 2021 FALL SEASON

San Francisco Opera's 99th season, the inaugural season of Music Director Eun Sun Kim, opened in August with Puccini's *Tosca* and *Live and In Concert: The Homecoming*, which was also simulcast live to Oracle Park.

The season continues with a new production of Beethoven's only opera, *Fidelio*, directed by Matthew Ozawa and conducted by Eun Sun Kim, which will be unveiled on Thursday, October 14 with five additional performances through October 30. The fall season will also showcase the second chapter of the Company's Mozart-Da Ponte Trilogy, *Così fan tutte*, opening Sunday, November 21 with four additional performances through December 3. The fall season concludes with *The Future Is Now: Adler Fellows Concert* on December 10 and *San Francisco Opera Chorus in Concert* on December 11 and 12, honoring the tenure of Chorus Director Ian Robertson, who will retire at the end of 2021. Tickets for all fall operas, *The Future Is Now* and San Francisco Opera Chorus concerts are available through the San Francisco Opera Box Office.

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Tickets for *Fidelio* livestreams are \$25 and go on sale on October 5 at 1pm PT via the San Francisco Opera Box Office at (415) 864-3330 and online at [sfopera.com](https://sfopera.com). Livestreams can be viewed live only; on-demand viewing is not available. For more information visit [sfopera.com/online](https://sfopera.com/online).

Fall season opera tickets for *Fidelio* and *Così fan tutte* are available now. Single (non-subscription) tickets for all 2021–22 performances range from \$26 to \$398. Tickets for *The Future Is Now: Adler Fellows Concert* range from \$34 to \$69 and *San Francisco Opera Chorus in Concert* are \$39.

Design Your Own subscriptions are also available with a minimum of three operas.

Virtual tickets for *Così fan tutte* livestreams will be available in late October. For more information visit [sfopera.com/online](https://sfopera.com/online).

In compliance with city health mandates, San Francisco Opera requires proof of vaccination and photo ID for all patrons ages 12 and up to attend performances at the War Memorial Opera House. Face masks are also required. For more information about the Company's health and safety protocols, visit [sfopera.com/safetyfirst](https://sfopera.com/safetyfirst).

To ensure flexibility for patrons in this transitional season, no-fee exchanges will be accepted up to two hours before performances. Refunds will be available if patrons must miss a performance due to COVID. Refund requests must be made at least two hours before the performance.

For complete information about ticketing and seating policies for the current season, please visit [sfopera.com/onstage](https://sfopera.com/onstage).

All casting, programs, schedules and ticket prices are subject to change. For further information about San Francisco Opera's 2021–22 Season, visit [sfopera.com/onstage](https://sfopera.com/onstage).

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## OCTOBER–DECEMBER 2021 CALENDAR

\*San Francisco Opera Debut   ♪Role Debut   †Current Adler Fellow   ■ Livestream

All performances take place at the War Memorial Opera House (301 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco), unless noted.

### NEW PRODUCTION

*FIDELIO* by Ludwig van Beethoven

October ■ 14 (7:30 pm), ■ 17 (2 pm), ■ 20 (7:30 pm), 22 (7:30 pm), 26 (7:30 pm), 30 (7:30 pm), 2021

Libretto originally prepared by Josef Sonnleithner, from the French of Jean-Nicolas Bouilly; later shortened by Stephan von Breuning and with further work done by Georg Friedrich Treitschke  
Approximate running time: 2 hours, 30 minutes including one intermission  
Sung in German with English supertitles

World Premiere:	Vienna; November 20, 1805
First SFO performance:	November 8, 1937
Most recent SFO performances	2005–06 Season

### Cast:

<i>Leonore</i>	Elza van den Heever
<i>Florestan</i>	Russell Thomas
<i>Don Pizarro</i>	Greer Grimsley
<i>Rocco</i>	James Creswell
<i>Don Fernando</i>	Soloman Howard
<i>Marzelline</i>	Anne-Marie MacIntosh * ♪ †
<i>Jaquino</i>	Christopher Oglesby ♪ †
<i>First Prisoner</i>	Zhengyi Bai ♪ †

*Second Prisoner* Stefan Egerstrom ♪‡

Creative Team:

<i>Conductor</i>	Eun Sun Kim
<i>Director</i>	Matthew Ozawa
<i>Set &amp; Projection Designer</i>	Alexander V. Nichols
<i>Costume Designer</i>	Jessica Jahn
<i>Co-Lighting Designer</i>	JAX Messenger
<i>Co-Lighting Designer</i>	Justin A. Partier

San Francisco Opera Orchestra and San Francisco Opera Chorus

Tickets: \$26 to \$398 (Reserved Seating at the War Memorial Opera House)/\$25 (livestreams on October 14, 17, 20)

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NEW PRODUCTION

*COSÌ FAN TUTTE* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

November ■ 21 (2 pm), ■ 23 (7:30 pm), ■ 27 (7:30 pm); December 1 (7:30 pm), 3 (7:30 pm), 2021

Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte

Approximate running time: 3 hours, 20 minutes including one intermission

Sung in Italian with English supertitles

World Premiere:	Vienna; January 26, 1790
First SFO performance:	October 2, 1956
Most recent SFO performances:	2012–13 Season

Cast:

<i>Fiordiligi</i>	Nicole Cabell ♪
<i>Dorabella</i>	Irene Roberts
<i>Ferrando</i>	Ben Bliss *
<i>Guglielmo</i>	John Brancy
<i>Don Alfonso</i>	Ferruccio Furlanetto
<i>Despina</i>	Nicole Heaston

Creative Team:

<i>Conductor</i>	Henrik Nánási
<i>Director</i>	Michael Cavanagh
<i>Set Designer</i>	Erhard Rom
<i>Costume Designer</i>	Constance Hoffman
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	Jane Cox

San Francisco Opera Orchestra and San Francisco Opera Chorus

Tickets: \$26 to \$398 (Reserved Seating at the War Memorial Opera House)/\$25 (livestream tickets for November 21, 23, 27 will be available in late October)

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*THE FUTURE IS NOW: ADLER FELLOWS CONCERT*

Friday, December 10, 2021 at 7:30 pm

Herbst Theatre  
Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

San Francisco Opera Center's 2021 class of Adler Fellowship recipients will perform arias and opera scenes with Eun Sun Kim leading the San Francisco Opera Orchestra. Complete program will be announced at a later date.

Tickets: \$34 to \$69 (Reserved Seating)

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*SAN FRANCISCO OPERA CHORUS IN CONCERT*

Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 2 pm

Dianne and Tad Taube Atrium Theater  
Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

The forces of the San Francisco Opera Chorus come together for a night of music in honor of the artist who has led their group for over 30 years and over 300 productions: Chorus Director Ian Robertson. Before his retirement at the end of the year, Maestro Robertson leads the Chorus in a farewell performance, featuring some of the most resplendent music in the choral canon. Get ready for an array of classics from Mozart, Puccini, and Verdi, as well as more contemporary songs by Florence Beatrice Price, Joan Szymko and Kate Rusby.

Tickets: \$39 (General Admission)

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The Dolby Family, Carol and Dixon Doll, Bertie Bialek Elliott, Peter Fenton and Kate Greer, Keith and Priscilla Geeslin, Gordon Getty, John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn, Burgess and Elizabeth Jamieson, Franklin and Catherine Johnson, Edmund W. and Jeannik Méquet Littlefield Fund, Steven M. Menzies, Bernard and Barbro Osher, Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem, Dianne and Tad Taube, Phyllis C. Wattis Endowment Funds, Diane B. Wilsey, and Barbara A. Wolfe

*Fidelio* is made possible, in part, by The Dolby Family; Louise Gund; John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn; Phyllis C. Wattis Endowment Funds; Koret Foundation; Bernard and Barbro Osher; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; and Joan and David Traitel.

*Così fan tutte* is made possible, in part, by John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn; Koret Foundation; Bernard and Barbro Osher; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; Thomas Tilton Production Fund; Joan and David Traitel; and Phyllis C. Wattis Endowment Funds.

*Dream of the Red Chamber* is made possible, in part, by John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn; Edmund W. and Jeannik Méquet Littlefield Fund; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; and Joan and David Traitel.

The commission of the 2016 world premiere of *The Dream of the Red Chamber* was initiated and funded by the Chinese Heritage Foundation Friends of Minnesota.

*Don Giovanni* is made possible, in part, by John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn; Bernard and Barbro Osher; Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem; Joan and David Traitel; and Phyllis C. Wattis Endowment Funds.

Digital programs are made possible, in part, by the Creative Edge Fund with major support from Carol and Dixon Doll & Peter Fenton and Kate Greer.

Yamaha is the official piano of San Francisco Opera.

San Francisco Opera would like to acknowledge the team of UCSF doctors who have provided guidance in planning the Company's safe return to the stage. Thank you to Drs. George Rutherford, Mark Almond, Robert Harrison, Sânziana Roman and Clark Rosen.

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PRESS PHOTOS: High-resolution, downloadable photographs, including artist headshots, for San Francisco Opera's 2021–22 Season are available at [sfopera.com/press](https://sfopera.com/press)

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