



MEROLA OPERA PROGRAM PRESENTS
SCHWABACHER SUMMER CONCERT
July 11 & 13 at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music
Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall

WHAT: Bay Area audiences are invited to revel in the passion and melody of classic opera, as the young artists of the 2024 **Merola Opera Program** perform extended scenes from Donizetti's *Lucrezia Borgia*, Gounod's *Faust*, Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*, Massenet's *Cendrillon*, Puccini's *La bohème*, and Richard Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos*. Performed with a full orchestra, the **Schwabacher Summer Concert** will be conducted by the internationally renowned Maestro **Louis Lohraseb**, with direction by **Omer Ben Seadia** (Merola '14). Since his professional debut at the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma in 2019, Maestro Lohraseb has quickly established himself as an exciting new conductor on the international stage, with debuts at the Semperoper Dresden, Los Angeles Opera, and Komische Oper Berlin. Known for her inventive, thoughtful, and socially conscious productions, 2014 Merola alum Ben Seadia began to work extensively in the U.S. in 2012 after more than a decade with the Israeli Opera. Assisting in this program is up-and-coming stage director, choreographer, and Merola participant **Anna Theodosakis** (Merola '24) who will stage one of the scenes. Theodosakis has directed opera and musical theatre for companies including Saskatoon Opera, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, and Toronto Summer Music Festival.

WHEN: 7:30pm, Thursday, July 11
2:00pm, Saturday, July 13

WHERE: **San Francisco Conservatory of Music Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall**
50 Oak St., San Francisco

TICKETS: \$35/\$65/\$10 (ages 25 and under or those attending their first Merola production)

Save 20 percent when tickets are purchased for all four productions* in the 2024 season. Ticket discounts are available for groups of 10 or more. Group Sales can be contacted at 415-621-4403.

**Discount is valid through June 10, 2024. All four performances must be purchased at the same time. The discount does not include the Merola Grand Finale Reception and cannot be combined with any other discounts.*

INFO: For more information or to order tickets, please visit merola.org or call the San Francisco Box Office at **415-864-3330**. The box office is open Monday, 10:00am-5:00pm, and Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00am-6:00pm (Saturday phones only). The Group Sales office is open Monday, 10:00am-5:00pm, and Tuesday through Friday, 10:00am-6:00pm.

MEDIA: Courtney Heimbeck, Carla Befera & Co.
courtney@cb-pr.com | 650-308-4390

PHOTOS: Downloadable high-res photos are available here:
<https://cbpr.co/press/merola2024/>