

ZORRO

April 19 – May 4, 2025

WHAT: Opera San José will conclude its 41st season with the Northern California premiere of Héctor Armienta's *Zorro*, the second Spanish-language opera on its mainstage following the 2024 production of *Florencia en el Amazonas*. Latino stage director **David Radamés Toro** will make his OSJ debut staging the production, while Argentinian conductor **Jorge Parodi**, who last conducted *Rigoletto* for OSJ, will return to the podium. Inspired by the heroic masked vigilante created by Johnston McCulley, this swashbuckling opera is filled with ravishing romance and sword-fighting suspense. Set in el pueblo de Los Angeles, still a colony of Spain, *Zorro* follows the adventures of Diego de la Vega, a Spanish nobleman who hides his identity to become a masked vigilante, the dashing defender of the less fortunate. With a lush score influenced by mariachi, flamenco, and corrido music, the caped crusader comes to operatic life, battling tyranny and corruption, juggling romantic interests of the beguiling daughter of the Governor, Carlota de Obragón, and the brave and kind Ana María Soza, and taking on his nemesis, the oppressive General Moncada. This action-packed production stars tenor **Xavier Prado** as Diego de la Vega/Zorro and soprano **Maria Brea**, an OSJ Artist-in-Residence, as Ana Maria Soza. Baritone **Eugene Brancoveanu**, OSJ Emeritus Artist-in-Residence and critically acclaimed for his portrayal of the title role in last season's *Rigoletto*, takes on the role of the villainous Octavio Rivera y Moncada. Mezzo-soprano **Melisa Bonetti Luna**, continuing her tenure as an OSJ Artist-in-Residence, will portray Carlota de Obragón.

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WHERE: California Theatre, 345 S 1st St, San José

TICKETS: \$58–\$215

INFO: For more information, the public can visit operasj.org or call 408-437-4450 (open Monday through Friday, 11:00am–5:30pm).

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MEDIA: Contact Paige D'Encarnacao, CBCO Public Relations & Marketing
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PHOTOS: Downloadable high-res photos will be available here: cbpr.co/press/zorro