



## **SACRAMENTO OPERA NEWS RELEASE**

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SACRAMENTO OPERA

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### **SACRAMENTO OPERA ARTISTIC DIRECTOR TIMM ROLEK PRESENTS: LA BOHEME OPERA TALK ON APRIL 29, 2009 AT 7:30 PM**

(Sacramento, CA 4/13/09) **Sacramento Opera Artistic Director Timm Rolek presents an Opera Talk about Puccini's *La Bohème* on Wednesday, April 29, 2009, 7:30 pm at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 6151 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95819.** This Opera Talk features Timm Rolek's entertaining introduction to the Sacramento Opera's production of *La Bohème*. The Opera Talk includes a live performance from *La Bohème* artists Tom Corbeil and Christopher Clayton and conversation with Chuck Hudson, stage director. Gregory Mason is the pianist. Admission is \$10 for general and \$7 for Sacramento Opera subscribers. Tickets are available at the door. There is free parking at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center. For more information, call 916.737.1000 or visit [www.sacopera.org](http://www.sacopera.org).

**Christopher Clayton** (performing the role of Schaunard in *La Bohème*), baritone, is a native of Utah. Mr. Clayton has recently returned to Utah after spending two years in Portland as a member of the Portland Opera Studio. Mr. Clayton's operatic roles include Ulysses in *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria*, Mr. Gedge in *Albert Herring*, El Dancaire in *Carmen*, Wagner in *Faust*, Mr. Gedge in *Albert Herring* and the First Priest in *Die Zauberflöte* (Portland Opera), Prince Yamadori in *Madama Butterfly* (Utah Opera), Betto in *Gianni Schicchi*, and Oliver Hix in *The Music Man* (Chautauqua Opera), Sharpless in *Madama Butterfly* (Stockton Opera), Jon Sorel in *The Consul* (Bronx Opera), Don Giovanni and Somarone in *Beatrice et Benedict* (Manhattan School of Music). His interests in German Lieder and other types of art song as well as concert music have led him to be an active recitalist and concert singer. He has performed as the soloist in Händel's *Messiah* (Utah Symphony), Cimarosa's *Maestro di Cappella* (Walla Walla Symphony) and has performed as a recitalist in various venues throughout the United States. Mr. Clayton received a Master's Degree and Professional Studies Certificate at the Manhattan School of Music where he studied with Maitland Peters. Mr. Clayton has participated in numerous masterclasses with artists such as Lauren

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Flanigan, Catherine Malfitano, Bo Skovus, and Martin Katz. Prior to his studies at the Manhattan School, he received Bachelor's degrees in Vocal Performance and Mechanical Engineering from the University of Utah.

**Tom Corbeil** (performing the role of Colline in *La Bohème*), bass-baritone, has recently garnered attention across North America for his vocal presence and stagecraft. The San Diego native is an alumnus of studio programs at such companies as Santa Fe Opera, Florida Grand Opera, Palm Beach Opera, and the Merola Opera Program at San Francisco Opera, where he created the role of Tom Carter in the world premiere of Thomas Pasatieri's *The Hotel Casablanca*. Other roles include Colline (*La Bohème*), Figaro (*Le nozze di Figaro*), Mustafa (*L'Italiana in Algeri*), Angelotti (*Tosca*), Superintendent Budd (*Albert Herring*), Crespel (*Les Contes d'Hoffmann*), Sprecher (*Die Zauberflöte*), and Captain Corcoran (*H.M.S. Pinafore*). Mr. Corbeil has also won several prizes from the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, The Liederkrantz Foundation, and the Musical Merit Foundation. Mr. Corbeil started the 2009 Season at Gotham Chamber Opera as Enrico in Haydn's rarely performed opera *L'isola disabitata*. Other engagements include Colline in *La Bohème* at Opera Omaha, Don Basilio in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* at Florida Grand Opera, Faraone in Rossini's *Mose in Egitto* at Chicago Opera Theater, Leporello in *Don Giovanni* at Fort Worth Opera Festival, and a return to Santa Fe Opera this summer, where he will perform as the Marquis in *La Traviata* and the Oracle and Infernal god in Gluck's *Alceste*.

The Sacramento Opera's 2008-2009 Season is sponsored by the generosity of the James Irvine Foundation, Raley's Family of Fine Stores, Barbara K. Jackson, the County and City of Sacramento's Cultural Arts Award administered by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, and the Residence Inn Sacramento Downtown at Capitol Park.

*La Bohème* Production Sponsor: Joe & Dee Hartzog; Production Co-Sponsor: Neil & Joanne Bodine and Douglas & Sylvia Enoch.

The mission of the Sacramento Opera is to produce outstanding opera, to develop and cultivate a wider public interest in opera and its allied arts, and to further music education in the region.

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