



SACRAMENTO OPERA NEWS RELEASE

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SACRAMENTO OPERA

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SACRAMENTO OPERA ARTISTIC DIRECTOR TIMM ROLEK PRESENTS FREE OPERA TALK ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 AT 7 PM

(Sacramento, CA 1/30/09) **Sacramento Opera Artistic Director Timm Rolek presents an Opera Talk about Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* on Tuesday, February 17, 2009, 7 pm at Sherman Clay Pianos, 771 Pleasant Grove Blvd, Suite 150, Roseville, CA 95678.** This Opera Talk features Timm Rolek's entertaining introduction to the Sacramento Opera's production of *The Marriage of Figaro*. The Opera Talk includes a live performance from **soprano Carrie Hennessey**. Admission is free. For more information, call 916.737.1000 or visit www.sacopera.org. For information about the Sherman Clay Pianos location, call 916.771.0808.

Carrie Hennessey made her debut with the Sacramento Opera as Edith in *The Pirates of Penzance*. She will sing the role of Barbarina in the company's February production of *The Marriage of Figaro*. A transplant to the Sacramento area from Minneapolis, Ms. Hennessey also recently made her debut with members of the Sacramento Philharmonic in Heitor Villa-Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5 for Voice and Eight Cellos*. For the past year and a half she has had the privilege to tour with the Minneapolis based theatre company Theatre de la Jeune Lune in the opera fusion productions of *Don Juan Giovanni* and *Figaro* under the direction of Dominique Serrand. During this time she has had the opportunity to perform these innovative and collaborative productions at esteemed theaters around the country; including both the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge, MA and the Berkeley Repertory Theatre in Berkeley. Ms. Hennessey is a graduate of the University of MN, Morris. In her years there, she was a two-time winner of the Minnesota/Wisconsin District Metropolitan Opera Auditions, both times receiving special awards in the Regional Competition. Ms. Hennessey has spent much time developing, premiering, and performing original art songs, operatic and theatrical works of composer Hiram Titus since 2003. Their most exciting collaboration is the release of Carrie's debut CD *A Prelude to Summer*, available through her website carriehennessey.com. This recording premieres performances of song cycles featuring off-beat Mother Goose rhymes and the ecstatic and mystical poetry of the Carmelite Monk, St. John of the Cross.

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, and the County and City of Sacramento's Cultural Arts Award administered by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission.

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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