

John Adams

NIXON IN CHINA

San Diego Civic Theatre
March 14, 17, 20, 22, 2015

Conductor
Joseph Mechavich

Director
James Robinson*

Set Designer
Allen Moyer

Costume Designer
James Schuette*

Lighting Designer
Paul Palazzo*

Sound Designer
Brian Mohr*

Choreographer
Seán Curran

Associate Choreographer
Nora Brickman*

Wig & Makeup Designer
Steven W. Bryant

Chorus Master
Charles Prestinari

Principal Pianist
Emily Jarrell Urbanek

Production Stage Manager
Mary Yankee Peters

Supertitles
Roxanne Stouffer Cruz*

Supertitle Coordinators
Charles Arthur
Marian Porter

* San Diego Opera Debut

CAST:
(in order of vocal appearance)

<i>Chou En-Lai</i>	Chen-ye Yuan*
<i>Richard Nixon</i>	Franco Pomponi*
<i>Henry Kissinger</i>	Patrick Carfizzi*
<i>1st Secretary to Mao</i>	Sarah Castle
<i>2nd Secretary to Mao</i>	Buffy Baggott*
<i>3rd Secretary to Mao</i>	Jennifer DeDominici*
<i>Mao Tse-Tung</i>	Chad Shelton*
<i>Pat Nixon</i>	Maria Kanyova*
<i>Madame Mao</i>	Kathleen Kim

SETTING:
February 1972 Beijing, China

ACT 1

Scene 1

The airport outside Beijing

Scene 2

Chairman Mao's study

Scene 3

The Great Hall of the People

20 Minute Intermission

ACT II

Scene 1

Mrs. Nixon views China

Scene 2

An evening at the Beijing Opera

ACT III

Scene 1

The last evening in Beijing

This production of *Nixon in China* is dedicated to a special consortium of generous donors.

San Diego Opera is pleased to recognize **Nuvasive, QUALCOMM** and **Courtney Ann Coyle, Attorney at Law** as our Corporate Producing Partners for *Nixon in China*.

Sincere thanks also go to **Sycuan Casino**, Phone Etiquette Sponsor and **Point Loma Nazarene University**, Supertitles Sponsor.

The running time is approximately three hours, including one intermission.

Libretto by Alice Goodman. First performance at Houston Grand Opera on October 22, 1987. Production courtesy of Houston Grand Opera.

Cast subject to change. By arrangement with Hendon Music, Inc., a Boosey & Hawkes company, publisher and copyright owner.

Microphones are used in this production for sound enhancement, as envisioned and directed by the composer. Microphones are also used for a radio re-broadcast on March 21 at 8:00pm on KPBS 89.5FM, 89.1FM La Jolla, 97.7FM Imperial Valley or at kpbs.org.

**CHARLES F. PRESTINARI***Chorus Master*

San Diego Opera: *The Pearl Fishers* (Acting Chorus Master, 2008); *Turandot* (Acting Chorus Master, 2011); 2012 – current, Chorus Master.

Recent: 2004-2007, Assistant Chorus Master (New York City Opera); 2007-2012, Chorus Master (New York City Opera)

**JAMES ROBINSON***Director*

Company debut. Recent: *Alice in Wonderland*, *Champion*, *The Golden Ticket*, *The Ghosts of Versailles*, *The Death of Klinghoffer* and *Nixon in China* (Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Artistic Director), *Dolores Claiborne* (San Francisco Opera), *Dr. Sun Yat-sen* (Santa Fe Opera), productions at New York City Opera, Santa Fe Opera, Houston

Grand Opera, Washington National Opera, Welsh National Opera, Canadian Opera Company, San Francisco Opera, Seattle Opera.

**JAMES SCHUETTE***Costume Designer*

Company debut. Recent: *Dolores Claiborne* (San Francisco Opera), *Alice in Wonderland*, *Nixon in China*, *The Death of Klinghoffer* (Opera Theatre of St. Louis), *Norma* (Washington National Opera), *Carmen* (Glimmerglass Opera), *Hot L Baltimore*, *The March*, *The Brother/Sister Plays* (Steppenwolf Theatre), *Sweet Bird of Youth* (Goodman

Theatre), *Civil War Christmas* (New York Theatre Workshop), *The Trojan Women* (Brooklyn Academy of Music Next Wave Festival), *Superior Donuts* (Broadway).

Nixon in China CHORUS**SOPRANOS**

Erica Austin
Renee Calvo
Emma-Grace Dunbar
Lisa Austin Frisque*
Cherylyn Larson+
Anishka E. Lee-Skorepa*
Patricia McAfee+
Amy Mein
Maren Severtson
Rebecca Steinke

ALTOS

Mary Boles Allen
Rebecca Basilio
Laura Bueno

Sandra Camarena+
Tiffany Carmel*
Rita Cantos Cartwright+
Ava Baker Liss+
Lois Myers+
Lynsey Swiderski
Elena Vizuet+

TENORS

James Boydston+
Chad Frisque*
Richard Geiler*
Garrett Harris+
Nick Munson*
Timothy Simpson
Enrique Toral

Joshua Steven Vincent
Dennis Williams

BASSES

Anthony Ballard+
Bernardo Bermudez
Joseph Grienemberger#
Ron Hilley
David Marshman+
James Schindler
Jeffrey L. Shipman#
Harold Skelly+
Christopher James Stephens+

Nixon in China DANCERS**Principal Dancers**

Julio Catano-Yee
Khamla Somphanh

Corps Dancers

Ellen Akashi
Stephanie Harvey
Justin Viernes
Jeremy Zapanta



Artists and Production Staff are members of the American Guild of Musical Artists, AFL-CIO, the labor union that represents musical artists in opera, concert, and dance in the United States.

* Has appeared in 25 or more productions with San Diego Opera Chorus

+ Has appeared in 50 or more productions with San Diego Opera Chorus

Has appeared in 100 or more productions with San Diego Opera Chorus

**Nixon in China
SUPERNUMERARIES**

Alena Herranen
Ana Kovacevic
Hermione Lu
Henry Nelson
Neil Podvin
Ginny Uyeno-Bridy
Peggy Yamamoto
Ethan Ying

**AFTERGLOW** San Diego Opera's AFTER-OPERA LOUNGE

After the opera, stay for a **Talk-Back** with San Diego Opera insiders, crew and cast. Once the curtain goes down, we'll have a few minutes to grab a drink or visit the restroom, then we'll reconvene in the Dress Circle to ask questions and hear insider information on what really happened at your opera performance. Or just grab a post-opera cocktail and snack in the Beverly Sills Salon to round out your evening.

Musicians for this production are members of the San Diego Symphony Orchestra

SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Jahja Ling, Music Director

VIOLIN

Jeff Thayer[^]
Concertmaster
DEBORAH PATE AND
JOHN FORREST CHAIR
 Jisun Yang
Acting Principal
Associate Concertmaster
 Wesley Precourt
Acting Associate
Principal I
 Alexander Palamidis
Principal II
 Jing Yan
Acting Associate
Principal II
 Nick Grant
Principal Associate
Concertmaster Emeritus
 Randall Brinton
 Yumi Cho
 Hernan Constantino
 Alicia Engley
 Pat Francis
 Kathryn Hatmaker
 Angela Homnick
 Mei Ching Huang[^]
 Ai Nihira^{*}
 Igor Pandurski
 Julia Pautz
 Susan Robboy
 Shigeko Sasaki
 Yeh Shen
 Anna Skálová
 Edmund Stein
 John Stubbs
 Pei-Chun Tsai
 Joan Zelickman

VIOLA

Chi-Yuan Chen
Principal
KAREN AND WARREN
KESSLER CHAIR
 Nancy Lochner
Associate Principal
 Rebekah Campbell
 Jason Karlyn^{*}
 Wanda Law
 Qing Liang
 Thomas Morgan
 Adam Neeley^{*}
 AJ Nilles[^]
 Dorothy Zeavin

CELLO

Yao Zhao
Principal
 Chia-Ling Chien
Associate Principal
 Marcia Bookstein
 Glen Campbell
 Richard Levine
 Ronald Robboy
 Mary Oda Szanto
 Jian Wang^{*}
 Xian Zhuo

BASS

Jeremy Kurtz-Harris
Principal
SOPHIE AND
ARTHUR BRODY
FOUNDATION CHAIR
 Susan Wulff
Associate Principal
 W. Gregory Berton
 Samuel Hager

Jory Herman
 Margaret Johnston+
 Michael Wais

FLUTE

Rose Lombardo, *Principal*
 Sarah Tuck
 Diana Morgan^{*}

PICCOLO

Diana Morgan^{*}

OBOE

Sarah Skuster, *Principal*
 Andrea Overturf

ENGLISH HORN

Andrea Overturf
DR. WILLIAM AND
EVELYN LAMDEN
ENGLISH HORN CHAIR

CLARINET

Sheryl Renk, *Principal*
 Theresa Tunnicliff
 Frank Renk

BASS CLARINET

Frank Renk

BASSOON

Valentin Martchev, *Principal*
 Ryan Simmons
 Leyla Zamora

CONTRABASSOON

Leyla Zamora

HORN

Benjamin Jaber, *Principal*
 Darby Hinshaw
Assistant Principal &
Utility

Danielle Kuhlmann
 Tricia Skye
 Douglas Hall

TRUMPET

Micah Wilkinson
Principal
 John MacFerran Wilds
 Ray Nowak

TROMBONE

Kyle R. Covington
Principal
 George Johnston
 Richard Gordon+
 Michael Priddy

BASS TROMBONE

Michael Priddy

TUBA

Matthew Garbutt
Principal

HARP

Julie Smith Phillips
Principal

TIMPANI

Ryan J. DiLisi, *Principal*
 Andrew Watkins
Assistant Principal

PERCUSSION

Gregory Cohen, *Principal*
 Erin Douglas Dowrey
 Andrew Watkins

PIANO/CELESTE

Mary Barranger

ORCHESTRA

PERSONNEL MANAGER
 Magdalena O'Neill

ASSISTANT

PERSONNEL MANAGER
 Douglas Hall

PRINCIPAL LIBRARIAN

Courtney Secoy Cohen

LIBRARIAN

Rachel Fields

[^]On Leave

^{*} Long Term

Substitute Musician

+ Staff Opera Musician

The musicians employed by the San Diego Symphony are members of the Musicians' Association of San Diego County, Local 325, American Federation of Musicians, AFL-CIO.

2014-2015 SEASON ARTISTS

SOPRANOS

Alyson Cambridge
 Emily Fons
 Ellie Dehn
 Sarah Gartland
 Maria Kanyova
 Kathleen Kim
 Lise Lindstrom
 Emily Magee
 Myrtò Papatanasui
 Ailyn Pérez
 Abigail Santos Villalobos

MEZZO SOPRANOS

Buffy Baggott
 Stephanie Blythe
 Sarah Castle
 Vanessa Cerda-Alonzo
 Marianne Cornetti

Jennifer DeDominici

TENORS

Paul Appleby
 René Barbera
 Stephen Costello
 Sebastien de la Cruz
 (Boy Tenor)
 Chad Frisque
 Harold Meers
 Daniel Montenegro
 Chad Shelton
 Enrique Toral

BARITONES

Bernardo Bermudez
 Ildebrando D'Arcangelo
 Paul La Rosa
 Luis Ledesma

Malcolm MacKenzie
 Franco Pomponi
 Stephen Powell
 Morgan Smith
 Ricardo Rivera
 Chen-Ye Yuan

BASSES

Patrick Carfizzi
 Reinhard Hagen
 Kristopher Irmiter
 Ashraf Sewailam
 Scott Sikon
 Christopher James Stephens
 Christian Van Horn

CONDUCTORS

Daniele Callegari
 Karen Kamensek

Karen Keltner
 Joseph Mechavich

DIRECTORS

Isabella Bywater
 Leonard Foglia
 Nicholas Muni
 James Robinson

SCENERY DESIGNERS

Isabella Bywater
 Elaine McCarthy
 Allen Moyer
 Nicholas Muni

COSTUME DESIGNERS

David Burdick
 Isabella Bywater
 Scott Marr

James Schuette

LIGHTING DESIGNERS

Thomas C. Hase
 Christopher Maravich
 Paul Palazzo

CHOREOGRAPHERS

Nora Brickman
 Seán Curran

PIANISTS

Dorothy Randall, *Principal*
 Emily Jarrell Urbanek,
Principal
 Gabriel Arregui
 Danielle Orlando
 Craig Terry

**BUFFY BAGGOTT**

(Soprano) 2nd Secretary to Mao

Company debut. Recent: Gertrude, *Hansel and Gretel*; Perfetta, *Where Angels Fear to Tread* (San Jose Opera); Carmen, Carmen; The Schoolboy, *Lulu*; Stephano, *Romeo and Juliette*; Dryade, *Ariadne auf Naxos*; Flora, *La traviata*; 2nd Lady / 3rd Lady, *The Magic Flute*; Siegrune, *Die Walküre*; Mrs. Hayes, *Susannah* (Lyric Opera of Chicago), Hennakh, *Between Two Worlds* (The Dybbuk) (Lyric

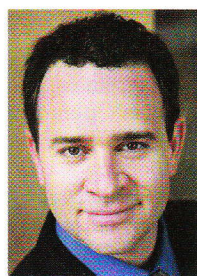
Opera Center), Mrs. Lovett, *Sweeney Todd* (Spokane Opera), Cherubino, *The Marriage of Figaro*; Siegrune, *Die Walküre*; Siebel, *Faust* (Hawaii Opera Theater). buffybaggett.com

**SARAH CASTLE**

(Mezzo Soprano) 1st Secretary to Mao

Company appearances: Cherubino, *The Marriage of Figaro*, 2007, Lola, *Cavalleria rusticana*; Stephano, *Romeo and Juliet*; Siebel, *Faust*. Recent: Flosshilde, *Götterdämmerung* (Opera North), Marco, *Marco Polo* (Netherlands Opera), Cherubino, *The Marriage of Figaro* (Seattle Opera), Fox, *The Cunning Little Vixen* (Israeli Opera), Nicklausse, *The Tales of*

Hoffmann (Teatro Real), Hansel, *Hansel and Gretel*; Ruggiero, *Alcina* (Opera Australia), Prince Orlovsky, *Die Fledermaus* (Opera Company of Philadelphia). robertgilder.co/sarah-castle

**PATRICK CARFIZZI**

(Baritone) Henry Kissinger

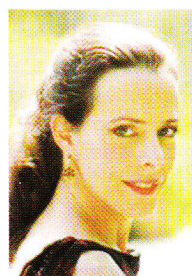
Company Debut. Recent: Paolo, *Simon Boccanegra* (San Francisco Opera), Brander, *La damnation de Faust* (Metropolitan Opera), Nourabad, *The Pearl Fishers* (Seattle Opera), Taddeo, *The Italian Girl in Algiers* (The Dallas Opera), Dr. Bartolo, *The Barber of Seville* (Canadian Opera Company), Schaunard, *La bohème*; the Mandarin, *Turandot*; Masetto,

Don Giovanni; Haly, *The Italian Girl in Algiers*; Peter Quince, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Metropolitan Opera), Talbot, *Maria Stuarda* (Canadian Opera Company), Masetto, *Don Giovanni* (Tanglewood Music Festival), Don Magnifico, *La Cenerentola* (Houston Grand Opera), Frank, *Die Fledermaus* (Seattle Opera), Leporello, *Don Giovanni* (Minnesota Opera), Dr. Bartolo, *The Barber of Seville* (Opera Theatre of Saint Louis). patrickcarfizzi.net

**JENNIFER DEDOMINICI**(Mezzo Soprano)
3rd Secretary to Mao

Company debut. Recent: Carmen, *Carmen* (Opera Theatre of the Rockies, Opera Fort Collins), Nellie Forbush, *South Pacific* (Piedmont Opera), Hattie Walker, *Follies* (Opera Fort Collins), Siebel, *Faust* (Indianapolis Opera), Feklusha, *Katya Kabanova* (Santa Fe Opera), Clotilde,

Norma; Hansel, *Hansel and Gretel*; Rosina, *The Barber of Seville*; 2nd Lady, *The Magic Flute* (Opera Colorado).

jenniferdedominici.com**MARIA KANYOVA**

(Soprano) Pat Nixon

Company debut. Recent: Blanche, *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Kentucky Opera), Miriam, *The Gospel of Mary Magdalene* (San Francisco Opera), Pat Nixon, *Nixon in China* (San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Canadian Opera Company, Opera Colorado, Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Chicago Opera Theatre, Ravinia Festival), Violetta, *La traviata* (Lyric Opera

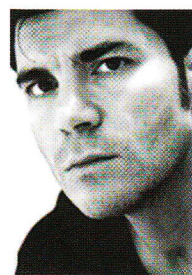
of Chicago, New York City Opera, Portland Opera, Utah Opera), Mimi, *La bohème* (New York City Opera, Houston Grand Opera The Dallas Opera), Cio-Cio San, *Madama Butterfly* (Lyric Opera of Chicago, New Orleans Opera, Tulsa Opera, Madison Opera, Central City Opera).

**KATHLEEN KIM**

(Soprano) Madame Mao Tse-Tung

Company appearances: Oscar, *A Masked Ball*, 2014. Recent: Zerbinetta, *Ariadne auf Naxos* (Oper Frankfurt), Oscar, *A Masked Ball* (Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago), Madame Mao Tse-Tung, *Nixon in China*; Zerbinetta, *Ariadne auf Naxos*; Olympia, *The Tales of Hoffmann*; Papagena, *The Magic Flute* (Metropolitan Opera), The Queen of the Night, *The Magic Flute*

(Bayerische Staatsoper, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Atlanta Opera).

kathleenkim.com**FRANCO POMPONI**

(Baritone) Richard Nixon

Company debut. Recent: Jack Rance, *The Girl of the Golden West* (Kentucky Opera), Pentheus, *The Bassarids*; Richard Nixon, *Nixon in China*; Sweeney Todd, *Sweeney Todd*; Carbon, *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Théâtre du Châtelet), Hamlet, *Hamlet* (Gran Teatro del Liceu, Opéra de Marseille), Don Giovanni, *Don Giovanni* (The Bolshoi Opera, Opéra Nationale Montpellier, Greek

National Opera), Ford, *Falstaff* (Santa Fe Opera, The Canadian Opera Company), Escamillo, *Carmen* (New York City Opera, The Los Angeles Opera, Florida Grand Opera), Schaunard, *La bohème*; Count Dominik, *Arabella*; Presto, *Les Mamelles de Tirésias* (Metropolitan Opera), Malatesta, *Don Pasquale* (Lyric Opera of Chicago). francopomponi.com

**CHAD SHELTON**

(Tenor) Mao Tse-Tung

Company debut. Recent: Froh, *Das Rheingold*; Alfredo, *La traviata*; Don Jose, *Carmen*; Pinkerton, *Madama Butterfly*; Camille, *The Merry Widow*; Janek, *The Makropolous Case*; Tamino, *The Magic Flute*; Capitan Vere, *Billy Budd*; Nemorino, *The Elixir of Love*; Nico, *Lysistrata*; Laurie, *Little Women*; Ulises, *Salsipuedes*; Arcadio, *Florencia en el Amazonas* (Houston Grand

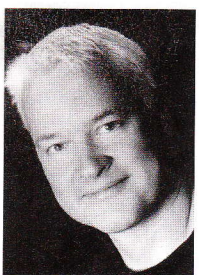
Opera), Idomeneo, *Idomeneo: King of Crete*; Giasone, *Medea*; Don Jose, *Carmen*; Jack, *The Importance of Being Earnest*; Lysander, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; Tamino, *The Magic Flute*; Guido Bardi, *Eine florentinische Tragödie* (Opéra National de Lorraine). chadshelton.com

**CHEN-YE YUAN**

(Baritone) Chou En-Lai

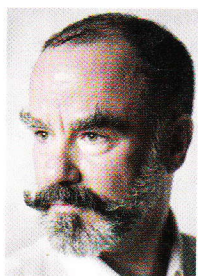
Company debut. Recent: Tonio, *Pagliacci*; Escamillo, *Carmen*; Marcello, *La bohème*; Bhaer, *Little Women* (Houston Grand Opera), Germont, *La traviata*; Chou En-Lai, *Nixon in China* (San Francisco Opera), Mr. Umey, *Dr. Sun Yat-sen* (Santa Fe Opera), Michele, *Il Tabarro*; Schicchi, *Gianni Schicchi* (Opera Carolina), Germont, *La traviata* (Shanghai Summer Music

Festival), Seikyo, *Tea: A Mirror of Soul* (Vancouver Opera).

**STEVEN W. BRYANT**

Wig & Makeup Designer

San Diego Opera: 1985 *Peter Grimes*, debut; 2006 – current, Wig and Makeup Designer. Recent: Santa Fe Opera, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, New York City Opera, The Dallas Opera, Teatro Colon, Royal Opera (Oman). World Premieres: Leonard Bernstein's *A Quiet Place*, Tobias Picker's *Emmeline*, Tom Pasatieri's *Frau Margot* (costume design). Broadway: Julie Taymor's *Green Bird* and Styne's *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*.

**SEÁN CURRAN**

Choreographer

Company appearances: *Salome* (director), 2012. Recent: *Salome* (director - San Francisco Opera, Opera Theatre of St. Louis) *Nixon in China*, *Street Scene* (director - Opera Theatre of St. Louis), *L'Etoile*, *Alcina*, *Turandot*, *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* (choreographer - New York City Opera), Artistic Director (Seán Curran Dance Company). seancurrancompany.com

**JOSEPH MECHAVICH**

Conductor

Company appearances: *Moby-Dick*, 2012. Recent: *Wuthering Heights* Recital (Florentine Opera), *Moby-Dick* (Calgary Opera), *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *La bohème*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Carmen* (Kentucky Opera, Music Director), *Romeo and Juliet* (Florida Grand Opera), *Susannah* (The Florentine Opera), *The Barber of Seville* (Washington National

Opera), *Porgy and Bess* (Deutsche Oper Berlin), *Madama Butterfly* (New York City Opera), *La bohème* (Dayton Opera), *Cendrillon* (Aspen Music Festival), *Turandot*, *Madama Butterfly*, *La bohème*, *La traviata*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *The Elixir of Love*, *Aida*, *La Cenerentola*, *The Barber of Seville* (Opera Birmingham).

**BRIAN MOHR**

Sound Designer

Company debut. Recent: *The Death of Klinghoffer*, *A Flowering Tree*, *On the Transmigration of Souls*, *The Dharma at Big Sur*, *Ainadamar* (sound design); *Doctor Atomic*, *The Gospel According to the Other Mary* (assistant sound design); Kronos Quartet, Itzhak Perlman, Renee Fleming, Garth Brooks.

**ALLEN MOYER**

Set Design

Company appearances: *Così fan tutte*, 1999. Recent: *Orfeo ed Euridice* (Metropolitan Opera), *Die Fledermaus* (Canadian Opera Company, English National Opera), *The Mother of Us All*, *Il Trittico*, *La bohème* (New York City Opera), *The Grapes of Wrath* (Minnesota Opera), *The Count of Monte Cristo* (Theater St. Gallen), *The Tales of Hoffmann*, *Falstaff*, *Aggripina* (Santa Fe Opera), *Carmen* (Seattle Opera), *Grey Gardens*, *Lysistrata Jones*, *The Lyons*, *After Miss Julie*, *Thurgood*, *Little Dog Laughed*, *In My Life*, *Twelve Angry Men*, *The Constant Wife*, *Reckless*, *The Man Who Had All the Luck*, *A Thousand Clowns* (Broadway). allenmoyerdesign.com

**PAUL PALAZZO**

Lighting Designer

Company debut. Recent: *Entführung aus dem Serail*, *Don Pasquale* (Houston Grand Opera), *Eugene Onegin*, *Rigoletto* (Boston Lyric Opera), *La bohème* (Opera Colorado), *Nixon in China*, *The Barber of Seville*, *Il trovatore*, *Tosca* (Minnesota Opera), *Nabucco* (The Dallas Opera), *Hansel and Gretel* (Los Angeles Opera), *Twelve Angry Men* (Broadway), *The Elixir of Love*, *La bohème* (Opera Colorado).