



**MEROLA OPERA PROGRAM PRESENTS**

**IL RE PASTORE**

**July 19 and 21 in San Francisco**

**WHAT:** San Francisco's acclaimed **Merola Opera Program** continues its 61<sup>st</sup> season, presenting the stars of tomorrow with Mozart's *Il re pastore*. This exquisite early work featuring a string of thrilling arias explores the competing pulls of love and duty, as a young shepherd finds he must renounce his true love in order to reclaim his lost throne. Performances will be conducted by Stephen Stubbs, a leading figure in the American early music scene and winner of a Grammy Award for Best Opera Recording in 2015 for Charpentier: *La descente d'Orphée aux enfers*, and directed by Tara Faircloth (Merola 2006), who has directed two world premieres with the Houston Grand Opera's East+West series. Merola is one of the most prestigious and selective opera training programs in the world, featuring 29 artists selected from more than 800 international applicants.

**WHEN:** **7:30pm, Thursday, July 19**  
**2:00pm, Saturday, July 21**

**SHOWS:** San Francisco Conservatory of Music, 50 Oak St., San Francisco

**TICKETS:** \$55-\$80

Discount available for purchase of three San Francisco-based Summer Festival productions (deadline June 18, 2018). Also discount for groups of 10 or more. \$15 student tickets available in limited quantity in advance at San Francisco Opera Box Office.

**INFO:** For information or to order tickets visit <http://merola.org> or call the San Francisco Opera Box Office at **415-864-3330**. The box office is open Monday, 10am-5pm, and Tuesday through Friday, 10am-6pm.

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**PHOTOS:** Downloadable high-res photos are available here:  
<http://www.cbpr.co/press/MerolaOperaProgram>