



MEROLA OPERA PROGRAM PRESENTS
THE RAKE'S PROGRESS

August 2 and 4 in San Francisco

WHAT: San Francisco's acclaimed **Merola Opera Program**, one of the most prestigious and selective opera training programs in the world, offers audiences a look at the opera stars of tomorrow. The program's 61st season continues with a lively, fully-staged production of *The Rake's Progress*. Based loosely on the eponymous eight paintings and engravings by William Hogarth (1733-1735), Stravinsky's dramatic opera follows the decline and fall of a profligate heir who makes a devil's bargain with Nick Shadow, abandoning life in the country and his tender fiancée for the wicked temptations of London.

The Rake's Progress will be conducted by Mark Morash (Merola 1987), currently the Director of Musical Studies at the San Francisco Opera Center. It will be directed by film and opera director Robin Guarino, who has staged lauded productions at the Metropolitan Opera, Seattle Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, Julliard Opera Center, and many more.

WHEN: 7:30pm, Thursday, August 2
2:00pm, Saturday, August 4

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 will be available here:
<http://www.cbpr.co/press/MerolaOperaProgram>