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PRESS & PHOTO CONTACTS:

Karla Avila, 415.503.6211

kra@sfc.edu or

Lisa Petrie, 415.503.6265

lep@sfc.edu or

SAN FRANCISCO CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC OPERA THEATRE PRESENTS
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Professionally staged production of Benjamin Britten's exotic work with libretto from Shakespeare's original comedic masterpiece

SAN FRANCISCO, February 28, 2007: The San Francisco Conservatory of Music Opera Theatre will present Benjamin Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, April 12-15, 2007 at Fort Mason Center's Cowell Theater. Sung in English with English supertitles, performances will be held Thursday-Saturday, April 12-14, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, April 15, at 2:00 p.m.

An Eastern twist on a timeless tale...

Inspired by the Eastern influence on Benjamin Britten's colorful score, The Conservatory Opera Theatre's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, one of Shakespeare's most popular comedies, is uniquely set "once upon a time in the Far East", with enchanted young lovers, sprightly Siamese fairies, and roguish Ottoman mortals. Exotic music—sparkling with magic and the mystery of illusion, both blissful and haunting—makes this opera a truly fantastic dream come to life.

The production is directed by Conservatory Opera Theatre Director **Richard Harrell**, former director of the San Francisco Opera Center, The Juilliard Opera Center and artistic advisor for the Opera Training Program of the New National Theatre in Tokyo, and conducted by **Andrew Mogrelia**, music director of the Conservatory Orchestra and former music director of the San Francisco Ballet, with musical direction by **Kathryn Cathcart**, longtime music director of the Conservatory Opera Theatre and associate of the San Francisco Opera and Opera Center. Set design is by **Jean Francois Revon**, costume design by **Alexae Visel** and choreography by Heather Carolo, Assistant Director of the Conservatory Opera Program.

(more)

SFCM Opera Theatre Presents *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

SFCM students are double cast in the principal roles:

Oberon:	Kali Wilson	Jennifer Nadig
Tytania:	Jennie Litster	Madeline Cieslak
Puck:	Kate Smith	Laura Pyper
Lysander:	Pedro Betancourt	Eric Theriault
Demetrius:	Adam Meza	Alvin Tan
Helena:	Kaileen Miller	Jessica Hatley
Hermia:	Crystal Philippi	Jenna Yokoyama

An integral part of the Conservatory's collegiate program, Opera Theatre draws exceptionally talented young singers from around the world and provides them with advanced training in voice, acting, stage movement and other essentials of operatic craft. Recent operas have included *Marriage of Figaro*, *Cendrillon*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *The Old Maid and The Thief*, *The Coronation of Poppea*, *Albert Herring*, *Tales of Hoffman*, and *Hansel and Gretel*.

Recognized as one of the premier music schools in the world, the San Francisco Conservatory of Music offers music instruction to more than 1,300 students annually through its Collegiate, Preparatory, and Adult Extension divisions and summer programs, and its students and faculty present more than 1,600 public performances each year. In September 2006, the Conservatory relocated to its spectacular new teaching, performance, rehearsal and practice facility at 50 Oak Street in San Francisco's Civic Center, providing students, faculty and the Bay Area community with access to world-class musical resources in the heart of San Francisco's performing arts community. For more information, please visit www.sfcm.edu.

EVENT INFORMATION:

WHAT: San Francisco Conservatory of Music Opera Theater. Richard Harrell, Director; Andrew Mogrelia, Conductor

PROGRAM: Benjamin Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (in English with supertitles)

WHEN: April 12-14, 7:30 p.m.; April 15, 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center

TICKETS: \$20 general admission/\$15 students, seniors, *Friends of the Conservatory* and *Friends of Fort Mason*.

INFO: Call 415.345.7575 to order tickets. For more information visit www.sfcm.edu. **Photo available** in high resolution upon request.