

**SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY
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NEWS

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Tickets on sale for San Diego Symphony's Season-Opening Gala, *Opus 2011: "A Night in Paris"*

***Soprano Kathleen Battle and pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet
grace the stage as the Symphony kicks off its 2011-2012 season***

On Saturday, October 1, the San Diego Symphony's 2011-2012 season officially gets underway with two internationally acclaimed powerhouse performers: soprano **Kathleen Battle** and French pianist **Jean Yves Thibaudet**. Battle's luminous voice has been called "...without qualification, one of the very few most beautiful in the world" (*The Washington Post*). And Thibaudet has been hailed as "one of the best pianists in the world" who continues to captivate with his profound artistry and dazzling technical prowess. Conducted by the Symphony's music director **Jahja Ling**, the repertoire will include Gabriel Fauré's Piano Quartet No. 1, Maurice Ravel's *Boléro* along with selections for voice and piano with Kathleen Battle and Jean-Yves Thibaudet.

Concert at Symphony Hall; festivities at The University Club

The Symphony's black-tie gala, *Opus 2011 – "A Night in Paris"* promises to be an evening of elegance and celebration. In keeping with the theme, the gala will feature French menu items and touches of French décor. Guests are also encouraged to add a French accent to their attire if they would like. The pre- and post-concert activities include an early evening cocktail party sponsored by **Van Cleef & Arpels** followed by a

seated dinner at the recently-remodeled University Club atop Symphony Towers with sweeping panoramic views of the city and beyond. After dinner, guests will head downstairs to Copley Symphony Hall for the concert. And then following the concert, gala attendees ascend to The University Club for the post-concert party which includes dessert, dancing, an open bar and games of chance.

Ticket information; proceeds to benefit music education

Opus 2011 is the centerpiece fundraiser for San Diego Symphony's education and outreach programs which serves more than 53,000 students throughout San Diego County. Tickets for the gala begin at \$250 which includes the concert and post-concert party. Tickets to the cocktail reception, dinner, concert and post-concert party are \$1,250 or \$12,500 for a table of 10. There are also \$2,500 and \$5,000 price levels that include preferred seating, VIP seating, sponsorship recognition or a private, post-concert reception with Ms. Battle and Mr. Thibaudet. Concert only tickets are \$30-\$80.

As the oldest orchestra in California, San Diego Symphony celebrated its highly successful centennial year throughout this past season. Embarking on the 2011-2012 season, the theme is "Celebrate 100 and Beyond" as the Symphony looks to build an even stronger ensemble and a more vibrant arts resource for all of San Diego.

Joan and Irwin Jacobs are serving as honorary chairs of *Opus 2011*, while **Joyce and Craig Grosvenor** are the chairs of this year's event.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Allison Hooper at 619.237.1960 or ahooper@sandiegosymphony.org.

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Continue for calendar listing information...

Calendar listing information:

San Diego Symphony
Season-Opening Gala: *Opus 2011*

San Diego Symphony
Jahja Ling, conductor
Kathleen Battle, soprano
Jean-Yves Thibaudet, piano

Concert: Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street, downtown San Diego
Pre- and Post-Concert Festivities: The University Club atop Symphony Towers

Saturday, October 1, 2011
Cocktail reception: 5 p.m.
Dinner: 6 p.m.
Concert: 8 p.m.
Post-Concert Festivities: 9:30 p.m.

***Opus 2011* gala tickets to benefit the Symphony's education and outreach programs:
\$250; \$1,250; \$2,500; \$5,000; \$12,500 (table of 10). Concert only tickets: \$30-\$80.
Gala tickets: 619.237.1960
Concert only tickets: 619.235.0804**

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