



SEATTLE OPERA  
SPEIGHT JENKINS GENERAL DIRECTOR

## NEWS

### **Wells Fargo Stagecoach Arrives May 23 At McCaw Hall In Time for Seattle Opera's Family Matinee at the Opera And Puccini's *Girl of the Golden West***

An authentic Wells Fargo stagecoach will be stationed at Marion Oliver McCaw Hall on Sunday, May 23, as part of the festivities surrounding Seattle Opera's Family Matinee performance of Puccini's opera *The Girl of the Golden West*.

"Getting a first-hand look at our historic stagecoach is the perfect complement to a special viewing of *The Girl of the Golden West*," said Jim Kerr, regional manager for Wells Fargo Private Client Services in Washington. "Like Mark Twain said, it was an 'imposing cradle on wheels.'"

The Wells Fargo stagecoach is an exact replica of the original Abbot-Downing Concord stagecoaches used by Wells Fargo to transport people and goods throughout the West during the 19th century.

The Wells Fargo stagecoach arrive at 10:30 a.m. at McCaw Hall and remain there until 6:00 p.m.. Before the performance and during intermissions, families can pose in front of the stagecoach for free souvenir photographs provided by Wells Fargo.

For *The Girl of the Golden West*, Puccini (the composer of *La bohème* and *Madama Butterfly*) translated classic Western themes into grand Italian opera for an action-packed "spaghetti Western." Seattle Opera's remaining performances of *The Girl of the Golden West* are on May 18, 19, 22, and 23, 2004 at McCaw Hall.

### **Family-Friendly Lectures**

Two preparatory lectures, designed for children attending *The Girl of the Golden West*, will be given on Thursday, May 20, at Barnes & Noble, University Village, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, May 22, at McCaw Hall's Nesholm Family Lecture Hall, at 2:00 p.m. Admission is free for these lectures.

(over)

***The Girl of the Golden West (La fanciulla del West)***

Music by Giacomo Puccini

Libretto by Guelfo Civinini and Carlo Zangarini

(based on the play *The Girl of the Golden West* by David Belasco)

Premiere: New York, Metropolitan Opera House, December 10, 1910

Family Matinee, May 23: \$15 for students (These tickets are restricted to students, ages 5 to 18. Limit 4 student tickets per adult ticket ordered)

Remaining Performances: May 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 2004

Approximate running time: 3 hours, including 2 intermissions

All performances in Marion Oliver McCaw Hall

Single Ticket Prices: \$37-\$118

Ticket Office: 206-389-7676/ 800-426-1619

Credit Cards Accepted: American Express, VISA, MasterCard

Online Orders: [www.seattleopera.org](http://www.seattleopera.org)

Production Sponsor: Mayor's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs

Family Matinee Sponsor: Wells Fargo

###

*Founded in 1963, Seattle Opera has developed into one of the leading opera companies in the United States. The company, which currently presents five productions a year, is recognized internationally for its theatrically compelling and musically accomplished performances. Seattle Opera's summer presentations, particularly of Wagner's Ring des Nibelungen, have been acclaimed often and widely as the Pacific Northwest's premier cultural events.*

*Seattle Opera is grateful to the following organizations for their steadfast major institutional support: 4Culture, Bank of America, The Boeing Company, Beethoven/Classical KING FM 98.1, Corporate Council for the Arts/ArtsFund, The James and Sherry Raisbeck Singers' Endowment, Kreielsheimer Foundation, Mayor's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, Microsoft, National Endowment for the Arts, Nesholm Family Foundation, PONCHO, Washington State Arts Commission, Seattle Arts Commission, Seattle Opera Guild, Sherman Clay Pianos, Wallace Foundation. Seattle Opera is a participant in the Seattle Arts Stabilization Project, a joint venture of the Seattle Arts Stabilization Committee and the National Arts Stabilization Fund.*