

BY OLIVIA HSU DECKER,
SANFRANCISCOHOMES.COM; OLIVIA@SANFRANCISCOHOMES.COM

THE FALL IN SAN FRANCISCO, AND ABROAD

The San Francisco Opera celebrated its 90th Season with the Opera Ball 2012's theme *Notte di Spendore* featuring Giuseppe Verdi's high drama *Rigoletto*. It was conducted by music director Nicola Luisotti, and the co-chairs for the evening were Diane Rubin and Cathy MacNaughton. The patron dinner was at the tented Opera Ball Pavilion designed by Robert Fountain in the theme of peacocks, bird cages and orchids. Nearly 1,000 guests enjoyed the dinner catered by Dan McCall. This sold out event raised over \$1 million this year for various San Francisco Opera education funding.

The San Francisco Fall Antiques Show, which provides funding for Enterprise for High School Student, held its annual show with the theme on *Sea Worthy: The Best of Nautical Art and Antiques* and the display of America's Cup at the Opening Gala. Ship models, historic brass telescopes from WWII Japan, and sea view paintings were exhibited among other art and antiques. Craig Lubbock is the Enterprise Board President and BNY Mellon Wealth Management was premier sponsor. Honorary Chairs were Jonny and Malia Moseley, and show co-chairs were Michele Goss and Adrianna Pope Sullivan, along with Designer Circle Chair Suzanne Tucker. This is the most popular Fall event in San Francisco.

The 22nd Monaco Yacht Show in September drew a huge crowd to view the hundreds of mega yachts on display. After this event I could hardly see how the Euro zone is in a economic crisis! The yacht owners and their representatives, savvy brokers, top yacht designers, finest ship-builders, yacht financiers, and their highest net worth clients came together over the four days of intensive meetings and touring of the most spectacular super yachts on display at Port Hercules.

Buyers visited some of the most exclusive yachts ever showcased by top brokers Fraser Yachts, Edminston, Burgess, Camper & Nicholsons and Ocean Independence, just to name a few. Some of the most outstanding super yachts were on display including the new 74-meter Nobiskrug built *Mogambo* (the first sailing yacht ever developed to comply with RINA Green Star class); Rupert Murdoch's 67.2-meter *Vertigo* built by Alloy Yachts; Jim Clark's 90-meter *Athena* built by Royal Huisman (the largest sailing yacht in the world), and the newest "shadow boat" *Garcon* that carries all your sea-going toys like a helicopter, massage therapist, bodyguards, DJ, and supply. Buying a super yacht is one of the ultimate luxury lifestyle items, even though it doesn't make financial sense. But if you are looking for pride of ownership and a sense of satisfaction, go check out this show next September.



1 Olivia Hsu Decker with Ken and Dorothy Paige
2 SF Opera General Director David Gockley and Linda Kemper
3 Christine Belanger with Jeanne Lawrence
4 Suzanne Tucker with Henry Neville of Mallett of London and New York
5 Exterior of the Steinitz booth
6 Dede Wilsey with Marty Shapiro of Finnegan Gallery of Chicago
7 Jim Clark's 90-meter sailing yacht, Athena
8 View of Quai de L'Hirondelle from mast of Athena, and Harbor with views of Hotel de Paris, Hermitage, Casino and Opera House