



The Bob Cole Conservatory of Music OPERA INSTITUTE
proudly presents: Jules Massenet's

Chérubin
April 7, 8, 9

Please silence all electronic mobile devices.

WELCOME!

At the age of sixty-two, Jules Massenet attended Francis de Croisset's boulevard comedy *Chérubin* and was so taken with it that he decided to adapt it as his 17th opera. He called in the seasoned librettist Henri Cain to convert the play into an opera libretto, creating the standard arias, ensembles, and recitatives his audience would expect. The score is a wonderful mixture of Massenet's own idea of the 18th century and the musical language of his day. He quotes his own well-known operas and tips his hat to the musical language of Debussy's impressionism, the rich harmonies of Wagner, and the fluid dialogue of Verdi and Puccini. While the story is only a loose continuation of Beaumarchais' *Marriage of Figaro*, Massenet honors Mozart's setting by casting Cherubino as a mezzo-soprano, thus creating another great operatic 'trouser role.'

It has been a great pleasure to have Eli Villanueva as our guest Stage Director; he has been generous with his time, creative, and extremely supportive of these young artists, many singing their first operatic role. We are grateful to our Design Team as well as to Ted Abenheim and the professional crew he has assembled; they all make very hard work seem effortless!

Finally ... the libretto calls for Ensoleillad to marry the King of Spain. In our version there is no king. We are delighted that faculty violinist Moni Simeonov joins us to contribute a famous tune from another Massenet opera, allowing us – in our own way – to include this narrative turn of events!

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Anglin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping underline.

—David Anglin
Bob Cole Conservatory of Music Opera Institute

The Bob Cole Conservatory of Music
at California State University, Long Beach
and the College of the Arts present:

The Opera Institute's

production of

Jules Massenet's (1842-1912)

Chérubin

Premiere: Opéra de Monte-Carlo (February 14, 1905)

Libretto: Francis de Croisset & Henri Cain

(Sung in French with English supertitles)

April 7-9, 2017 / University Theatre CSULB

Conductors: David Anglin (8pm) / Ioannis Protopapas (2pm)

Stage Director: Eli Villanueva

Production Designer: Yee Eun Nam

Costume Designer: A. Jeffrey Schoenberg

Lighting Designer: Azra King-Abadi

Special Guest: Moni Simeonov—violin

Music and Language Preparation: David Anglin and Brian Farrell

Répétiteurs: Brian Farrell, Guk Hui Han, Chris Luthi

Supertitles provided by *Oparola* © oparola.com

Cast

April 7 & 8 / 8:00pm

Chérubin: Erin Alford

Le Philosophe: Andrew Konopak

L'Ensoleillad: Kali Hardwick

Nina: Saane Halaholo

Le Comte: Stefan Jevtic

La Comtesse: Emily Bosetti

Le Baron: John Carroll

La Baronne: Kaylee Lackman

Le Duc: Blake Larson

Ricardo: Jonathan Knauer

L'Aubergiste: Ryan King

Officiers: Justin Baptista & Brandon Guzman

Manolas: Kathleen Moriarty & Niko Murakami

April 8 & 9 / 2:00pm

Chérubin: Molly Burnside

Le Philosophe: Emilio Valdez

L'Ensoleillad: Jeannine Robertson

Nina: Brittany Logan

Le Comte: Stefan Jevtic

La Comtesse: Hannah Penzner

Le Baron: John Carroll

La Baronne: Jasmine Khorsandi

Le Duc: David Morales

Ricardo: Thomas Murphy O'Hara

L'Aubergiste: Gregg Haueter

Officiers: Justin Baptista & Brandon Guzman

Manolas: Kathleen Moriarty & Niko Murakami

Chérubin

Chorus

Soprano

Clare Bellefeuille-Rice
Sarah Conniff
Niko Murakami

Mezzo

Genie Hossain
Kathleen Moriarty
Pauline Tamale

Tenor

Jonathan Knauer
Blake Larson
David Morales
Thomas Murphy O'Hara

Baritone

Justin Baptista
Brandon Guzman
Gregg Haueter
Ryan King

Orchestra

Violin I

Kenichi Kiyama, *concertmaster*
Iliana Nedialkova
Youngmin Cha

Violin II

Hannah Yim, *principal*
Danny Ceri
Wan Chi Chang

Viola

Seulgee Park, *principal*
David Kang

Violoncello

Caroline Chien, *principal*
Samuel Hernandez-Yanes
Benton Preciado

Bass

Spencer Berry

Flute

Melody Wan

Oboe/English Horn

Caitlin Smith

Clarinet

Linda Szeto

Bassoon

Jeffrey Wassik

Horn

Keith Pepper

Percussion

Pat Chapman

Production Team

Production Manager: Ted Abenheim
Technical Director: Devon Ausman
Master Electrician: Greville Kellett
Master Carpenter: Craig Benson
Stage Manager: Amber Goebel
Assistant Stage Manager: Josie Austin
Second Assistant Stage Manager: Aliyah Smith
Lighting Board Operator: McLeod Benson
Props Master: Allison Mamann
Assistant Costume Designer: Claire Mezzetta
Make Up and Hair Assistants: Michaela Jones & Lily Middleman
Assistant Lighting Designer: Meghan Hong
Video Projection Operator: Joy Watanabe
Follow Spot Operators: Lucas Godlewski & William Harper
Fight Supervisor: Andrew Konopak
Supertitle Operator: Jennifer Lee
Stagehands: Paul Tran, Raymond Wilson

Don't miss Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Op. 70

*Jonathan Talberg will lead the combined forces of the Conservatory in the monumental and well-loved oratorio *Elijah* by Felix Mendelssohn. Student soloists will be featured in this dramatic work.*

Saturday, May 6, 2017 8:00pm
Carpenter Performing Arts Center
Tickets \$15/10

Synopsis

Act One (75 mins)

Our story takes place on Chérubin's seventeenth birthday. The Philosopher, his friend and mentor, is preparing a celebration. Guests begin to arrive, among them the Duc, the Baron, and the Count. The Baron and the Count have noticed their wives' interest in Chérubin and are fearful of scandal. Nina arrives, anxiously looking for Chérubin. It is clear to the Philosopher that Nina is in love and that Chérubin should stop all his flirting and learn what's good from him. As more guests enter, we find Chérubin flirting indiscriminately. This upsets the soldier Ricardo who insists on a duel. Enter Ensoleillad—a glamorous celebrity—and Chérubin is certain he has met the love of his life. Ignoring the Philosopher's warnings of the consequences of his womanizing, Chérubin is soon caught not just with Ensoleillad, but also with the romantic tokens of the Countess and the Baroness. The Count and the Baron challenge him to a duel and Act One ends in a riot.

Intermission

Act Two (35 mins)

At the end of a long evening, Chérubin prepares for his duels by writing his will. The Countess and the Baroness demand to know to whom he was singing. He confesses that it was not to them but to Ensoleillad. They scold him in front of their husbands who apologize for being so jealous. They all agree there is no reason to duel and bid Chérubin farewell. Chérubin pleads with Ensoleillad to run away with him but she rejects him in front of everyone. Chérubin vows to renounce love forever. Nina announces that she is leaving for a life in the convent. Chérubin realizes his selfish behavior and weeps upon learning her true feelings for him. Nina can see the change in Chérubin's heart and all ends well.

Performer Biographies

Erin Alford (Chérubin) is a graduate recipient of the Pritchard Opera Scholarship and Mary Israel Music Scholarship studying in the studio of Shigemi Matsumoto. With the BCCM Opera Institute, she has performed Háta in *The Bartered Bride* as well as scenes as Romeo in *I Capuleti e i Montecchi*, Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*, Mélisande in *Pelléas et Mélisande*, and Prince Charmant in *Cendrillon*. Erin has also sung Rebecca Nurse in *The Crucible* with Miami Music Festival, Laura in *Iolanta* with Russian Opera Workshop, and has covered the roles of Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible* (MMF), and Mrs. McLean in *Susannah* (Pasadena Opera). Erin is looking forward to presenting her graduate recital in the Gerald R. Daniel Recital Hall on Friday, May 12 at 7pm. Future engagements include returning to MMF this summer to sing Sister Helen Prejean in Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking*, and performing Ravel's *Shéhérazade* with the BCCM Orchestra in fall 2017. She received her BA in Music from UC Berkeley in 2014.

Justin Baptista (Ensemble) is currently a third-year double-major in vocal performance and music education, studying with Aram Barsamian. Justin was born and raised in San Francisco and came to Long Beach in the fall of 2014. He has been featured in different opera scenes such as Masetto in *Don Giovanni* and Koko in *The Mikado*. He is proud to make his debut in his first full opera.

Clare Bellefeuille-Rice (Ensemble) is a senior studying in the studio of Marian Bodnar. She has performed the role of Cherubino in *The Marriage of Figaro* at Pasadena City College and has sung in the chorus of *Die Fledermaus*, *The Bartered Bride*, and *The Perfect American*.

Emily Bosetti (La Comtesse) is a junior studying in the studio of Shigemi Matsumoto. She performed her first full operatic role as Esmeralda in *The Bartered Bride* in 2016. Emily was recently accepted into her first young artist program, and will be performing the role of Pepík in *The Cunning Little Vixen* by Leoš Janáček at the Miami Music Festival Opera Apprentice Program in summer 2017. In previous years, Emily has performed scenes in the roles of Donna Anna from *Don Giovanni*, Fiordiligi from *Così fan tutte*, Mathilde from *Guillaume Tell*, and Marie from *La Fille du Régiment*.

Molly Burnside (Chérubin) is a senior studying in the studio of Marian Bodnar. Molly performed the role of Háta in our 2016 production of *The Bartered Bride* and has sung in opera scenes as Ruggiero in Handel's *Alcina*, Idamante in *Idomeneo*, and the title role in Massenet's *Cendrillon*. Molly is a member of the CSULB Bob Cole Chamber Choir and performed with them at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales. She attended Fullerton College where she received her foundation in voice from Marian Bodnar and from the Applied Voice Program under Dr. Katharin Rundus. Molly was a member of the Fullerton College Chamber Choir under the direction of John Tebay, and toured with them in Austria and Germany. In 2016 Molly performed Hadyn's *Lord Nelson Mass* as the alto soloist with Los Cancioneros Master Chorale in Torrance. She returned in 2017 to perform as the alto soloist in Mozart's *Coronation Mass* in C Major. Molly will graduate from CSULB in spring 2017 with a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance.

John Carroll (Le Baron) is in his junior year as a vocal performance major at BCCM. Carroll has been a Massenet fan since hearing the music of *Cendrillon* during last year's BCCM Opera Masterpieces, and is now pleased as punch to be in the cast of *Chérubin* as the fastidious Baron! If you saw BCCM's production of *The Bartered Bride* last season, you might have spotted him as Tobias Micha: unassuming father figure extraordinaire. Carroll's no stranger to the BCCM Opera Scenes program, having participated for the past two years. This year he appeared as Will, a frustrated wordsmith drawing inspiration from the patrons of his favorite bar. Last summer, Carroll was cast in the New Swan Shakespeare Festival at UC Irvine, lending his singing, acting, and guitar talents to their simultaneous productions of *Hamlet* and *As You Like It*. Having recently completed his junior recital, Carroll has been having a ball rehearsing this opera.

Saane Halaholo (Nina) is a junior studying in the studio of Dr. Katharin Rundus. She will sing the role of the Widow in Mendelssohn's *Elijah* in the Bob Cole Conservatory's Celebrating Music concert on May 6. She also looks forward to beginning summer break at the Texas Music Festival's young artist program Le Chiavi: The Institute of Bel Canto Studies.

Sarah Conniff (Ensemble) is a coloratura soprano studying in the studio of Marian Bodnar. She is in her fourth year pursuing a degree in Opera performance. She has performed scenes as Susanna in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Madame Herz in *Der Schauspieldirektor*, Zerlina in *Don Giovanni*, and Yum-Yum in *The Mikado*. She was in the chorus for Long Beach Opera's *The Perfect American* by Philip Glass as well as BCCM's production of Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*. During the summer of 2016, she performed at California State University, Los Angeles in several concerts with Angels Vocal Art as a part of their Summer Opera Intensive program for young artists. This summer, she looks forward to touring Europe with the BCCM Chamber Choir.

Brandon Guzman (Un Officier/Ensemble) is a junior studying in the studio of Aram Barsamian. He has performed the role of the The Moldavian in *The Bartered Bride* and acted as a "super" in Donizetti's *Lelisir d'amore*. He has been a part of the opera program for three years and has participated in the Bob Cole Chamber Choir for two. He has no grad school in mind yet but he loves performing and hopes to continue to do so in the future.

Kali Hardwick (L'Ensoleillad) is a senior studying vocal performance under Dr. Katharin Rundus. Kali has performed such roles as Adina in *Lelisir d'amore*, Marenka in *The Bartered Bride*, and Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte*. She has been featured as the soprano soloist in *Mozart's Mass in C Minor* with the BCCM Orchestra as well as Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* and Mozart's *Coronation Mass* with the Los Cancioneros Master Chorale. She has won numerous awards, including the New Century Singers Scholarship and Presser Scholarship, and will be honored as the Outstanding Graduate of the College of the Arts when she graduates this May. Kali is very excited to begin her graduate studies in opera at the Royal Academy of Music in London this fall.

Gregg Haueter (L'Aubergiste) is a senior studying in the studio of Tim MacDougall. He has been seen at BCCM as Kecal in *The Bartered Bride* and Dulcamara in *Lelisir d'amore*. Gregg's other credits include Strephon in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe*, chorus in *Carmen* with Opera San Luis Obispo and *The Perfect American* with Long Beach Opera, as well as various roles in three opera scenes programs here at BCCM. Gregg also teaches voice and piano in Long Beach to a small but growing studio.

Genie Hossain (Ensemble) is a senior at the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music studying vocal performance. Genie has appeared in the choruses of BCCM's productions of *Die Zauberflöte*, *Down In The Valley*, and *The Bartered Bride*. In 2015, Genie participated in the University of Miami Frost School of Music Summer Voice Program in Salzburg, Austria where she studied opera and German Lieder. Genie is the Alto Section leader at Grace First Presbyterian in Long Beach and is a singer in the Choral Arts Initiative of Southern California. She currently studies with Brian Farrell and has studied with Yvonne Douthat Hartunger.

Stefan Jevtic (Le Comte) is a lyric baritone studying with Shigemi Matsumoto. He has performed as *Don Giovanni* in the Opera Scenes performances, played the role of Micha in *The Bartered Bride*, and has been an active member in the Opera Institute at Bob Cole Conservatory of Music since Spring 2015. In his senior year, Stefan seeks to continue his journey in Opera, and apply for graduate schools for Opera performance. His musical journey started in Serbia with trumpet, but later on he found his true love and calling for Opera.

Jasmine Khorsandi (La Baronne) is a senior studying in the studio of Dr. Katharin Rundus. She has performed in scenes including the trouser role, Idamante, from Mozart's *Idomeneo* and the title role in the famous quintet, "Nous avons en tête une affaire" from *Carmen*. Jasmine has also performed in various productions of opera scenes as Cherubino from *The Ghosts of Versailles* by John Corigliano at the Montecito International Music Festival this past summer, and Prince Orlofsky from *Die Fledermaus* at Moorpark College. She is looking forward to performing Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah* as a featured soloist this May.

Ryan King (L'Aubergiste) is a first year graduate student studying with Shigemi Matsumoto. He graduated last year from the University of North Dakota with a degree in Vocal Performance studying with Wesley Lawrence. While there, he performed Pandolfe in *Cendrillon*, Jupiter in *Orphée aux enfers*, many opera scenes, and the premiere of a student opera by Callie Stadem, *The Ransom of Sophia*. He competed in many competitions, such as the regional Metropolitan Opera Auditions, where he won the Audience Choice Award and encouragement award. This year he was one of 12 singers invited to compete in the Alltech Scholarship competition in Kentucky, the largest scholarship competition in the United States. In his spare time, Ryan has been the program director for Summer Arts Safari, a program that brought musical opportunities to over 700 children in rural communities lacking their own music programs in North Dakota, Minnesota, and South Dakota.

Jonathan Knauer (Ricardo/Ensemble) is a senior studying in the studio of Tim MacDougall. He has performed the roles of Nemorino in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, Jenik in *The Bartered Bride*, and is completing his third year in the Bob Cole Conservatory Chamber Choir. Originally from Orange County, he is taking next year to audition for young artist and graduate programs.

Andrew Konopak (Le Philosophe) is a senior studying in the studio of Dr. Steven Kronauer. While at BCCM, he has performed the roles of Belcore in *L'Elisir d'Amore* and Krusina in *The Bartered Bride*. Outside of the Conservatory, he has made concert appearances, including singing Jesus in Bach's *Matthäus-Passion* with Artes Vocales of Los Angeles, a joint recital featuring Mahler's *Lieder eines Fahrenden gesellen* with the Pasadena Conservatory's Music & Mansions series, the First Sailor in *Dido & Aeneas* with the Mark Morris Dance Company, and a set of songs and arias at Spreckles Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park, San Diego. Andrew is looking forward to singing the role of der Musiklehrer in Richard Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos* in Berlin this August.

Kaylee Lackman (La Baronne) is a first year graduate student studying with Tim MacDougall and a recipient of the Pritchard Voice Scholarship. Kaylee holds a Bachelors degree in Music Education from the University of North Dakota. While there, she appeared as Public Opinion in Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld*, Veronica in Bizet's *Doctor Miracle*, and in scenes from *Albert Herring*, *Così fan tutte*, and *Die Fledermaus*. She has also appeared as the alto soloist in Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Mozart's Requiem, and Händel's *Messiah*. Musical theater appearances include Baroness Schroeder in *The Sound of Music* and the Jester in *Once Upon a Mattress*. At BCCM she has appeared in scenes from *Carmen*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Sir John in Love*. Her passion for education has been fed by being the first recipient of the 2013 conducting scholarship from UND as well as being the music director for high school and community theater productions of *Annie*, *Godspell*, and *Little Women*. Since moving to California, she continues to maintain a private studio of beginning piano and voice students.

Blake Larson (Le Duc/Ensemble) is a senior studying in the studio of Dr. Steven Kronauer. He has performed the role of Vašek in *The Bartered Bride* and was in the Ensemble for *L'Elisir d'Amore*. Blake is originally from Santa Rosa, CA and currently studying for two degrees at BCCM, Vocal Performance and Music Education. He is involved in the student ACDA chapter at BCCM and serves as the President Elect. Blake has been in the BCCM Chamber Choir for two years and has participated in the BCCM Opera Masterpieces Program. Blake will soon decide whether to continue studying voice in graduate school or pursue a credential to teach.

Brittany Logan (Nina) is a transfer student in the vocal studio of Dr. Katharin Rundus. This is her second year at BCCM and her first year as an Opera Performance Major. She began her studies at Fullerton College as a theater major and transitioned into classical voice. Brittany was named *The Orange County Register's* "Performer of the Month" for March 2014 after her performance in *Ragtime* as Sarah. She also had the honor of singing for Sarah McFerrin at her induction into the Hall of Fame. Brittany is member of the BCCM the Chamber Choir, who won the title of "Choir of the World" in Llangollen, Wales in 2016. She has performed in the Opera Institute's Opera Masterpieces as the Countess in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Giulietta in *Les contes d'Hoffman* and Luisa in *Luisa Miller*.

David Morales (Le Duc/Ensemble) is a senior studying in the studio of Marian Bodnar as a vocal performance and music education major. This is his first major operatic role and he is grateful to be performing with such talented friends and colleagues. After graduation, David plans to take a year off to teach privately and perform. Following this, he plans to pursue a master's degree in vocal performance.

Kathleen Moriarty (Manola/Ensemble) is a junior Vocal Performance Major and a student of Shigemi Matsumoto. She is a recipient of the Pritchard Opera Scholarship. Kathleen began her singing career in musical theatre, performing lead roles such as Marian in *Music Man*, and Gertrude in *Suessical* at the Covina Performing Arts Center. She twice received first place in SCVA solo vocal competitions, was a semi-finalist in the National Classical Singer competition, and was a third place finalist in the Music Center Spotlight Competition. With the Opera Institute she was a chorus member in *L'Elisir d'Amore* and *The Bartered Bride*. In our Opera Scenes Kathleen sang Augusta in *Ballad of Baby Doe*, Sesto in *Giulio Cesare*, Despina in *Così fan tutte*, and Rosina in the *Barber of Seville*. This past summer, she was a member of the Bob Cole Chamber Choir who won title of "Choir of the World" in Wales.

Niko Murakami, (Manola/Ensemble) is a sophomore vocal performance major studying voice with Shigemi Matsumoto. Last year, she was part of the ensemble cast of *The Bartered Bride* and recently appeared in the BCCM Opera Institute's Opera Scenes under the direction of Brian Farrell.

Thomas Murphy O'Hara (Ricardo/Ensemble) is a sophomore in Tim MacDougall's voice studio. Ze has been studying opera for nearly 6 years. Ze was most recently seen in the role of Vasek in *The Bartered Bride* here at CSULB. Previous roles include Rodolfo in *Club Bohème*, a reconceived version of *La Bohème* by Stephanie Vlahos; Hoffmann in *The Tales of Hoffmann*; and various roles in two BCCM Opera Scenes programs. Thomas is from Arleta, CA, and it is his plan to make a career performing, composing, and directing for the musical stage.

Hannah Penzner (La Comtesse) is a senior studying in the studio of Marian Bodnar. She has performed the role of Esmerelda in *The Bartered Bride* and in many opera scenes throughout her years in the Opera Institute. In May she will sing *Hear Ye, Israel* from Mendelssohn's *Elijah* for Celebrating Music. When she finishes her degree in the fall she plans to take a year off from school to audition and perform in the LA area before choosing where to continue her studies.

Jeannine Robertson (L'Ensoleillad) is a graduating senior studying in the studio of Shigemi Matsumoto. She has performed the roles of Pamina in *The Magic Flute*, Adina in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, and Marie in *The Bartered Bride*. Last year she was honored to perform Samuel Barbers' *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* with the Bob Cole Conservatory Symphony Orchestra. This past summer she attended the Aspen Music Festival and School in Aspen Colorado where she performed alongside many talented performers from all over the United States. Jeannine plans to take a year off before applying for graduate programs.

Pauline Tamale (Ensemble) is a junior studying in the studio of Shigemi Matsumoto. She's an international student pursuing her dream career from the Kingdom of Tonga. She will be attending Miami Music Festival in July 5-30th playing the role of Mrs. Patrick de Rocher in Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking*.

Emilio Valdez (Le Philosophe) is a junior and a student of Dr. Katharin Rundus. Emilio has performed the title role in *Gianni Schicchi*, Don Alfonso in *Così fan tutte*, and Eisenstein in *Die Fledermaus*. He has also sung scenes from *La Bohème* as Marcello, *Le Nozze di Figaro* as Count Almaviva and *Carmen* as Escamillo. Emilio was the baritone soloist last season for Gabriel Fauré's Requiem, and has sung the baritone solos for Händel's *Messiah* for the Hour of Power. He will be singing the title role of Elijah in our Celebrating Music performance, May 6.

Production Staff Biographies

Ted Abenheim (Production Manger) was also the Production Manager for the 2015 BCCM production of *The Bartered Bride*. His background is in Documentary Filmmaking and feature-film Production Coordinating, including two premieres at the Sundance Film Festival. He has produced numerous fundraising events and celebrity concerts for The AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Desert AIDS Project, AID for AIDS, APLA, AFI, and Being Alive. Ted founded the Actors Fund Tony Awards Viewing Party, now in its 21st year.

David Anglin (Conductor) joined the BCCM faculty in 2005 as Associate Director of Opera and Vocal Studies. His responsibilities include running the Opera Institute, the Diction and Repertoire curriculum as well as seminars in History and Musicology. As a member of the Keyboard faculty at UC, Santa Barbara Dr. Anglin and his colleagues introduced and developed a new Keyboard Collaborative Arts degree program. He was an adjunct member of the Vocal Arts Faculty at USC prior to which he spent four years in Australia as Opera Coordinator at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. In Sydney he and his colleagues initiated the 'Encounters Program,' a professional training program with artists from Opera Australia. David conducted Benjamin Britten's *The Beggar's Opera* and the Australian premiere of Mozart's *La finta semplice* that was broadcast nationally as part of the ABC 'Young Australia' series. With Pacific Opera, Sydney, he prepared and produced scenes programs for young artists and productions of *Carmen* and *The Magic Flute*. In Los Angeles, David has produced and conducted Haydn's *L'infelto delusa*, Mozart's *Zaide*, and Rossini's *La scala di seta*, the latter two of which were performed at the Ford Theatre as part of the LA County 'Summer Nights' festival. He has prepared and / or conducted our Opera Institute productions of Bernstein's *Candide*, Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo*, Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, *La clemenza di Tito*, *Don Giovanni*, *Le nozze di Figaro* and *Die Zauberflöte*, Offenbach's *Les contes d'Hoffmann*, Massenet's *Cendrillon* and Donizetti's *Lelisir d'amore*. David has worked for Santa Fe Opera and Los Angeles Opera as a translator and coach and for San Francisco Opera as coach and assistant conductor in the Merola Program. He has prepared and accompanied young singers in masterclasses with Roberta Alexander, Dolora Zajick, Frederica von Stade, Cheryl Studer, Warren Jones and Larissa Gergieva, among others. Concert engagements include recitals of Russian and operatic repertoire with Vladimir Chernov and Mlada Khudoley. David received undergraduate degrees in Music History and piano from the Marseille Conservatoire National and The San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He holds an MFA degree in Performance Practice from UCLA and a DMA in Keyboard Collaborative Arts from the USC Thornton School of Music. David will spend next semester in Italy teaching courses in Music, Visual Arts, and History for the CSULB Florence Semester at the American Institute for Foreign Studies.

Brian Farrell (Music & Language) currently holds the position of Music Director and Conductor of Repertory Opera Company of Los Angeles, which produces four operas per season. He is also on the music faculty of the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music. In 2000 he held the position of Assistant Conductor with Los Angeles Opera where he worked with Plácido Domingo, Carol Vaness, and Rodney Gilfry, among many others. Praised for his "powerful and moving" solo performances and "imaginative and sensitive" accompaniment, Mr. Farrell has performed with such artists as violinist Chao-Liang Lin, cellists Fred Sherry and James Kreger, and pianist Samuel Sanders. He has also collaborated in extensive recital performances with tenor, Robert White.

Mr. Farrell studied vocal technique intensively for six years with Fred Carama during which time he also earned a Pre-Medical degree specializing in organic chemistry, physics, anatomy, and physiology. He has been teaching and coaching a full studio of opera singers in Los Angeles since 1999 and in New York City for the five years before that. Mr. Farrell is a native of Pennsylvania and holds both bachelor's and master's degrees from The Juilliard School where he studied piano with Jerome Lowenthal, opera with Diane Richardson, vocal technique with Beverly Johnson and Edward Zambara, and vocal accompanying with the late Samuel Sanders.

Azra King-Abadi (Lighting Designer) has been working as a freelance lighting designer in the LA area for eight years. She has had the opportunity to work at many prestigious and historic companies such as LA Opera, Long Beach Opera, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, as well as designing for distinguished educational programs such as The Colburn School, the USC Thornton Opera department, and the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music. She has also acted as resident Assistant Lighting Designer at LA Opera for the last seven seasons. She has recently designed *Wonderful Town* for the LA Opera and the first tour of the Youth Orchestra Los Angeles (YOLA). Her previous work includes *Turn of the*

Screw with LA Opera; *Alexander's Feast* with LA Master Chorale; *Lunatics and Actors* with Four Clowns; *Good People* at the Hudson Theatre; *Angels in America*, *The Planets*, *The Piano*, *A Celebration of John Adams*, *Peter and the Wolf*, *Wing on Wing*, *The Organ: Stops, Keys, Petals and Pipes*, *Tchaikovsky's World*, *Beethoven*, *Britten: Young Persons Guide to the Orchestra*, *La Mer* with the Los Angeles Philharmonic; *The Breasts of Tiresias & Tears of a Knife* with Long Beach Opera; *The Lonely Wild Album Release Concert* at The Echoplex; *The Marriage of Figaro*, *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, *A Little Night Music*, *Into the Woods*, *The Magic Flute* and *The Faerie Queen* with the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival; *Elixir of Love* with the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music; *Operalia*; *World Opera Competition* at Dorothy Chandler Pavilion; *Trouble in Tahiti* with Central City Opera; *The Magic Flute*, *Owen Wingrave* and *The Tempest* with the USC Thornton School of Music. (azrakingabadi.com)

Yee Eun Nam (Production Designer) is a scenic and projection designer for theater, opera, and all forms of live performance. She finished her second season with the Miami Summer Music Festival designing for the Opera Institute and the Wagner Institute. Her recent design credits include projection design for *Turn of the Screw* with DC public Opera; projection design for *Three Decembers* with Opera Fayetteville; set and projection design for *Single Black Female* directed by Shirley Jo Finney at Crossroads Theatre Company; projection design for *A Mexican Trilogy: An American Story* and scenic and projection design for *La Olla*, both directed by Jose Luis Valenzuela at LATC. Yee Eun is a recipient of the Gilbert Cates Award and the Cirque du Soleil Fellowship Award. She recently received her MFA in Theater Design from UCLA's School of Theater, Film, and Entertainment Media.

Ioannis Protopapas (Conductor) is from Heraklion, on the Island of Crete. He completed his bachelor's degree in Orchestral Conducting at the Ionian University (Corfu, Greece). While there he directed performances with the Ionian University Orchestra and Ionian University Contemporary Music Ensemble. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in Orchestral Conducting at CSULB, and is studying with Professor Johannes Müller-Stosch. He is an assistant conductor for the Bob Cole Conservatory Symphony as well as a teaching assistant for the Bob Cole Opera Orchestra. Prior to coming to Long Beach, Ioannis was the assistant conductor of the Gastouri 'Omonoia' Wind Band in Corfu. He received 3rd prize in the International Conducting masterclass and competition with the Duna Symphony Orchestra and Michael Dittrich in Budapest, Hungary. He has also attended both orchestral and choral conducting seminars and masterclasses, with Andre Thomas, Michalis Economou, Andre van Der Merwe, Basilio Astulez, Miltos Logiadis, Doris Lang Kosloff, Michael Dittrich and Johannes Schlaefli.

A. Jeffrey Schoenberg (Costume Designer) has been designing costumes for LA area theaters for almost 35 years. His most recent designs have been *Bach at Leipzig* for Group Repertory Theater, *The Complete History of America (abridged)* at the Falcon Theater, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* for the Sierra Madre Playhouse, and *Cloud 9* for the Antaeus Company, for which he received an LA Stage Alliance Ovation nomination, and where he has designed more than a dozen productions including *The Wedding Band*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, *The Malcontent* (Ovation winner), *King Lear*, and *Tonight at 8:30*. Other recent designs include *Kiss Me Kate* for Cabrillo Music Theater; *Always ... Patsy Cline* for Sierra Madre Playhouse; *Hamlet* for LA Women's Shakespeare; *Elmina's Kitchen* for Lower Depths Theatre; *Juno and the Paycock*, and for the Odyssey Theater; *The Dead*, *The Time of Your Life*, and *Threepenny Opera* for the Open Fist Theater; and the NoHo Arts Center's *Elizabeth Rex* (Ovation winner). For the Colony Theater he has designed almost 40 productions, including *Dames at Sea*, *Side Show* (Ovation winner), *The Ladies of the Camellias*, and *The Laramie Project*. He has been the resident designer for Musical Theatre Guild for the past six years. Jeffrey is the owner and designer for AJS Costumes, Renaissance Dancewear, and Mr. Alan Jeffries Fine Gentlemen's Apparel.

Moni Simeonov (Violin) is the director of BCCM String Studies. A native of Bulgaria, Moni began playing the violin at age 5 and only ten years later he was given a full scholarship to the Idyllwild Arts Academy in California. He is pursuing doctoral studies at USC's Thornton School of Music where he studies with Midori and serves as Adjunct Instructor of Violin and Chamber Music. A member of the IRIS Chamber Orchestra, Mr. Simeonov also performs with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Opera, Master Chorale, Ensemble San Francisco, and serves as the acting Concertmaster for the Sacramento Philharmonic. His doctorate studies include minor fields in Viola Performance, Schenkerian Analysis, Japanese Language, as well as an emphasis on the interpretation of Balkan folk music. On tour and in LA, he dedicates considerable time and energy to community engagement work and to musical activities and presentations for young people. For the last five seasons, Moni has performed and coached alongside Midori for her Orchestra Residencies Program American and International tours and in 2012 he became the Director. He attended the Eastman School of Music, where he studied with Zvi Zeitlin (full scholarship), earned first prize in the concerto competition, and was awarded a Performer's Certificate. Moni regularly performed on the school's Antonio Stradivari of 1714. He also served as concertmaster for the Eastman Symphony, Philharmonia, and Opera Orchestras. Having earned his Artist Diploma from Yale University, Mr. Simeonov completed his Master of Music there with Ani Kavafian. He was the concertmaster for the Yale Philharmonia Orchestra and New Music Ensemble. After completing Yale he earned a

Graduate Certificate Degree from USC's Thornton School of Music, where he received the Outstanding Student Award in May 2009. Mr. Simeonov has attended many festivals including Tanglewood, the Music Academy of the West, Pacific Music Festival, the New York String Orchestra Seminar, the Oregon Bach Festival, and Atlantic Music Festival. Moni serves as a violin and chamber music faculty at University of Maine's Chamber Music Institute in the summer. Mr. Simeonov has concertized and taught around the United States, South America, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. His recordings have been archived by PBS, NPR, KUSC, Bulgarian National Radio and TV, as well as Japanese Broadcasting Company—NHK.

Eli Villanueva (Stage Director) is resident stage director for LA Opera's acclaimed Education and Community Engagement. As teacher, he offers invaluable insights and perspective to young professionals and budding performers and helps them discover ways of becoming more engaging performers. His energetic style of directing and teaching is well suited to work with young performers all over the country in various youth workshops and choirs.

As stage director of LA Opera's In-School Opera programs, Mr. Villanueva inspires and directs more than 1,500 students annually in original productions. Along with Music Director, James Conlon, his ongoing role as stage director for LA Opera's Off Grand Cathedral Project helps to bring together annually more than 400 professional and volunteer musicians, actors, and dancers to perform staged works such as Benjamin Britten's *Noah's Flood*, Jack Perla's *Jonah and the Whale*, and Villanueva's own work, *Festival Play of Daniel*.

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