



A Message From Brian Zeger

Welcome to the 2019-20 season of Juilliard Opera, which features two iconic masterpieces, *Così fan tutte* and *La bohème*, flanking two rarities, both collaborative ventures with exciting artistic partners. We are performing Virgil Thomson and Gertrude Stein's *The Mother of Us All*, which recounts Susan B. Anthony's struggle for women's suffrage, 100 years after women officially gained the vote—although women of color would wait decades more for that privilege. The production will be a collaboration with MetLiveArts, the performing wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the New York Philharmonic. Our other unusual offering, with the school's own period orchestra, Juilliard415, is Handel's *Rinaldo*, which will travel to Germany's Göttingen International Handel Festival in May and SPOT/De Oosterpoort in Groningen, Holland, in June.

But our season opens with Mozart. The three operas he wrote with librettist Lorenzo Da Ponte find their way onto our stage with regularity. As shifts in the cultural and political landscape accelerate around us, these operas not only keep pace with but always seem to be ahead of us in their psychological and moral wisdom.

Our new production of *Così fan tutte* takes advantage of its youthful cast. Not all opera houses are lucky enough to have four talented singers playing the young lovers who are roughly the age of their characters. In last season's Juilliard Opera production of *Don Giovanni*, the Don reappeared after his death, suggesting that women menaced by predatory men do not rebound instantly when the threat is past. Similarly, the troubling questions *Così* raises continue to resonate long after their apparently successful resolution in a bubbly finale. Understanding these timeless works is ultimately a dialogue between performers and audience. Thank you for being part of the conversation.

Brian Fige

Brian Zeger

The Juilliard School presents

Così fan tutte

Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte

Wednesday, November 13 and Friday, November 15, 2019, 7:30pm Sunday, November 17, 2019, 2pm Peter Jay Sharp Theater

Nimrod David Pfeffer, Conductor David Paul, Director

Juilliard Orchestra

The Cast (in order of vocal appearance)

Ferrando James Lev

Guglielmo Erik van Heyningen
Don Alfonso William Socolof
Fiordiligi Kathleen O'Mara
Dorabella Megan Moore
Despina Mer Wohlgemuth

Continuo: Mari Coetzee, Cello; Nathaniel LaNasa, Harpsichord

Scenic Designer: Kristen Robinson Costume Designer: Sara Jean Tosetti Lighting Designer: Masha Tsimring

Performance time: approximately 3 hours, including a 20-minute intermission

Juilliard's Ellen and James S. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts was established in 2010 by the generous support of Ellen and James S. Marcus.



This performance is part of Juilliard Opera, a program dedicated to the education and training of future generations of singers at Juilliard. Juilliard Opera is supported by the vision and generous lead funding of the International Foundation for Arts and Culture and its Chairman, Dr. Haruhisa Handa.

Additional support for this performance was provided, in part, by the Muriel Gluck Production Fund.

Covers

Dashuai Chen (Ferrando); Olivia Cosio (Dorabella); Rebecca Farley† (MM '17, voice) (Fiordiligi); Gregory Feldmann (Guglielmo); Aaron Keeney (Don Alfonso); Yvette Keong (Despina)

Assistant Conductor: Isaac Selya Music Preparation: Kenneth Merrill

Language Preparation: Stefano Baldasseroni

Associate Coach: John Arida
Continuo Preparation: David Heiss

Rehearsal Keyboardists: Nathaniel LaNasa, Christopher Staknys

Fight Director: Mark Olsen

Production Stage Manager: Nicole Mitchell Mommen

Assistant Costume Designer: Anna Jekel*
Assistant Lighting Designer: Domino Mannheim

Assistant Scenic Designers: Kate Campbell, Sara Pisheh

Assistant Stage Managers: Sarah Herdrich*, Nolan Todd*, McKenna Warren

Supertitles Creator: David Paul Supertitles Operator: Lisa Jablow

†Alumni Guest Artist

*Member, Professional Apprentice Program





Please make certain that all electronic devices are turned off during the performance. The taking of photographs and use of recording equipment are not permitted in the auditorium.

Director's Note by David Paul

In contrast to his preceding operas *Don Giovanni* and *The Marriage of Figaro*—perennially regarded as masterpieces—Mozart was heavily criticized for *Così fan tutte*. In particular, critics in the late 18th century couldn't fathom why Mozart exercised such poor judgment in choosing a libretto regarded as flawed, immoral, and deeply inferior to his musical talents.

It is this question of judgment, and our ability to judge ourselves and our surroundings, that lies at the very heart of *Così fan tutte*. The two male protagonists judge their girlfriends to be faithful and any contrasting opinion to be false. All four of them judge their older confidantes, Don Alfonso and Despina, to be reliable sources of advice, benevolent experts who have their best interests at heart. But it's these two older characters' poor judgment that keeps the drama running its messy course. They assume the emotions of their younger friends to be trivial and shallow, and they greatly misjudge their ability to cope with the lesson being taught: that sometimes, and in fact often, we think we know a whole lot more about ourselves than we actually do.

Mozart and Da Ponte shine an incisive lens on precisely how our own hubris—both that of the student and that of the teacher—can have disastrous consequences under the wrong circumstances. Assuming that we understand the forces of attraction, love, and commitment—especially when those three are not perfectly aligned—can lead to horrific errors in judgment, as both composer and librettist appear to have understood.

My design team and I have chosen to set this production here in America, in 2019, at what we feel is the most important juncture in young adult lives: the end of high school. For many of us, it is the first time that we are called upon to make judgments for ourselves that may impact our lives forever. We hope you enjoy the judgment calls we have made with this wonderful, though problematic, masterpiece—and that, regardless of whether you agree with them or with those of our protagonists, you will leave feeling that Mozart's judgment wasn't faulty after all.

Act 1

The two young friends Guglielmo and Ferrando get into an argument about women with their cynical older acquaintance Don Alfonso. Guglielmo and Ferrando each has a girlfriend—respectively, Fiordiligi and Dorabella—and they protest that neither could possibly be unfaithful, no matter what. Alfonso counters by proposing a bet to put their assertions to the test. Guglielmo and Ferrando are to disguise themselves and make advances to their lovers (which they end up doing to each other's lover). Will the ladies continue to resist them? For how long?

Fiordiligi and Dorabella impatiently wait to see their lovers, whom they praise to the skies. But Don Alfonso arrives to warn them that Guglielmo and Ferrando have unexpectedly been called off to the army. They have time only to pay a quick farewell visit. Both young women are deeply saddened and wave Guglielmo and Ferrando goodbye in a beautiful trio of farewell, joined by Don Alfonso. But on his own, he predicts cynically that the women will prove to be unfaithful.

Their teacher Despina mocks these grief-stricken attitudes. She advises the young women that it would be far better to take advantage of their liberty and have a good time by finding some new lovers.

Don Alfonso engages in some cheating of his own with regard to the bet by bribing Despina to play along—just in case she sees through the disguises. Guglielmo and Ferrando arrive and start their attempted seduction game. The outraged girlfriends reject them at once. Mozart dramatizes the ensemble's reactions in a sextet. Fiordiligi delivers a powerful aria proclaiming her steadfastness.

Later, the men try emotional blackmail by threatening suicide if they are rejected. Despina disguises herself as a doctor and revives them from the "poison" they've taken. The women continue to refuse their advances, but they appear less adamant than before—to the men's great consternation.

Act 2

Despina tries once again to encourage Fiordiligi and Dorabella to forget their scruples. Dorabella is the first to confess some attraction to the new young gentleman who is interested in her (the disguised Guglielmo), and they go off together. He convinces her to exchange her keepsake of Ferrando, who becomes upset when he learns of this betrayal.

Meanwhile, Ferrando has been getting nowhere with Fiordiligi, who continues to resist him but expresses a sense of guilt over her emerging desire in one of Mozart's most heart-rending arias, "Per pietà" ("Have pity"). Dorabella confesses giving in to her new lover, shocking Fiordiligi, who resolves to seek out her beloved Guglielmo before things get worse. But Ferrando at last convinces her to love him in an extended duet. Alfonso, relishing his victory, suggests that both men forgive their lovers and learn the lesson he'd intended to teach them.

The finale starts off as a prospective double wedding for the new couples, with Despina in yet another disguise to witness the marriage contracts. Unexpectedly, the return of Guglielmo and Ferrando is announced. They "discover" the new marriage contracts. In the final confrontation, the deceptive experiment is fully revealed. All six characters sing a final ensemble, the moral of which is to accept life's unpredictable turns and to find peace through reason rather than emotion.

About the Opera by Thomas May

Così fan tutte endured a notable run of bad luck before it achieved its deserved recognition by posterity—and a secure place in the repertoire. Mozart toiled under even more than the usual pressure in the months leading up to the premiere at Vienna's Burgtheater on January 26, 1790. Although Così seems to have been initially well-attended, the production was cut short: Emperor Joseph II's death less than a month later led to the closing of the theaters for mourning. A handful of performances followed in the summer, but these were the last before Mozart died the following year.

Joseph's successor, Leopold II, had a very different agenda for the arts, and he put an end to Lorenzo Da Ponte's career in Vienna. (Da Ponte's letter of recommendation to Marie Antoinette wasn't of much use, given the timing, and the librettist eventually fled to New York to get a fresh start, landing an academic job at Columbia.) Da Ponte had been court librettist throughout his years of collaboration with Mozart and also partnered with several other figures, including court composer Antonio Salieri—who initially tried setting *Cosi*'s libretto before abandoning it.

Most significantly, the aesthetic embodied by *Così fan tutte* was perceived to be jarringly different from the Mozart's two previous operas to librettos by Da Ponte—and singularly ill-suited to the Romanticism of the 19th century, seeming to challenge its idealization of love with a cynical frivolity unworthy of the genius who had produced *Don Giovanni*. When it was staged, *Così* was typically subjected to absurd rewrites as producers attempted to make its plot more palatable.

Such criticism tended to be directed at the libretto, but Wagner found Cosi's score inferior as well. (He paid Mozart the oddly twisted "compliment" of suggesting that he was intuitively incapable of writing music of the quality of Figaro for such trivial material.) David Paul, the director of Juilliard Opera's production, additionally points out that "a major hurdle that 19th-century critics had was the believability issue about the suspension of disbelief over the disguises—a problem that Così has never entirely shed. It remains one of the more fascinating challenges to tackle when staging the piece."

Mozart's final Italian operatic comedy, *Così fan tutte* had to wait until the more psychologically aware and realism-oriented 20th century for its unique qualities to find resonance. Astonishingly, the work was not even staged in this country until 1922, when Joseph Urban directed the Metropolitan Opera's premiere production—and it was still three decades before it actually entered the repertoire here (in a famous staging by Alfred Lunt).

But experiencing *Così* in the 3,800-seat Met (where it will again be revived in February 2020) is altogether different from doing so in the Peter Jay Sharp Theater with less than a quarter of that capacity: The opera's chamber music-like dimensions and subtle ensembles can register with greater immediacy in the smaller house. For Nimrod David Pfeffer, the conductor of

Juilliard's production, intimacy is another important aspect that distinguishes *Così* from its two Da Ponte siblings. "Even the plot is so much simpler than the one in *Figaro*. Having a cast of only six people presents an interesting challenge vocally and dramatically"—a small group of characters around whom the entire opera revolves.

Along with its reassessment, so much about *Così fan tutte* seems well ahead of its time, as David Paul observes, yet the premise of the libretto is decidedly rooted in a tradition that can strike us as archaic. Unlike the other two Mozart collaborations, which freely adapted already existing sources, little is known of the origins of Da Ponte's libretto beyond the fact that it presents an unusual concoction of disparate literary sources woven together (ranging from classical myth to Ludovico Ariosto's Renaissance epic *Orlando Furioso* and Boccaccio's *Decameron*). The title itself plays with Da Ponte's penchant for allusion: *Così fan tutte* ("thus do they all [women]" or "women are all like that") quotes his own *Figaro* libretto (from the scene of Cherubino's hiding in Susanna's room, when the music master Don Basilio remarks to the Count, regarding Susanna's presumed hanky-panky: "*Così fan tutte le belle*").

The device that sets the action in motion is a wager over the faithfulness of a lover (or, in this case, a pair of lovers), which is a turn on the ancient device of a wager between two parties over the behavioral outcome of an unsuspecting third (think God and Satan over Job). The opera's subtitle La scuola degli amanti ("The School for Lovers") signals Cosi's link to a genre of "lab experiment" that was in vogue in the Enlightenment. Pfeffer believes that this aspect was also unsettling for the Romantic era, since "in Enlightenment morality, the goal was not to surrender to love but to dedicate oneself to reason and mastery of the emotions."

Così also draws on commedia dell'arte in its preoccupation with mixed-up identities and disguises—a shared theme among all three Mozart-Da Ponte operas, as the scholar Bruce Alan Brown notes. The brand of humor exemplified by Despina in particular echoes this tradition and sparks further humor in its contrast with Mozart's parodies of the heroic pathos of opera seria (above all in Fiordiligi's grand and spectacularly challenging arias). Not coincidentally, Da Ponte originally set the libretto in Naples, a location with strong commedia dell'arte associations.

The character "geometry" of *Così fan tutte* emphasizes the doubleness of the experiment: two couples allegedly in love, two seductions, two apparent misalliances that may or may not be set aright in the notably ambiguous ending, and two "abettor" figures who set the couples up for their fall. (The fact that the duos "crisscross"—that, while disguised, Ferrando and Guglielmo try to seduce each other's beloved—is actually never clearly stated in the libretto to be the original plan, Paul points out, and should not be assumed to have been their intention from the start.)

About the Opera by Thomas May (Continued)

Mozart's music depicts the nuances of these pairings and shifting relationships in intricate detail. Already in the Overture (which was written later), "We have a *perpetuum mobile* as he takes us through different harmonies, which in a way suggests the fickleness of falling in love," says Pfeffer. Mozart ingeniously adapts the format of the duet in this ensemble-rich score (the numbers which, as it happens, he composed first) to convey psychological turning-points. Pfeffer elucidates: "When Fiordiligi and Ferrando sing together, it's clear that their temperaments are much closer together. They tend more toward the idealistic, toward poetry and depth. Guglielmo and Dorabella, on the other hand, are much more easy-going and try to live in the moment. So Mozart shows a real chemistry between the experimental couples."

The vocal characterizations teem with telling detail. "The higher voices tend to sing first in duets and ensembles, so we picture them as the leaders," says Paul. Fiordiligi and Ferrando have the higher voices in *Cosi*, yet Mozart "makes us question how an older-younger and leader-follower dynamic actually works here. Guglielmo and Dorabella are in fact the first to succumb to their new feelings in the chronology of the piece. Guglielmo is the first to challenge Alfonso and call him out. If you think of the lower-voiced lovers as having the more dominant character and the higher voices as more confused, it opens up the opera in a new way."

The vocal and orchestral writing here, Pfeffer argues, shows Mozart at his most subtle. He notes that all of the numbers are in the major, with the exception of Don Alfonso's F Minor aria and the beginning of Ferrando's aria in the second act, which moves from C Minor to C Major. Yet this never seems too much of the same thing: "Within a second, Mozart ventures into harmonic 'danger zones,' also writing asymmetrical measures, shifting even within one phrase from an achingly beautiful melody to something that is more dancelike. It's almost like 3D music: you are a little unsure about what is going on until you get to the end of a phrase. And he accomplishes such mastery without people noticing it."

Mozart turned 34 the day after *Così* premiered, yet its music is sometimes depicted as being written in the composer's "late style," as it reflects the qualities of his final creative harvest before his early death. In his book *On Late Style: Music and Literature Against the Grain*, Edward Said devotes considerable attention to *Così fan tutte*. In contrast to the other Da Ponte operas, he writes, *Così* "is concentrated, full of implicit and internalized characteristics, and morally and politically limited, if not opaque," and the score, rather like Da Ponte's libretto, is allusive (to Mozart's own music).

Said is fascinated by the aspects of this opera that proved so disturbing to past generations—and indeed still do, when we look beyond the surface comedy and antics. *Così* is sometimes dismissed by contemporary sensibilities on the grounds that it celebrates misogyny. But that particular

charge, according to Paul, does not withstand scrutiny—which is a key to his decision to set this production in the here and now. "We strongly believe that all behavior in this show is totally possible today—even the language is possible. My goal is that when the words of the title are sung—'women are like that'—that we view it very critically and as a result of the men arriving at this conclusion from their own biases." Paul adds that "through our modern lens, we certainly understand why the women act the way they act: not because of some ingrained quality but because we see them being manipulated in the most abusive ways. The strengths of the women and their desire to resist speak highly of them and poorly of the men."

Thomas May is the English-language editor for the Lucerne Festival and writes about the arts for a wide variety of publications. His books include Decoding Wagner and The John Adams Reader.

About the Artists



Nimrod David Pfeffer (Conductor)

Conductor and pianist Nimrod David Pfeffer (MM '16, orchestral conducting) is an assistant conductor at the Metropolitan Opera and music director of the Lyric Opera Company of Guatemala. His recent conducting engagements include the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, Hungarian State Opera Orchestra, Palau de les Arts Reina Sofía in Valencia, and Israeli Opera. This season he will make his conducting debuts with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and Hungarian National Philharmonic Orchestra. As a pianist, he has performed at Carnegie Hall, the Kremlin, and as soloist with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. Pfeffer graduated from Juilliard's orchestral conducting program as a student of Alan Gilbert. He is also a graduate of Mannes College of Music and the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program.



David Paul (Director)

David Paul is an award-winning director for opera, theater, and film. A native of Hamburg, Germany, Paul has directed productions at L.A. Opera, the Metropolitan Opera/Juilliard, Washington National Opera, Washington's Shakespeare Theatre Company, Pittsburgh Opera, Arizona Opera, and Alaska's Perseverance Theatre, among many others. His film *Dichterliebe: POETLOVE* garnered prizes at festivals around the world and streams on the PBS streaming platform All Arts; *afterWARds*, his contemporary reinvention of Mozart's *Idomeneo*, celebrated its world premiere at Pittsburgh Opera earlier this year. Passionate about empowering young singers, Paul has worked with emerging artists on projects at Lyric Opera of Chicago, the Santa Fe Opera, Houston Grand Opera, and the Met Opera, where he serves on the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program faculty. He has given master classes in Japan, China, Israel, and throughout the U.S., and lives in Brooklyn.

James Ley (Ferrando)

Tenor James Ley, from Maryland, is an Artist Diploma in Opera Studies student at Juilliard, where he studies with Edith Wiens. At Juilliard, Ley performed in a semistaged performance of *Winterreise* with Brian Zeger in Alice Tully Hall, with the Juilliard Orchestra in *L'enfant et les sortilèges* conducted by Emmanuel Villaume, and as Don Ottavio in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. Last year he participated in Carnegie Hall's SongStudio, where he worked with world-renowned teachers and coaches including Renée Fleming. This past summer, he premiered a role in the Salzburger Festspiele's Kinder Oper. Previously he participated in the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence in the Mozart Académie and with the Nürnberg Symphoniker through the Internationale Meistersinger Akademie. Ley received his BM from Wheaton College, where he performed as Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte* and in Handel's *Messiah*.



- New York
 Community Trust/
 Anna Schoen René
 Fund
- Philo Higley Scholarship
- Hardesty and Beverley Peck Johnson Fund

Megan Moore (Dorabella)

Hailing from Cincinnati, mezzo-soprano Megan Moore is an Artist Diploma in Opera Studies student at Juilliard studying with Edith Wiens. Particularly at home in bel canto and baroque music, Moore's most recent professional engagements include singing Rosina in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, the title role in *La Cenerentola*, Costanza in Haydn's *L'isola disabitata*, and Arsamene in *Serse*. Moore has appeared in concert with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra and Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra as well as with the Eastman School Symphony Orchestra when she performed Berlioz' *Les nuits d'été* as one of the school's concerto competition winners. Passionate about art song and arts advocacy, Moore cofounded and remains active on the board of Lynx Project, an art song initiative recognized for commissioning songs with text by children with non-verbal autism.



- Rita Greenland Scholarship in Voice
- Barbara Rogers
 Agosin Scholarship
- Hardesty and Beverley Peck Johnson Fund

About the Artists (Continued)



• Toulmin Foundation Scholarship

Kathleen O'Mara (Fiordiligi)

Kathleen O'Mara is a soprano from Fort Washington, Pennsylvania. She graduated from Westminster Choir College with her BM in voice in spring 2018 and is studying for her MM at Juilliard with Edith Wiens. She has performed the title role in Gilbert and Sullivan's *lolanthe* and Zemire in André Grétry's *Zemire et Azor* with Westminster Opera Theater, covered the First Lady in *The Magic Flute* with the CoOPERAtive Program, covered Barbarina in *The Marriage of Figaro* with Music Academy of the West, and covered the Governess in *The Turn of the Screw* and Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* at Juilliard. She has participated in programs including the CoOPERAtive Program, Curtis Summerfest, Houston Grand Opera's Young Artist Vocal Academy, and Music Academy of the West.



 Toulmin Foundation Scholarship

William Socolof (Don Alfonso)

Bass-baritone William Socolof (BM, '18, voice), from White Plains, New York, began training at the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan. In 2019, he participated in the Marlboro Music Festival, where he returns next year. As a vocal fellow at Tanglewood Music Festival (2017-18), he appeared in *Sondheim on Sondheim* with the Boston Pops and Bach Cantatas conducted by John Harbison and premiered works by Michael Gandolfi and Nico Muhly. This season he debuted with the Boston Symphony Orchestra under Andris Nelsons and will appear as Don Alfonso (*Così fan tutte*), Daniel Webster (*The Mother of Us All*), and Colline (*La bohème*) at Juilliard. In December, he performs with the Juilliard Chamber Orchestra in Alice Tully Hall. He is pursuing his MM at Juilliard with William Burden.

Erik van Heyningen (Guglielmo)

Baritone Erik van Heyningen, hailing from Poway, California, is an Artist Diploma in Opera Studies student at Juilliard, where he studies with William Burden. This past summer, he sang in a new production of *Salome* at the Spoleto Festival and appeared as Fernando in *La gazza ladra* with Teatro Nuovo. Van Heyningen appears with the Cecilia Chorus of New York in its upcoming performance of Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*. In 2020, he will perform Escamillo in *Carmen* with Pacific Opera Victoria and Sprecher in *Die Zauberflöte* with the Santa Fe Opera. He spent two summers as an apprentice artist at Santa Fe, where he received the Donald Gramm Memorial Award. He also spent three summers with the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, where he received the Richman Memorial Award.



- Dr. Gary Portadin Scholarship
- Philo Higley Scholarship
- Dr. Lee MacCormick Edwards Scholarship
- Hardesty and Beverley Peck Johnson Fund

Mer Wohlgemuth (Despina)

Soprano Mer Wohlgemuth, from Winter Haven, Florida, is pursuing her Master of Music at Juilliard, where she studies with Marlena Malas. Last season, she sang the role of Tytania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Chautauqua Institution, Belinda in *Dido and Aeneas* with Juilliard Opera and Juilliard415, and Tirsi in *Clori, Tirsi e Fileno* with Juilliard415 in Alice Tully Hall. Other productions include Nerone in *L'incoronazione di Poppea* and various productions of *Die Zauberflöte* as the Zweiter Knaben. She won the encouragement award at the 2017 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions (Upper Midwest Region). She earned her bachelor's degree from Concordia University, Nebraska.



- Gail Chamock Scholarship
- Marion L. Dears
 Scholarship
- Philo Higley Scholarship

Kristen Robinson (Scenic Designer)

Kristen Robinson is a New York-based set designer whose work ranges from site-specific installations to outdoor Shakespeare. Selected credits include *In the Green* at LCT3; *[PORTO]* at WP Theater; *Heart of Darkness* at Baryshnikov Arts Center; *Minor Character* at Under the Radar Festival; *Everybody Black* and *The Thin Place* at Humana Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville; *Miller Mississippi* at Long Wharf Theatre; *Familiar* at Steppenwolf Theatre; *A Flea in Her Ear* at Westport Country Playhouse; and *Ethel* at Alliance Theatre. She is the assistant professor of Scenic design at Purchase College. A Princess Grace Fellow, she holds her M.F.A. from Yale University. She is a member of USA 829.



Sara Jean Tosetti (Costume Designer)

Sara Jean Tosetti is a New York-based costume designer originally from Paris. Designs include Salome (L.A. Opera, dir. David Paul); Xerxes, Cato in Utica (Glimmerglass Festival, dir. Tazewell Thompson); world premiere of Laura Kaminsky's As One (Brooklyn Academy of Music, dir. Ken Cazan); Radamisto (Juilliard, dir. James Darrah); Carmen (Central City Opera, dir. Danny Pelzig); Orpheus in the Underworld, Rinaldo, Cendrillon (CCO, dir. Marc Astafan); A Flea in Her Ear (Del Rep & Westport, dir. Mark Lamos); Manuscript, The Exonerated (Daryl Roth Theatre, dir. Bob Balaban); The Maids, 'Tis Pity She's a Whore (Red Bull Theatre at the Duke, dir. Jesse Berger); West Side Story, Much Ado About Nothing (Barrington Stage Company, dir. Julianne Boyd); and Into the Woods and Richard III (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival). Additional credits include the Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Opera Bastille, Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, and multiple Broadway shows. She was awarded the Princess Grace Award in design as well as the Bel Geddes Design Enhancement Award. She earned a BFA and MFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts with outstanding achievement in design.

Masha Tsimring (Lighting Designer)

Masha Tsimring is a New York-based lighting designer for performance. Recent credits include *Sunday* (Atlantic Theatre Company); *The Christians* (Chautauqua Theatre Company); *The Diary of John Rabe* (Berlin Staatsoper/NCPA Beijing); *Pride & Prejudice* (Kansas City Rep); *The Appointment* (Lightning Rod Special); *Kleptocracy* (Arena Stage); *Minor Character* (Under the Radar/New Saloon); *Noura* (Playwrights Horizons); *Intractable Woman* (PlayCo); *Electric Lucifer* (The Kitchen); *Sarabande* (L.A. Dance Project); *The Garden of Forking Paths* (Nichole Canuso Dance Co); *Frontieres Sans Frontieres* (Bushwick Starr); *Ultimate Beauty Bible* (Page 73); *The Marriage of Figaro* (Charlottesville Opera); *As You Like It* (CalShakes); and *My Fair Lady* (Playmakers Rep). She has an MFA from Yale School of Drama and is a member of USA 829.



Nicole Mitchell Mommen (Production Stage Manager)

Nicole Mitchell Mommen is thrilled to be making her opera debut with *Così fan tutte*. She is currently the assistant stage manager at New York City Ballet, which she joined in 2016 after 10 years as Miami City Ballet's production stage manager. She was recently the production stage manager for *The Table of Silence* with Buglisi Dance Theatre. Two of her favorite professional experiences have been stage managing the Vail Dance Festival this past season and production stage managing the Hulu documentary *Ballet Now* with Tiler Peck.

Ellen and James S. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts

One of America's most prestigious programs for educating singers, the Juilliard School's Ellen and James S. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts offers young artists programs tailored to their talents and needs. From bachelor and master of music degrees to an advanced Artist Diploma in Opera Studies, Juilliard provides frequent performance opportunities featuring singers in its own recital halls, on Lincoln Center's stages, and around New York City. Juilliard Opera has presented numerous premieres of new operas as well as works from the standard repertoire.

Juilliard graduates may be heard in opera houses and concert halls throughout the world; diverse alumni artists include well-known performers such as Leontyne Price, Renée Fleming, Risë Stevens, Tatiana Troyanos, Simon Estes, and Shirley Verrett. Recent alumni include Isabel Leonard, Susanna Phillips, Paul Appleby, Erin Morley, Sasha Cooke, and Julia Bullock.

Ellen and James S. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts

Brian Zeger, Artistic Director

Monica Thakkar, Director, Performance Activities

Kirstin Ek, Director, Curriculum and Schedules

Emily Wells, Associate Director

Andrew Gaines, Production Administrator

Davis Dykes, Projects Administrator, Performance Activities

Po Chan, Projects Administrator, Curriculum

Kiara Walker, Schedule and Program Coordinator

Alexandra Cohen, Vocal Arts Administrative Apprentice

Voice Faculty

Edith Wiens, Chair William Burden Amy Burton Darrell Babidge Elizabeth Bishop Cynthia Hoffmann Marlena K. Malas Robert White Robert C. White Jr.

Ellen and James S. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts Faculty

Stefano Baldasseroni Marianne Barrett **Edward Berkeley**

Mary Birnbaum, Associate

Director of Artist Diploma in Opera Studies

Steven Blier Corradina Caporello Robert Cowart

Alexandra Day Karen Delavan, Music Advisor

for Master of Music and Graduate Diploma

Cori Ellison John Giampietro

Bénédicte Jourdois

Natalia Katyukova

Kathryn LaBouff Gina Levinson

Kenneth Merrill David Moody, Chorus Master

Glenn Morton

Nils Neubert

Adam Nielsen, Music Advisor for Master of Music and

Graduate Diploma Donald Palumbo

David Paul, Dramatic Advisor for Master of Music and

Graduate Diploma J.J. Penna

Diane Richardson.

Principal Coach and Music Advisor for Artist Diploma in

Opera Studies

Lauren Schiff

Eve Shapiro, Dramatic Advisor for Artist Diploma in

Opera Studies

Jeanne Slater Avi Stein

Cameron Stowe Stephen Wadsworth,

James S. Marcus Faculty Fellow. Director of Artist Diploma in Opera Studies

Howard Watkins Gary Thor Wedow Reed Woodhouse

Brian Zeger, Artistic Director

2019-2020 Ellen and James S. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts Fellows

Jeremy Chan, piano Lisenka Heijboer, opera directing

Nathaniel LaNasa, piano

Juilliard Orchestra

Juilliard's largest and most visible student performing ensemble, the Juilliard Orchestra, is known for delivering polished and passionate performances of works spanning the repertoire. Comprising more than 350 students in the bachelor's and master's degree programs, the orchestra appears throughout the season in concerts on the stages of Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, David Geffen Hall, and Juilliard's Peter Jay Sharp Theater. The orchestra is a strong partner to Juilliard's other divisions, appearing in opera and dance productions, as well as presenting an annual concert of world premieres by Juilliard student composers. The Juilliard Orchestra welcomes an impressive roster of world-renowned guest conductors this season including Marin Alsop, Karina Canellakis, Elim Chan, Anne Manson, Nicholas McGegan, Carlos Miguel Prieto, Jörg Widmann, Mark Wigglesworth, and Keri-Lynn Wilson as well as faculty members Jeffrey Milarsky and David Robertson. The Juilliard Orchestra has toured across the U.S. and throughout Europe, South America, and Asia, where it was the first Western conservatory ensemble allowed to visit and perform following the opening of the People's Republic of China in 1987, returning two decades later, in 2008. Other ensembles under the Juilliard Orchestra umbrella include the conductorless Juilliard Chamber Orchestra, Juilliard Wind Orchestra, and new-music groups AXIOM and New Juilliard Ensemble.

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Juilliard is honored by our exceptional partnership with IFAC and grateful to Dr. Handa for his educational and artistic vision, which will continue to transform opera at Juilliard and on stages around the world for decades to come.

At Juilliard's 104th commencement in Alice Tully Hall on May 22, 2009, Haruhisa Handa was awarded an honorary doctorate by President Joseph W. Polisi. Photo by Peter Schaaf.

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