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The Juilliard School presents

Così fan tutte

Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte

Monday, November 18 and Thursday, November 21, 2024, 7:30pm Saturday, November 23, 2024, 2pm Peter Jay Sharp Theater

Patrick Furrer, Conductor Mo Zhou, Director

Juilliard Opera

Juilliard Orchestra

The Cast (in order of vocal appearance)

Ferrando Michael John Butler
Guglielmo Dongwei Shen
Don Alfonso Minki Hong
Fiordiligi Kayla Stein
Dorabella Tivoli Treloar
Despina Theo Hayes

Continuo Harpsichord: Artyom Pak

Continuo Cello: Noah Chen

Scenic Designer: Charlie Corcoran Costume Designer: Andrea Hood Lighting Designer: Marie Yokoyama

Production Stage Manager: Morgan Carder

Edited for the New Mozart Edition by Faye Ferguson and Wolfgang Rehm

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

Covers (in alphabetical order)

Sophia Baete (Dorabella), Gregory Feldmann (Don Alfonso), Natasha Isabella Gesto (Fiordiligi), Yoonsoo Jang (Guglielmo), Jin Yu (Ferrando), Shiyu Zhuo (Despina)

Assistant Conductor: Joseph Bozich

Music Preparation: Karen Delavan, Adam Nielsen, Diane Richardson

Language Preparation (Principals): Nicolò Sbuelz Language Preparation (Covers): Stefano Baldasseroni

Continuo Coach: David Heiss

Assistant Director: Rory Pelsue Intimacy Director: Katherine Carter

Fight Director: Mark Olsen

Rehearsal Keyboardists: Artyom Pak, Francesco Barfoed

Production Manager: Alec Rigdon

Assistant Scenic Designer: Pedro L Guevara Assistant Lighting Designer: Kayo Tokuue Assistant Costume Designer: Mila Livoni Zidel* Calling Stage Manager: Chris Moeggenberg* Deck Stage Manager: Chloe Lupini*

Assistant Stage Manager: Kira Weaver*

Titles Creators: Celeste Montemarano and Danielle Sinclair

Titles Operator: Lisa Jablow

* Member, Professional Apprentice Program

Performance time: approximately three hours, including an intermission

This production is partially sponsored by Sarah Billinghurst Solomon.

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A Reimagined *Così fan tutte*— An American Lesson on Love By Mo Zhou

Così fan tutte has long captivated and provoked audiences with its themes of love, betrayal, and manipulation. At its core, the opera questions the nature of fidelity and whether love can endure the trials of human folly. Yet beneath its sparkling music and comedic veneer lies a troubling tension, especially in its treatment of female characters and the dubious ethics of its "love experiment." In reimagining this work, I aimed to bring these issues to the forefront, helping Così to resonate with a contemporary audience.

Set in San Francisco, 1967, right before the Summer of Love, this production explores a world in flux. Social norms are being challenged and young people are embracing freedom while questioning the status quo. Here, *Così* becomes more than an exploration of romantic love; it evolves into a reflection on privilege, power, and self-discovery. Fiordiligi and Dorabella, traditionally portrayed as naïve, are reimagined as refined debutantes modeled after Julie and Tricia Nixon—icons of traditional American values. Their boyfriends, Ferrando and Guglielmo, are carefree California surf boys, privileged youths testing the waters of love amid a tide of societal upheaval.

In our narrative, the boys feign being drafted into the Vietnam War, returning disguised as hippies, which lends both personal and political weight to their deception. This prank mirrors a generation caught between tradition and rebellion. Despina, inspired by 1960s revolutionary activists such as Grace Slick, transcends the role of a mere servant and becomes a catalyst for truth, allowing the women to see through the ruse. What begins as a test of fidelity morphs into a journey of self-discovery, with Act 2 presenting a playful contest of who can out-hippie the other as the women seize control of their narrative.

Yet this story does not resolve neatly. Faced with disillusionment, Fiordiligi and Dorabella must confront a pivotal choice: to remain in their gilded cage or step into a world filled with purpose and activism. This *Così* transforms into a coming-of-age tale where the women reclaim their agency, realizing a calling beyond romantic love. The lesson is stark: If love must be tested, perhaps it was never love to begin with.

Returning to Juilliard for this production holds profound personal significance for me. I began my journey here in 2015 as the Juilliard Marcus Institute Opera Directing Fellow, and Juilliard has fundamentally shaped my artistic identity. It is where I honed not only the technical skills of opera directing but also the critical thinking necessary to engage as an artist and a citizen. Juilliard has been a cornerstone of my growth, and it's an honor to collaborate with such talented students in bringing this reimagined vision to life.

Ultimately, this production seeks to transform a problematic plot into an empowering narrative, infusing humanity and relevance into Mozart's timeless masterpiece. May it challenge your perspective as passionately as it stirs your spirit!

Synopsis

San Francisco, 1967—On the Eve of the Summer of Love

Act I

Beatnik writer Don Alfonso argues with his privileged students, Ferrando and Guglielmo, about love and fidelity. Alfonso insists that all women are fickle, but Ferrando and Guglielmo passionately defend the faithfulness of their fiancées, debutante sisters Fiordiligi and Dorabella. Don Alfonso wagers that he can prove the sisters unfaithful by nightfall. His plan? Ferrando and Guglielmo will fake orders to deploy to Vietnam.

In their boudoir, Fiordiligi and Dorabella dream blissfully of marrying Ferrando and Guglielmo. Their daydreams are cut short when Don Alfonso arrives with news: Their lovers must leave for the war immediately. After tearful goodbyes, the men depart. Later, Despina, the sisters' free-spirited housekeeper, encourages them to embrace life while their lovers are away. The sisters are horrified, but little do they know that Despina is part of Don Alfonso's scheme, helping disguise Ferrando and Guglielmo as eccentric "hippie" suitors. When Fiordiligi and Dorabella discover these flamboyant strangers lounging in their home, they are both alarmed and intrigued. Fiordiligi, steadfast in her devotion to Guglielmo, vows to remain faithful despite Alfonso's mischievous nudges.

That evening, as the sisters lament their fiancés' absence, the disguised "hippies" arrive, dramatically pretending to take poison out of unrequited love. As the "dying" suitors collapse, Fiordiligi and Dorabella rush to tend to them. A hippie "doctor" (actually Despina in disguise) arrives to "revive" the men, who then passionately renew their professions of love, while Don Alfonso and Despina struggle to contain their amusement.

Act II

Despina slyly hints that maybe the sisters should play along with the disguised suitors' game. Why not have a little fun and teach the men a lesson? Catching on to the scheme, Fiordiligi and Dorabella decide to turn the tables.

In Golden Gate Park, the "hippie" suitors serenade the sisters in the glow of a warm summer haze. Dorabella, caught up in the free-spirited vibe, gives in to Guglielmo's charm, igniting a mutual attraction that surprises them both. Fiordiligi resists Ferrando's advances at first, but later, wounded by the cruelty of the ruse, she too finds solace with him. Both sisters realize that love may not be as straightforward as they once believed.

Don Alfonso, savoring his victory, delivers his famous line, "così fan tutte"—"all women are like that." With this revelation, Fiordiligi and Dorabella face the bittersweet truth as wedding plans proceed. Just then, Don Alfonso cues a mock military parade, and the "soldiers" return, only to be met with cool stares from the sisters. As tensions rise and true feelings emerge, each lover must make a choice: Remain with the familiar, or dive headfirst into the unknown, with all its wild, messy possibilities.

About the Opera By Thomas May

Così fan tutte had a notable run of bad luck before achieving a secure place in the modern 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 the performance 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. He also put an end to Lorenzo Da Ponte's career in Vienna. The librettist eventually settled in New York in search of a fresh start, landing a position at Columbia (where, at 76, he became its first professor of Italian studies). Da Ponte had been court librettist during his years of collaboration with Mozart and also partnered with others, including court composer Antonio Salieri—who initially had first rights to *Cosi*'s libretto and even began setting a few parts to music before casting it aside.

Most significantly, the aesthetic embodied by *Così fan tutte* was perceived to be jarringly different from that of Mozart's two previous collaborations with Da Ponte. *Così* was singularly ill-suited to the tastes of 19th-century Romanticism insofar as it seemed to challenge ideal love with a cynical frivolity. When it did receive a rare staging, *Così* was typically subjected to rewrites from producers attempting to make its plot more palatable.

Otherwise, throughout the 19th century and into the next, *Cosi* could not be squared with the two extremes of Mozart idolatry that predominated: the one focused on the demonic genius associated with *Don Giovanni*, the other on an image of angelic innocence, of Mozart as the Eternal Child.

The plot that Da Ponte gave Mozart to work with in his final Italian operatic comedy continues to be problematic for young contemporary audiences in particular. "It's our job to understand what Mozart and Da Ponte were trying to portray at that time and to find ways to make it relevant through intentional storytelling," Mo Zhou, director of this production, says.

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 weaving together of disparate literary sources. These range from classical myth to Ludovico Ariosto's Renaissance epic *Orlando Furioso* and Boccaccio's *Decameron*. The main title itself plays with Da Ponte's penchant for allusion: *Così fan tutte* ("thus do all [women]" or "women are all like that") quotes his own *Figaro* libretto (when the music master Don Basilio remarks to the Count: "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 (for example, God and Satan over Job or Faust). 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 during the Enlightenment, when gaining control of the emotions was the desideratum.

Così also draws on commedia dell'arte in its preoccupation with mixed-up identities and disguises. The brand of humor exemplified by Despina in particular echoes this tradition and makes for a comic contrast with the pathos of opera seria, which Mozart simultaneously emulates and parodies (particularly in Fiordiligi's grand and spectacularly challenging arias).

The character geometry of *Così fan tutte* emphasizes the doubleness of the experiment: two couples allegedly in love (Fiordiligi and her sister Dorabella, whose partners are Guglielmo and Ferrando, respectively), two seductions, two apparent misalliances that or may not be set aright in the notably ambiguous ending, and, with Don Alfonso and Despina, two unattached "abettor" figures who set the couples up for their fall.

Zhou singles out three key reasons why the story comes across as misogynistic: the apparent lack of agency by Fiordiligi and Dorabella in allowing themselves to be so easily manipulated; the emotional cruelty of the prank that Guglielmo and Ferrando carry out of pretending to go off to war; and the willingness of Despina to enable the men's scheme.

By setting the production in San Francisco during 1967's Summer of Love and against the backdrop of the Vietnam War, Zhou aims to view the characters' motivations through a fresh lens. Recast as debutantes whose overprotected upbringing in a "patriarchal gilded cage," the two young sisters come to learn "that their identity is much bigger than just becoming a perfect, proper housewife and that if a relationship needs to be tested, it's not love in the first place," Zhou says.

Their lovers are privileged "surfer dudes" who similarly have had "little exposure to the outside world" and who return in the guise of hippies, while Don Alfonso has been modeled on Allen Ginsberg and "wants to teach those two very affluent capitalist boys a lesson in real life." Zhou draws on the image of counterculture star Grace Slick to characterize Despina as "someone who is further along in her sexual awakening."

In her classic study *Mozart's Women*, conductor Jane Glover refers to the "Pandora's box of emotion" that *Così fan tutte* opens up: "The emotional chaos that [the story's] mischief engendered was potentially vast, and this was real grist to the combined mill of Mozart and Da Ponte." The result arguably represents Mozart's most sophisticated achievement as a musical dramatist. His score depicts the nuances of these pairings and shifting relationships in intricate detail. *Così* is replete with ensembles, from duets to a sextet, while the arias pinpoint the degree of individual struggle the lovers face. (This production dispenses with the brief choruses.)

About the Opera (Continued)

Cosi's score structures Da Ponte's love experiment into a perfectly paced sequence of ensembles (from duets to sextet), while the arias pinpoint the degree of individual struggle the lovers face. Mozart allies Shakespearean depth of characterization in his vocal writing with symphonic elaboration, using his complement of woodwinds in particular to tint and shade the story's emotional implications. Take Fiordiligi's moment of capitulation to Ferrando in their second-act duet, when the oboe's poignant phrase signals she has passed the point of no return. Here, just as the plot is pressing home Alfonso's cruel insistence that "women are all like that," Mozart's music ensures we hear how unique, how unmistakably differentiated Fiordiligi is from Dorabella. As the opera progresses, they diverge from their superficial mirroring of each other in the early scenes.

Fiordiligi's great aria preceding this turn—a model for Beethoven's Leonore in *Fidelio*, despite his disdain for *Cosi*'s story—is an emblem of the rich ambiguity with which Mozart infuses this score. The prominent horn accompaniment broadcasts her heroic, "masculine" resolve but is at the same time a sonic symbol of cuckolding. Mozart's exquisitely wrought musical amalgam continually leaves us guessing as to where comedy tips over into tragedy and vice versa.

In this opera, says Patrick Furrer, this production's musical director, Mozart "juxtaposes real emotions and fake emotions. The fake emotions are—in terms of musical expression—often on the surface and easier to detect. The real ones may be hidden several layers deep in the incredible beauty of Mozart's score and are therefore harder to grasp. But once you've found them, they are all the more powerful. That's what I'm trying to bring out."

If audiences today are more aware of the inherently monstrous aspects of *Don Giovanni*'s antihero, they are also more sensitive to the lasting trauma inflicted by Alfonso's mind games. The fury of violent punishment allows at least some form of catharsis in *Don Giovanni*, while the balm of forgiveness relights a path out of the chaotic night at the end of *Figaro*. Forgiveness, too, is on offer when all is revealed in *Cosi*, but it rings unsure, the heartbreak unhealed.

"I can find a moment of every season of my life reflected in *Così fan tutte,*" Zhou says. "In our age of online dating and columns like 'Modern Love' in the *New York Times*, it will be very interesting especially for young audiences to think about what personal relationships, intimacy, and love really mean here—what it is to treat each other properly."

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

Patrick Furrer (Conductor)

As a staff conductor at the Metropolitan Opera, Patrick Furrer has worked on a great number of productions since 2011. He was on the podium for *The Magic Flute, Don Carlos* (also in HD), and *Lohengrin*. A Swiss native, Furrer started his career at the Theater Basel and later served as first kapellmeister at the Tiroler Landestheater Innsbruck, where he led numerous productions. He has performed with many opera companies and orchestras including the Vienna Volksoper, Lucerne Theater, Theater Basel, Nationaltheater Mannheim, Opernhaus Zürich, Northwestern Opera Theater, Tonhalle Orchestra Zürich, Munich Rundfunkorchester, Niederösterreichisches Tonkünstlerorchester, Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, and the symphony orchestras of Basel, Bern, and St. Gallen. Furrer also worked at the San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Salzburg Festival, Merola, Conservatoire de Paris, and Swiss National Exposition.



Mo Zhou (Director)

Chinese-born stage director Mo Zhou is celebrated for bold productions that fuse critical thinking with innovation. As a faculty member at the University of Michigan, she has directed at venues including Staatsoper Berlin, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Houston Grand Opera, Glimmerglass Festival, Minnesota Opera, Boston Baroque, and the National Centre for the Performing Arts in China. Her 2024-25 season features debuts with Arizona Opera and Vancouver Opera alongside anticipated returns to Houston Grand Opera and Virginia Opera. A passionate advocate for emerging talent, Zhou has served as guest faculty at the Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago, Butler Studio at Houston Grand Opera, and Music Academy of the West. She honed her craft at Juilliard, the Merola Opera Program, Wolf Trap Opera, and Columbia University. She dedicates this production to her Juilliard mentors for profoundly shaping her artistic journey.



About the Artists (Continued)



• S. Jay Hazan Scholarship in Vocal Arts

Michael John Butler (Ferrando)

Tenor Michael John Butler, hailing from Bowie, Maryland, is a second-year Artist Diploma student at Juilliard, where he studies with Kevin Short. This past season, Butler debuted in Italy, singing the role of Martin in *The Tender Land* with Teatro Regio di Torino and originating the role of Mission Coordinator in Jeanine Tesori's *Grounded* with Washington National Opera. He subsequently sang the same role in a workshop at the Metropolitan Opera. Other recent credits include the title role of *Faust* with Opera Baltimore and in concert with Washington Opera Society, Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni* with Merola Opera, and Tenor Soloist (cover) in Brahms' *Liebeslieder Waltzer* with New York City Ballet. This year, Butler was a national semifinalist at the Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition and won second prize at the Marcella Sembrich International Voice Competition.



 Scovell Gordon Memorial Fund

Theo Hayes (Despina)

Theo Hayes (they/them) is a mezzo-soprano in the Graduate Diploma program at Juilliard studying under Darrell Babidge. Hayes graduated from the University of Connecticut in 2015 with a bachelor's in vocal performance, studying under Meredith Ziegler. Hayes won first place in the National NATS competition for treble advanced voice, was a district competitor in the Laffont Competition, and was accepted into the Chautauqua Opera Conservatory (summer 2023) while studying with Ho Eui Holly Bewlay in Buffalo. With Juilliard Opera, Hayes sang the role of Thelma in *Later the Same Evening* and covered Annio in *La clemenza di Tito*. Hayes is directing and performing in the operatic film project, Pants Role Project: Transforming Tradition, which comments on the importance of elevating queer and trans stories in opera.

Minki Hong (Don Alfonso)

South Korea-born baritone Minki Hong (MM '24, voice), who earned his bachelor's from Seoul National University in 2022, was a scholarship student from the Hyundai Car Chung Mong-Koo Foundation. He is continuing his studies at Juilliard as an Artist Diploma student with Kevin Short. At last year's Gerda Lissner Competition, he was a winner in both the aria and song divisions. He also won the Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition (Florida District) and won third prize in the South-East Region. Hong made his New York debut as Marco and as a cover for the title role in Juilliard's production of *Gianni Schicchi*. He also sang Masetto in *Don Giovanni* with Camerata Bardi International Academy. In the summer, he made his European debut in *Falstaff* as Ford at the Verbier Festival.



Raymond
 Brick Memorial
 Scholarship,
 Robert A. Morgan
 Scholarship

Dongwei Shen (Guglielmo)

Chinese baritone Dongwei Shen is pursuing his Artist Diploma at Juilliard under the tutelage of Kevin Short. This season, Shen will perform L'Horloge Comtoise and Le Chat in *L'enfant et les sortilèges* with the Juilliard Orchestra. His notable past appearances include the Uprising/Rising Up concert with Lawrence Brownlee at Hahn Hall in Santa Barbara, the Joye in Aiken festival with Juilliard415, and Agrippo in *Erismena* at Juilliard. He has participated in the Aspen Opera Theater and VocalARTS program at Music Academy of the West, where he sang Escamillo and Moralès in *Carmen*. Shen earned his bachelor's from the Shanghai Conservatory of Music.



 Arnheim-Rehns Scholarship

About the Artists (Continued)



 Mildred H. Kellogg Scholarship

Kayla Stein (Fiordiligi)

Chicago native Kayla Stein is a soprano pursuing her master's at Juilliard under the tutelage of Darrell Babidge. In addition to Fiordiligi, Stein will perform Mrs. Grose in Juilliard's production of *The Turn of the Screw*. She previously performed *Requiem: Songs for Sue* with AXIOM in Alice Tully Hall, the Nedda/Silvio duet from *Pagliacci*, and Micaëla in the Artist Diploma *Carmen* project, and she covered Elaine in *Later the Same Evening*. She sang Micaëla in *Carmen* at Music Academy of the West, where she won second prize in the Marilyn Horne Song Competition. Stein earned her bachelor's at the Eastman School of Music, where she sang the title role in Anthony Davis' *Lear on the 2nd Floor* and performed scenes from *La bohème* as Mimì and *L'amico Fritz* as Suzel.



Kovner Fellow

Tivoli Treloar (Dorabella)

Mezzo-soprano Tivoli Treloar is pursuing her master's with Darrell Babidge at Juilliard. With Juilliard Opera, this season she will cover Blanche de la Force in *Dialogues des Carmélites*; last season, she sang the title role in *Erismena* and covered Sesto in *La clemenza di Tito*. With Wolf Trap Opera, Treloar covered Dorabella in *Così fan tutte* and sang Madeleine in *Silent Night*. Last season, Treloar debuted with Long Beach Opera singing the Lover in the premiere of Kate Soper's *The Romance of the Rose*. Treloar is from Los Angeles, where she received her bachelor's summa cum laude from UCLA.

Charlie Corcoran (Scenic Designer)

Charlie Corcoran's operas include La clemenza di Tito, Katya Kabanova, Le nozze di Figaro, Don Giovanni, The Rake's Progress, and Hippolyte et Aricie (Juilliard), Così fan tutte (Metropolitan Opera/Juilliard co-production), Fidelio (Santa Fe Opera), La Calisto (Glimmerglass Opera), Il Trovatore (Houston Grand Opera), The Magic Flute, The Bartered Bride, La bohème (Music Academy of the West), The Turn of the Screw and The Flood (Opera Columbus), and L'Opera Seria (Wolf Trap). His New York theater credits include the O'Casey Trilogy (Henry Hewes design award, Lucille Lortel award nomination), The Seafarer, The Emperor Jones, and The Weir (Irish Rep), and Billy and Ray (Vineyard Theatre). His regional theater credits include A Comedy of Tenors (Outer Critics Circle Award, Cleveland Playhouse), Goodman Theatre, Guthrie Theatre, Old Globe, McCarter Theatre, Two River Theatre, and Center Theatre Group. Corcoran's television credits include The Equalizer, Full Frontal With Samantha Bee, Mozart in the Jungle, and Madam Secretary.



Andrea Hood (Costume Designer)

Andrea Hood's many costume design credits include *Orpheus in the Underworld* and *Flowers and Tears* at Juilliard with Mo Zhou; Broadway: *Once Upon a Mattress; Into the Woods*; select Off-Broadway: Shaina Taub's *Twelfth Night* and *As You Like It* (Public Theater/Shakespeare in the Park); *Love and Information* (New York Theater Workshop); *A Midsummer Night's Dream; Othello; The Comedy of Errors* (Classic Stage Company); select regional: *The Who's Tommy; Tick, Tick... BOOM!* (Kennedy Center); Glimmerglass Festival, Huntington Theater, Two River, Shakespeare Theatre in D.C.; international (also with Mo Zhou): National CPA, Beijing, China; Berlin State Opera House, Germany. Hood is a 2008 alum of the Juilliard Apprentice Program. She has received Lucille Lortel and Henry Hewes award nominations as well as an Obie for excellence in design.

About the Artists (Continued)



Marie Yokoyama (Lighting Designer)

Marie Yokoyama (she/her) is a Japanese lighting designer based in New York whose opera design credits include *Orpheus in the Underworld* and *The Rake's Progress* (Juilliard); *Madama Butterfly* (Virginia Opera and Florentine Opera); *Orphée et Eurydice* (University of Michigan); *Rinaldo* (Minnesota Opera); and *note to a friend* (Tokyo Bunkakaikan). Her other credits include *Kim's Convenience* (TheatreSquared); *Conscience and Searching for Mr. Moon* (Portland Stage); *Dangerous Days* (Miami New Drama); *Cyrano de Bergerac* (KC Rep); *Mystery of Irma Vep* (St. Louis Rep); *Testmatch* (American Conservatory Theater, San Francisco); *Tiny Beautiful Things* (Merrimack Repertory Theatre); *Do You Feel Anger* (Vineyard Theatre); and *Pillowtalk* (Kyoung's Pacific Beats). Yokoyama is associate artist for the Redhouse Arts Center, where she has designed *Les Trois Dumas, Macbeth, Fences, God of Carnage, On Golden Pond*, and *Ragtime*.



Morgan Carder (Production Stage Manager)

Morgan Carder is a graduate of Fairmont State University with a bachelor's in theater and a concentration in stage management. She has stage-managed a multitude of events and performances in spaces including Neidorff-Karpati Hall at the Manhattan School of Music, the Lyell B. Clay Concert Hall in the Creative Arts Center at West Virginia University, and the Peter Jay Sharp Theater at Juilliard. Carder most recently was stage manager for Juilliard's AXIOM ensemble. Favorite productions she has worked on include Juilliard's King Lear, Oberlin's A Midsummer Night's Dream, and Santa Fe Opera's The Lord of Cries. This is Carder's first production with Juilliard's vocal arts department.

Ellen and James S. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts

One of America's most prestigious programs for educating singers, Juilliard'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.

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2023-24 Ellen and James S. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts Fellows

Rhys Burgess, piano

Artyom Pak, piano

Rory Pelsue, opera directing

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 nearly 400 students in the bachelor's and master's degree programs, the orchestra appears throughout the season in concerts on the stages of Juilliard's Peter Jay Sharp Theater, Alice Tully Hall, and Carnegie Hall. The orchestra is a strong partner to Juilliard's other divisions, appearing in opera, dance, and drama productions as well as presenting an annual concert of world premieres by Juilliard student composers. This season, an impressive roster of world-renowned conductors leads the Juilliard Orchestra, including Matthew Aucoin, Daniela Candillari, Patrick Furrer, Giancarlo Guerrero, Ken Lam, Louis Langrée, Earl Lee, Gemma New, and Ruth Reinhardt as well as faculty conductors David Robertson, director of conducting studies and distinguished visiting faculty, and Jeffrey Milarsky. Among the virtual projects students from the orchestra participated in during the 2020 lockdown was Bolero Juilliard, which became a viral sensation. 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. In summer 2019, the orchestra traveled to London, where they performed alongside the Royal Academy of Music in Royal Albert Hall at the BBC Proms. Other ensembles under the Juilliard Orchestra umbrella include the conductorless Juilliard Chamber Orchestra, Wind Orchestra, Lab Orchestra, and the contemporary music group AXIOM.

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