

Opera Las Vegas



La Traviata

Music by Giuseppe Verdi

Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave

Based on the play The Lady of the Camellias

By Alexandre Dumas

Friday, 9 June 7:30 pm

Sunday, 11 June 2:00 pm

Judy Bayley Theatre, University of Nevada Las Vegas

Las Vegas, NV

This performance is approximately 2 hours and 40 minutes and is performed with two intermissions

This production is made possible by generous underwriting from
Christopher and Anita Murray.

We are deeply grateful.

Welcome Letter from our General Director, Jim Sohre



Welcome to Giuseppe Verdi's *La traviata*, and the City of Lights!

It is hard to believe that we have already reached the final production of our Twenty-fourth Anniversary Season. And what a season it has been.

Three works received their West Coast premieres in 2022-2023 as part of our NEA Award-winning Living Composers and Librettists Initiative: Missy Mazzoli and Royce Vavrek's *Proving Up*; Evan Snyder and John Riesen's *A Capacity for Evil*; and D.J. Sparr, Mark Campbell, and Davis Miller's *Approaching Ali*. All three were riveting productions, thrillingly sung and played, thoughtfully staged, and theatrically satisfying.

Another highlight was our professional company World Premiere of Act I of Emily Clements' *Letters to Lily*, an LGBTQ coming of age opera that, in tandem with *Proving Up* and the recital *Bellesongs* which featured music by female creators, opened the season with our first ever Women Composers Festival.

We kicked off our O is for Opera educational program in the fall, filming John Davies' family friendly adaption of *The Bremen Town Musicians*, developing workbooks and a curriculum and testing it out successfully in a pilot school.

OLV saluted those who served and those who serve with an operatic/musical revue entitled *Voices Raised for Vets* and sang in December festivities with *Holiday on Broadway*. And our fund-raising gala, *Paris Extraordinaire*, set the stage for the beloved classic you are about to experience, Verdi's immortal classic, *La traviata*.

We are still planning our 2023-2024 Twenty-fifth Anniversary Season, but I can tease you that we have been selected to present the World Premiere of a new comic piece, Paul Fowler and Andrew Flack's *Behold the Man (La Ópera de Cecilia)*, a crossover opera/musical comedy, based on the true story of Cecilia Giménez and her failed 2012 restoration of the Ecce Homo fresco in Borja, Spain. Save the date, *Behold the Man* will perform at CSN's Horn Theatre on 30 September and 1 October.

But for now, thanks so much for being here, and we hope you enjoy *La traviata*.

Best,

Jim Sohre, General Director

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jim Sohre'. The signature is stylized with a large, looping 'S' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Cast & Company

La Traviata

Music by Giuseppe Verdi

Libretto by Francesco Maria Piave

Based on the play The Lady of the Carmellias by Alexandre Dumas

Violetta Valery: Cecilia Violetta López

Alfredo Germont: Christopher Bozeka

Giorgio Germont: Daniel Sutin

Flora Bervoix: Courtney Schwalbe

Annina: Genevieve Fulks

Gastone de Letorières: Marco Varela

Barone Douphol: André Chiang

Marchese D'Obigny: Chase Orlando Gutierrez

Dr. Grenvil: Norman Espinoza

Giuseppe: Cael Tolentino

Commissioner: Robert Matthews

Creative

Conductor and Music Director: Joshua Horsch

Director: Octavio Cardenas

Chorus Master: Joe Svendsen

Assistant Chorus Master: Roger Pan

Production Pianist: Timothy Accurso

Stage Manager: Bonita Bunt

Furniture and Props Coordinator: Camren Wakefield

Assistant Furniture Coordinator: Syd May

Lighting and Projections Designer: Catherine M. Pratt

Costumes Courtesy of TRI-CITIES OPERA COMPANY, INC.

Costumes Designer: Betty Fredrickson

Costume Coordinator: Samantha Morgan

Hair and Wig Coordinator: Gabbie Kenny

Surtitles Operator: Emily Dirks

Cast & Company

Orchestra Featuring Members of the Las Vegas Philharmonic

Violin I

De Ann Letourneau, Concert Master

Rebecca Sabine-Ramsey

Alexandr Dzyubinsky

Jennifer Eriksson

Naoko Taniguchi

Violin II

Shakeh Ghoukasian

Kevork Mikaelian

Eric McAllister

James Harvey

Viola

Hanna Suk

Ian Long

Sharon Street-Caldwell

Cello

Moonlight Tran

Mert Sermet

Elena Kapustina

Bass

Paul Firak

Flute

Bonnie Buhler-Tanouye

Oboe

Stephen Caplan

Clarinet/Bass Clarinet

Jay Savoy

Jonathan Cannon

Bassoon

Lindsey Barlett

Horn

Frank Joyce

Mike Manley

Trumpet

Tom Wright

Bass Trombone

Allan Quan

Timpani and Percussion

Patrick Bowen

Cast & Company

Chorus Featuring Members of the Las Vegas Master Singers

Abigale Hennings

Christian Smith

Katie Stansbury

Claudia Affan

Kristina Tullgren

Rachelle Sproul

Hunter Rose Fowler

Andrea Williams

Olivia Gamazo

Tyler Urbano

Cael Tolentino

John Belmes

Dink O'Neal

Robert Matthews

Our Heartfelt Thanks

Opera Las Vegas is indebted to
Chris and Anita Murray
for major funding support

Special Gratitude to Our Wonderful Artist Home Hosts

Kendall Hardin
Robert and Shirley Kramer
Tod and Elaine Fitzpatrick
Chris and Anita Murray

We are deeply grateful to the Las Vegas Philharmonic for being such
wonderful collaborators during the 2022-2023 season and beyond!

With additional special thanks to our valued friends:

Richard Brusky Photography
Las Vegas Little Theatre
Ginny Adams
Gillen Brey
CSN Theater Department and Performing Arts Center
Southern Nevada Music
UNLV Department of Dance
Sandra de Borger
Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV Staff and Crew
William Schroder

Our Heartfelt Thanks

Opera Las Vegas thanks our generous donors:

Dana Barooshian
Linda Berry
Gerald Brees
Collaboration Center Foundation
Joan Croke
Joan Dimmitt
Dina Emerson
Stacy Haitsuka
Helms Helps Foundation
Jechart Yoo Foundation
Robert and Shirley Kramer
John Krieger
Jeanne Neill Lanny
Sean McBurney
Judith Menzel
Gwen Mullins
Thomas Owens
Christine Reynoso
Tommy Rocker
Patti Shaw
Miriam Shearing
Ivan Sher
Peny Taylor
Jeffrey Virchow
Wells Fargo
James Willey
Art Woolston

Joan Berry
Jan Jones Blackhurst
Angelo Cassaro
Jeri Crawford
Dickinson Wright PLLC
Chapman Dodge
Roger Gallizzi
Ofek Hayon
Hill Firm PLLC
Richard Keida
Richard Kravchak
Alvida Lane & Malcolm Singer
John Lincoln
Matthew and Julianna McRae
Betty Miller
Chris and Anita Murray
Quincy Quilang
Gary and Rosemary Richardson
Bill Schroder and Elizabeth Jacks
Philip Shaw
Shearing Foundation
Jim Sohre
Dwayne Ulloa
Harold Weller
Don and Anne Whitaker
Bruce and Barbara Woolen

Our Heartfelt Thanks

Thanks to our amazing sponsors!



NEVADA
ARTS COUNCIL



OPERA
AMERICA

Our Heartfelt Thanks

Thanks to our amazing sponsors!

SOUTHERN NEVADA MUSIC

LAS VEGAS, NV • HENDERSON, NV

BD **CPAS**
& Associates



Our Heartfelt Thanks

Thanks to our amazing sponsors!



LAS VEGAS
PHILHARMONIC
MUSIC. CULTURE. EDUCATION.



Our Heartfelt Thanks

Thanks to our amazing sponsors!

Everyday
woman

DICKINSON  WRIGHT_{PLLC}



BREAKTHRU
BEVERAGE GROUP

Summary

Infused with some of the world's most beautiful and well-known music, La Traviata relates the story of a tragic love, played against the hypocrisy of upper-class fashionable society.

As Alfredo and Violetta's relationship threatens to shame his family, his father directly appeals to her to relinquish her only chance of happiness. Violetta submits, and her act of self-sacrifice leads to her paying the ultimate price.

La Traviata is one of the most popular operas in the classic repertoire, receiving hundreds of performances every season worldwide. Who can resist the heart-tugging story of Violetta, "Lady of the Camellias," that is a star vehicle for a leading soprano. We are so fortunate to have Cecilia Violetta Lopez returning to Opera Las Vegas in her signature role which has garnered widespread acclaim.

Audiences get a chance to laugh, love and weep along with Violetta. Tissues not provided.



Biographies



Violetta Valery: Cecilia Violetta Lopez

Celebrated soprano, Cecilia Violetta López, has been named one of “Idaho’s Top 10 Most Influential Women of the Century” by USA Today and has been named one of opera’s “25 Rising Stars” by Opera News. The singing actress is constantly praised for her “alluring voice and incredible range” (Washington Post).

She has received accolades for her signature role of Violetta in *La traviata*, which she has performed countless times throughout North America. Critic, James Jorden, exclaimed “she is a Violetta fully-formed and, I think, ready for the great stages of the world.” She has now performed the role with Minnesota Opera, Opera Colorado, Opera Tampa, Opera Idaho, Ash Lawn Opera, The Northern Lights Music Festival, Madison Opera, Pacific Symphony and Virginia Opera. Ms. López made her European début as Norina in *Don Pasquale* with Zomeropera in Belgium, for which Klassiek Centraal exclaimed: “She turns out to be the revelation of the show and wins over the audience with her funny rendition, irresistible charm, and [she is] natural in the different vocals.”

From her performance as Adina in *The Elixir of Love* with Virginia Opera, The Virginian- Pilot hailed, “Cecilia Violetta López is showing local audiences why Opera News named her one of its ‘25 Rising Stars.’ In the lead role of Adina, she hit the highest notes with ringing clarity, performed the vocal runs with precision and grace and showed a particular charm and humanity in the softest passages and lowest ranges.” In her recent performance as Marguerite in *Faust* with Opera Omaha, the Omaha World-Herald claimed “...López sang Marguerite’s seduction, madness and salvation with an other-worldly wisdom and artistry.”

Biographies



Alfredo Germont: Christopher Bozeka

Tenor Christopher Bozeka is quickly becoming recognized for his “expressively captivating” performances, as well as his “beautiful, piercing tone” (San Francisco Chronicle). In 2021, Mr. Bozeka made his Opera Outdoors Houston debut as the tenor soloist in Rossini’s *Petite Messe Solennelle*, was scheduled to make his Sarasota Opera debut as Nadir in *Les pêcheurs de perles* (COVID19), returned to Houston Grand Opera for holiday concerts, and rejoined Opera Las Vegas as Ernesto in *Don Pasquale*. He also made his Sarasota Opera debut as Bertrando in *L’inganno felice* and Florville in *Il Signor Bruschino*, both by

Rossini. During the summer of 2021, Mr. Bozeka will return to Wolf Trap Opera to sing Adolfo Pirelli in *Sweeney Todd*, Satyavan in Holst’s *Savitri*, and Le Prince Charmant in Viardot’s *Cendrillon*. During the 2021-22 season, Mr. Bozeka will join the roster of the Metropolitan Opera covering Triquet in *Eugene Onegin* and Pit Singer – Tenor 1 and 2 in Dean’s *Hamlet*, perform as the tenor soloist in the world premiere of *Two Streams* with the Houston Chamber Choir and Kinetic Orchestra, sing the role of Dorville in Rossini’s *La scala di seta* at Sarasota Opera, reprise the role of Count Almaviva in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* with Opera Delaware/Baltimore Concert Opera, joins Opera Southwest for their NYE gala and in the fall of 2022, he will make his debut with Livermore Valley Opera as Nemorino in *L’elisir d’amore* and in 2023, he returns to Houston Grand Opera, singing Fourth Jew in *Salome*.

In the 2019-20 season, Mr. Bozeka performed with Houston Grand Opera as Don Gaspar in *La favorite* and the Messenger in *Aida*, sang Nadir in the American Premiere of Bottesini’s *Ali Baba* with Opera Southwest, and appeared in a virtual broadcast as a soloist in Bach repertoire with Ars Lyrica Houston. In the summer of 2020, he returned to Wolf Trap Opera where he appeared in a virtual broadcast as Tom Rakewell in scenes from Igor Stravinsky’s *A Rake’s Progress*.

Biographies



Giorgio Germont: Daniel Sutin

Baritone Daniel Sutin recently made his Carnegie Hall debut singing the world premiere of Marc Andre Bougie's Requiem. Additionally, Daniel sang the role of the villainous police chief Baron Scarpia in the Northern Lights Music Festival's critically acclaimed production of Tosca, the first North American opera production to be performed with social distancing. Upcoming engagements include Don Fernando in Fidelio with Polish National Opera, and the title role in Rigoletto with Opera North. In 2019-20, Mr. Sutin covered the title role in Wozzeck at the Metropolitan Opera. The 2018-19 season marked his debut with

Arizona Opera as Giorgio Germont in La Traviata. In 2017-18, Mr. Sutin's engagements included Baron Scarpia in Boston Lyric Opera's new production of Tosca, Giacomo in Giovanna d'Arco with Odyssey Opera, and his return to Chicago to cover Alberich in Siegfried. He also debuted with San Francisco Opera to cover Alberich in their complete Ring Cycle.

In 2015-16, Daniel debuted the role of Jokanaan in Salome with the Detroit Symphony, sang Don Fernando in Fidelio with Cincinnati Opera, Iago in Otello with the Phoenix Festival of Voice, Enrico Ashton in Lucia di Lammermoor with Boheme Opera of New Jersey, and covered the title role of Wozzeck and Alberich in Das Rheingold at Lyric Opera of Chicago, and Alberich in the complete Der Ring des Nibelungen at Washington National Opera. In 2014, Daniel Sutin sang the title role of Wozzeck at the Metropolitan Opera, stepping in at the last moment for an indisposed Thomas Hampson, and was the One-Eyed Brother in Die Frau ohne Schatten. Other engagements for the 2014-15 season included Biterolf in

Tannhäuser (Lyric Opera of Chicago), and Sharpless in Madama Butterfly (Hawaii Opera Theatre). In 2013, he sang Giorgio Germont in La Traviata (Savonlinna Opera Festival, Finland), the title role of Rigoletto (Musica Viva, The Opera Society of Hong Kong), Konrad Nachtigall in Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg (Lyric Opera of Chicago), Tonio in I Pagliacci (Austin Lyric Opera), and Valentin

in Faust (Boheme Opera of New Jersey). Highlights of the 2011-12 season include Mr. Sutin's debut at Boston Lyric Opera in the title role of Macbeth, and Marcello in Opera Fairbanks' production of La Boheme.

Biographies



Flora Bervoix: Courtney Schwalbe

Soprano Courtney G. Schwalbe is a Mississippi native whose versatility as a performer has led her to successfully sing leading roles and solos in opera, musical theater, and major choral works. Ms. Schwalbe's operatic roles include Carla Mae in Ricky Ian Gordon's *The House Without a Christmas Tree*, Delores in Frank Pesci's *Royal Flush*, Carmen and Mercédès in *Carmen*, Ruggiero in *Alcina*, Elettra in *Idomeneo*, and Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*. In concert, she has performed solos in Mozart's *Great Mass in C Minor*, Handel's *Messiah*, Bach's *Mass in B Minor*, and Bernstein's *Missa Brevis*. Ms. Schwalbe has performed with

the American Institute of Musical Studies (AIMS) Festival Orchestra, Opera Las Vegas, the Mediterranean Opera Studio Festival, Nashville Opera, Red River Lyric Opera, the Middle Tennessee Choral Society with members of the Nashville Symphony, and the International Choral Festival of Missoula, Montana.

Ms. Schwalbe holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Montana. She is currently working on her Doctorate of Musical Arts under the instruction of Dr. Alfonse Anderson at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. Ms. Schwalbe resides in Las Vegas with her husband, Michael, and their dog Romeo.

Biographies



Annina: Genevieve Fulks

Praised for her "sterling soprano that is a pleasure in and of itself" (Springfield News-Leader) and described as "a powerhouse of talent," (Chris' Corner, Travel and Theatre), Genevieve Fulks has established herself as a multifaceted soprano excelling in opera, musical theatre, pop, and contemporary classical music. Born and raised in Arkansas, she is a new resident of Vegas, where she made her opera role debuts with Vegas City Opera as Lucy Brown in Threepenny Opera and Ortlinde in Die Walküre. She is the former lead soprano of Spirit Productions' international sensation Dublin's Irish Tenors and The Celtic

Ladies and has performed regionally (southern and midwest US) with numerous opera companies and theaters, most notably, Ozarks Lyric Opera, Springfield Little Theatre, Knoxville Opera, Opera in the Ozarks, King's Castle Theatre, Andy Williams Moon River Theatre, Virginia Baroque Performance Academy, and the Delta Symphony Orchestra. Internationally, she has performed with the Sankt Goar International Music Festival, the Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra of Czechia, and the Krakow Forum Sinfonia of Poland. Genevieve currently sings full time in Streetmosphere at the Venetian on the Las Vegas Strip. Her favorite professional credits include Cunegonde in Candide, Susanna in Le nozze di Figaro, Lily in The Secret Garden, and Serpina in La serva padrona. You can find her first studio album, Passages, on Spotify, where she sings the chamber and orchestral music of composer Michael F. Murray with the Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra of the Czech Republic.

Biographies



Gastone: Marco Varela

Marco Varela, tenor, started his classical vocal studies at Televisa Studios in Mexico City. He pursued a degree in business management at UNLV while under a music scholarship.

Mr Varela's professional opera career began with the Seattle Opera Company. He produced and recorded a curated selection of arias in his CD “Trilogia” and performs throughout the United States, Mexico, Europe, and Asia.

He leads an active schedule singing in private events, local opera companies, fundraisers and has performed for international diplomats and for live television.

He is an active member of both the American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA) and the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA).

Biographies



Barone Douphol: Andre Chiang

Baritone André Chiang has been described as “vocally commanding” (Oregonian), “handsome of voice” (Opera News), and lauded with “let’s hear more from this singer” (Washington Post).

Chiang’s recent engagements include Gianni Schicchi (Gianni Schicchi) with Opera Mississippi, Captain Smith (A Capacity for Evil) with Opera Las Vegas, and Clint (Fearless (workshop)) with Opera Delaware. Previous companies include Portland Opera, Virginia Opera, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, and the Glimmerglass Festival to name a few. Competition honors include Winner of the 2017 NFMC Biennial Young Artist Award and

the 2018 NATS Artist Awards Competition. Chiang’s Carnegie Hall debut came as the Baritone soloist in the World Premiere of Martin Palmeri’s Gran Misa. Upcoming company engagements Landlocked Opera, Opera Las Vegas, Opera Western Reserve, Mobile Opera, and Opera Philadelphia.

As an educator, Chiang was a 2018 NATS Intern and a part of the first cohort of Pan American Vocology Association – Recognized Vocologists (PAVA-RV) in 2022. Upcoming presentations include the PAVA National Conference and the CMS National Conference both in Miami, FL. Chiang was the Artistic Director of Opera NexGen and currently Chairs the NFMC Young Artist Competition for Man’s Voice, Chairs the NATS Art Song Coalition and is Vice President of the Las Vegas Chapter of NATS, and is a board member of the Asian Opera Alliance. Chiang is an Assistant Professor of Voice at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, an Instructor of Voice at the Interlochen Summer Arts Camp, and runs a private online and in-person studio teaching acoustic and amplified styles.
www.andrechiangbaritone.com

Biographies



Marchese D'Obigny: Chase Orlando Gutierrez

Baritone, Chase Orlando Gutierrez, a Las Vegas native young artist whose personable and charismatic singing has taken him from Las Vegas to Spain. Mr. Gutierrez has performed in numerous operas throughout the years: Don Alfonso in *Così fan Tutte*, Jupiter in *Orpheus in the Underworld* (English), The Notary in *Don Pasquale*, The Notary/Buoso Donati in *Gianni Schicchi*, Thierry in *Dialogues of the Carmelites* (English), Quartet Chorus of *Dido and Aeneas*, Chorus of *Pirates of Penzance*, and Chorus of *La Cenerentola*. In concert Chase has performed as the baritone soloist

in Charpentier's *Te Deum*, and has sung spirituals throughout Spain and Portugal. Chase is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at UNLV under the supervision of Dr. Alfonse Anderson. Outside of the world of opera Chase is a multimedia specialist as the onsite audio engineer and photographer in his studio.

Biographies



Dr. Grenvil: Norman Espinoza

Norman Espinoza, a Bass originally from San José California, has performed internationally and with numerous opera companies in California. He is a graduate from San José State University where he obtained both his M.M. and B.M. in Vocal Performance.

Recognized for his powerful low notes, he has sung for the Berlin Opera Academy, Montefeltro Music Festival in Italy, Opera San José, Livermore Valley Opera, Lyric Opera Orange County, Vegas City Opera and Opera Santa Barbara.

Roles include: Colline, Alidoro, Mustafà, Reverend Hale, Il Commendatore, Sparafucile, Leporello, Bartolo, Seneca and Sarastro to name a few.

For the 2021-2022 season Norman was Chrisman Studio Artist with Opera Santa Barbara and won 3rd place for the 2021 Classical Singer Competition's Classical Young Artist/Emerging Professional category.

"Tremendous voice! Love the color, especially in the lower part of his voice. Very good possibilities!!" - CS Music

Norman now resides in Las Vegas, Nevada with his wife and works closely with Opera Las Vegas. He also is a Gondolier Singer for The Venetian Resort and he would love take you on a ride on his gondola in Las Venice!

Biographies



Conductor/Music Director: Joshua Horsch

Praised for conducting with "steady acumen and considerable aplomb" and "awesome control" (*Opera Today*), **Joshua Horsch** is an extremely versatile operatic and symphonic conductor. A two-time winner of the American Prize in Opera Conducting, Joshua serves as Music Director and Principal Conductor of Opera Las Vegas. Joshua's recent and upcoming conducting engagements include appearances with Atlanta Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Opera Orlando, Greensboro Opera, Mobile Opera, Pacific Opera Project, Opera Las Vegas, and Tri-Cities Opera. With a diverse repertoire of over sixty operas and a broad

spectrum of orchestral and choral works, Joshua has recently held positions as a conductor and pianist/coach on the music staff of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Austin Opera, Michigan Opera Theatre, Florida Grand Opera, North Carolina Opera, Opera Saratoga, Pensacola Opera, the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Newport Music Festival. Joshua studied conducting and piano at the University of Colorado Boulder, the Pennsylvania State University, and Ithaca College.

Biographies



Director: Octavio Cardenas

Stage director Octavio Cardenas captivates audiences with his visionary, visceral, and physical style of directing. Opera News has praised him for creating “an immersive theater experience” while the Dallas Morning News hailed him for bringing “every character and situation to life.” Recent projects include Lohengrin by Salvatore Sciarrino as a pop-up digital opera installation: a site-specific opera for COVID times in collaboration with artist Lance McGoldrick and Opera Southwest, Cruzar la cara de la Luna with Opera Santa Barbara, and the World Premiere of Zorro with Fort Worth Opera, Barber of Seville with

Opera Delaware, and Florencia en el Amazonas with Opera at Chapman.

Mr. Cardenas’ recent productions of Silent Night for Fort Worth Opera and Lyric Opera of Kansas City were described as “a breathtaking realization” with “many brilliant touches.” The Kansas City Star called the Lyric Opera’s production “one of its finest performances in recent memory.” Other recent productions include La boheme for Minnesota opera to which the Star Tribune acclaimed, “what makes the production a success, is Octavio Cardenas’ staging.” His production of As One for UrbanArias was acclaimed by MD Theater Guide, “Under the direction of Octavio Cardenas, the two stars playfully make great use of both stage and energetic space—it seemed the theatre condensed and expanded with Hannah’s journey.”

He has served as the Director of Baylor Opera, Head of Directing Staff at Des Moines Metro Opera and has also been on the directing staff at Chautauqua Opera. Mr. Cardenas is currently the Visiting Director of Opera at Chapman University and will be joining the Faculty at Eastman School of Music this coming Fall.

Biographies



Stage Manager: Bonita Bunt

Bonita Bunt has studied Music, Theatre, Musical Theatre, and English literature and is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where she earned her Doctorate and Master of Music in Vocal Performance. She has enjoyed ten years of working in the Las Vegas Valley as performer, director, assistant director, and stage manager. *La Traviata* marks her 20th production with Opera Las Vegas. Currently, Dr. Bunt serves as Director of Opera at the University of Mississippi.

Biographies



Lighting/Projections Designer: Catherine M. Pratt

Catherine M. Pratt is a theatrical, dance, and opera Lighting Designer based in Las Vegas, Nevada. Her recent design credits with Opera Las Vegas include *Approaching Ali*, *A Capacity for Evil*, *Letters to Lily*, and *Proving Up*. Catherine has also worked on various other lighting design projects that include *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (Rainbow Company Youth Theatre), *Elf the Musical* (Sierra Repertory Theatre), *La Canterina & Der Scheuspieler* (UNLV Theater Opera & Nevada Conservatory Theatre), *Little Shop of*

Horrors (Nevada Conservatory Theatre), *Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow* (UNLV Department of Dance), *This Moment of Movement* (UNLV Department of Dance), *Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet* (Nevada Conservatory Theatre), and *DramArt* (a collaboration between UNLV and Cirque du Soleil).

Catherine holds a Master of Fine Arts in Theatre with emphasis in Lighting Design from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and a B.A. in Theatre from Mount Marty University in Yankton, SD.

Biographies



Production Pianist: Timothy Accurso

Timothy Accurso is the Principal Pianist for Opera Santa Barbara, joining the company in the fall of 2018. Tim has been on music staff with Utah Opera, Palm Beach Opera, Opera Saratoga, and the Seagle Music Colony. Originally from Glen Lyon, Pennsylvania, he completed his undergraduate studies at Susquehanna University in Vocal and Piano Performance. To further his studies in opera, Tim received a Master's of Music in Vocal Coaching and Accompanying from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he studied with Dr. Julie Jordan Gunn. Following his studies, Tim was a resident artist with Utah Opera from

2015-2017. In his work with Opera Santa Barbara, he plays all mainstage rehearsals, serves as chorus master of the Opera Santa Barbara chorus, directs the Chrisman Studio Artist program for emerging singers, and performs in community concerts throughout Santa Barbara and the central coast. In addition to his work at the opera, Tim was named the Artistic Director of the Santa Barbara Gay Men's Chorus in the fall of 2022.



Save the Dates

Our full 25th Anniversary Season will be announced soon!

Information and tickets will be available at
www.operalasvegas.com

About Opera Las Vegas

Opera Las Vegas heads into 2022-23 — its 24th year — of enriching the cultural landscape of Southern Nevada by strengthening our Las Vegas communities' relationship to the art of opera through accessible, engaging, and high caliber performance experiences.

People of Opera Las Vegas

Jim Sohre, General Director

Joshua Horsch, Music Director and Principal Conductor

Sheronda McKee-Dollar, Diversity Coordinator

Athena Mertes, Chorus Master, Youth Chorus

Cecilia Violetta Lopez, Social Media Coordinator

Gregory Storkan, Web Designer and Marketing Consultant

Brian Blaylock, Legal Counsel

Diana Dickinson, Legal Counsel

Board of Directors

William Schroder, President

Nicole Harris, Secretary

Alvida Lane, Historian

Dr. Alfonse Anderson

Dr. Richard Kravchak

Anita Murray

Greg Gordillo

Teri Raven

Sustaining Trustees

Chris and Anita Murray