

## Todays Program

Belle nuit<sub>,</sub> ô nuit d'amour from The Tales of Hoffmann by Jacques Offenbach Mary Hangley & Courtney Miller

La donna è mobile

from Pagliacci by Ruggero Leoncavallo

Mary Hangley and Eugene Brancoveanu

from Rigoletto by Giuseppe Verdi Nicolas Vasquez-Gerst Nedda! Silvio, a quest'ora

So In Love from Kiss Me Kate by Cole Porter

Una furtiva lagrima from L'elisir d'amore by Gaetano Donizetti Nicolas Vasquez-Gerst

Vissi D'arte

from Tosca by Giacomo Puccini

**Courtney Miller** 

**Mary Hangley** Au fond du temple saint (Pearl fishers duet) from The Pearl Fishers by Georges Bizet

Nicolas Vasquez-Gerst & Eugene Brancoveanu

Poisoning Pigeons in the Park by Tom Lehrer **Courtney Miller** 

Mary Hangley, Courtney Miller & Eugene Brancoveanu Maria from West Side Story by Leonard Bernstein

Nicolas Vasquez-Gerst

Soave sia il vento

from Cosi Fan Tutte by W.A. Mozart

The Impossible Dream from Man of La Mancha by Mitch Leigh & Joe Darion

Libiamo ne' lieti calici (The Brindisi) from La Traviata by Verdi Tutti (Everyone)

**Eugene Brancoveanu** 





In 2023, she earned critical acclaim from the San Francisco Chronicle for her "incendiary brilliance" and "bright, luxuriant and fearlessly on point" singing in her triumphant debut as A Woman in Schoenberg's Erwartung with West Edge Opera. Career highlights include Beethoven's 9th Symphony with the San Francisco Symphony, Leonora in Il trovatore at Opera San José, and Contessa Almaviva with Minnesota Opera. She has graced stages

Opera News aptly praised Courtney Miller's "fluent musicality," for her portrayal of Cherubino in Le nozze di Figaro with Opera Saratoga. Known for her "captivating stage presence" and "excellent sense of comic

with The Glimmerglass Festival, Buffalo Philharmonic, and Oakland Symphony, among others.

company debut with Sacramento Philharmonic & Opera as Marcellina in Le nozze di Figaro, her debut with the San Francisco Choral Society as the Alto Soloist in Mendelssohn's Elijah, debuted with the UC Berkeley Chamber Chorus as the Alto Soloist in Ratcliff's Ode to Common Things, debuted with West Bay Opera as Teresa in La sonnambula, sang the alto solos in the world premier of Fred Cohen's Nizkor - A Journey of Remembrance with San Jose State University, and returned to Pocket Opera as Elmire in Tartuffe. During the 2025-26 season, Courtney returns to the Opera San José mainstage, Festival Opera for Flora in La traviata, revives her one-woman show "Tell me the truth about love," and debuts with Livermore Valley Opera as Despina in Cosi fan tutte. Additionally, she has sung roles with Detroit Opera, Florida Grand Opera, Madison Opera, and aboard Azamara Club Cruises. Courtney is an award-winning recitalist and concert soloist. She specializes in curated programs that tell compelling stories highlighting

Courtney Miller, Mezzo-soprano

timing," Courtney excels across genres. During the 2024-25 season, she returned to San Francisco Opera as Warren's Wife in The Handmaid's Tale,

Dialogues des Carmélites in 2022. Also last season, she made her role and

after making her debut with the company as Sister St. Charles in

female composers. www.courtneyallycemiller.com @mezzomiller Nicolas Vasquez-Gerst, Tenor Nicolas Vasquez-Gerst is a Californian tenor who holds BM and MA degrees from the University of California, Santa Cruz. Mr. Vasquez-Gerst has performed in numerous productions with Opera San José, including Silent Night by Kevin Puts, the role of Tashtago in Jake Heggie's Moby-Dick, and the North American premiere of Alma Deutscher's Cinderella. In the 2024-25 season, he appeared as Monostatos in The Magic Flute, and he returns to Opera San José for the 2025-26 season to cover Beppe in Pagliacci, sing Giuseppe, and cover (with one performance of) Gastone in La Traviata. Mr. Vasquez-Gerst has also been a featured soloist with Magic Circle Opera

and was a member of the San Francisco Opera Extra Chorus in their 2018 summer production of Wagner's Ring Cycle. He recently returned to San Francisco Opera to sing in the chorus in their

production of Mozart's Idomeneo and will appear in the chorus for Rigoletto and Parsifal in Fall 2025.

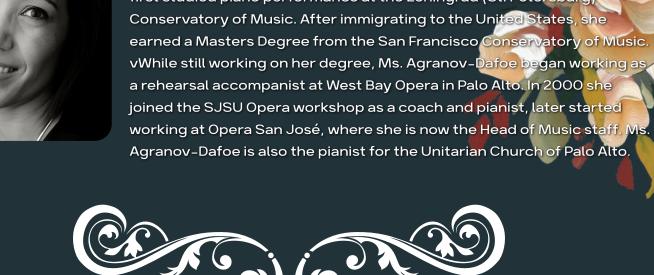
**Eugene Brancoveanu, Baritone** Romanian baritone and Tony Award winner Eugene Brancoveanu joined Opera San José as a Resident Artist in 2019, performing in Die Fledermaus, Hansel and Gretel, and Il Trovatore. He returned for The Marriage of Figaro, Carmen, and Falstaff, and starred as Rigoletto in 2024. Last season, he appeared as Octavio Rivera y Moncada in Héctor Armienta's Zorro and returns in the 2025-2026 Season to sing Sharpless in Madama Butterfly.

Giovanni, Belcore, Enrico, and more. International appearances include the Salzburg Festival, Munich

He toured nationally in Michael Tilson Thomas's The Thomashefskys, released by PBS and EMIL With Opera Parallèle, he's performed in Flight, Young Caesar, and The Machine. He studied in Romania and at the Mozarteum in Salzburg. Veronika Agranov-Dafoe, Pianist Born and raised in Leningrad (St. Petersburg), Russia, Ms. Agranov-Dafoe first studied piano performance at the Leningrad (St. Petersburg)

A former Adler Fellow with San Francisco Opera, Brancoveanu has sung Don

State Opera, and Piccola Scala di Milano.





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