



OPERA 20 YEARS

STEAMBOAT

June - September 2022



LA BOHÈME

GIACOMO PUCCINI

June 18
7 pm



COMPANY

STEPHEN SONDHEIM

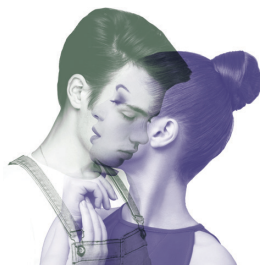
August 5 & 6
7 pm



THE THREE FEATHERS

LORI LAITMAN

August 12 & 13
7 pm



AS ONE

LAURA KAMINSKY
MARK CAMPBELL
KIMBERLY REED

September 24
7 pm

Without
Music
Life Would **B^b**
Flat

www.OperaSteamboat.org



Highlights of Performances

June - September 2022

Visit operasteamboat.org for tickets and more information.

Our website will be updated throughout the summer as free community concerts featuring our resident young artists are added to the schedule!

June 18 at 7 pm

La Bohème

(Strings Music Pavilion)

June 21 at 7 pm

Piano Concert featuring Alaina DeBellevue

(Library Hall)

June 24 at 7 pm

Arias & Ensembles Concert

(Library Hall)

July 29 at 7 pm

Piano Concert featuring Kristin Ditlow

(Library Hall)

July 30 at 2 pm

Arias & Ensembles Concert

(Library Hall)

August 5 & 6 at 7 pm

Company

(Steamboat Springs Middle School)

August 12 & 13 at 7 pm

The Three Feathers

(Steamboat Springs Middle School)

September 17 & 18 at 7 pm

***Collaboration with Steamboat Symphony Orchestra
featuring Costa Rican pianist Walter Morales performing
Beethoven's Emperor Piano Concerto***

(Strings Music Pavilion)

September 24 at 7 pm

As One

(Strings Music Pavilion)

OperaSteamboat.org

A Message From The Board

Welcome to the 20th Season of Opera Steamboat!

You make our mission a reality: helping us enrich the well-being of our community through innovative, educational, and collaborative musical arts programs. We are grateful for your continued trust and for your support in 2022 - our 20th year!

This spring, your support made possible our Opera in the Schools program, which brought free music education to more than 2,000 school children in the Yampa Valley. This programming included an age-appropriate opera performed at schools across the region with accompanying education materials as well as special coaching for the Steamboat Springs High School choir as they prepared for their spring performances.

This summer, our education programming continues as 36 young artists come to Steamboat from around the world to participate in our annual Summer Festival, with 40% of them being students of color. These artists will receive over \$65,000 in scholarships to help partially offset the cost of tuition, paving the way to our strategic goal of a tuition-free Opera Artist Institute.

The 2022 season brings a variety of performances, including our Summer Festival operas (*La Bohème*, *Company*, and *The Three Feathers*) and Arias & Ensembles concerts and our September opera (*As One*). In addition, our Variations Piano Series brings six piano concerts to our community throughout this year.

This summer, we are thrilled to launch a brand-new program for our community. Eight resident young artists will present multiple free performances in Steamboat Springs, Oak Creek, Hayden, and Craig. Through this innovative program we share the joy of music with an even broader audience throughout the Yampa Valley.

And finally, with an eye to Opera Steamboat's bright future, we invite you to contribute to both our Annual Operating Fund and our Endowment Fund. Please consider a direct or planned gift to support our work in the community today and for years to come.

We sincerely thank you for your engagement and support and hope you enjoy the show!

Sincerely,



Jenny Maxwell

Chair, Board of Trustees



Melissa Hampton

Vice Chair, Board of Trustees

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DIRECTOR David Toro
VOCAL COACH Alaina DeBellevue
SCENIC DESIGNER..... Roger Hanna
COSTUME DESIGNER..... Madison Booth
LIGHTING DESIGNER Emily Maddox
STAGE MANAGER..... Lauren Cernik-Price
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER Emily Waldman
ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR Samuel Sherman

Cast of Characters

RODOLFO	Omar Najmi
MIMI	Maria Jose Fabara
MARCELLO	Markel Reed
MUSETTA	Jiayu Li
COLLINE	Oliver Poveda
SCHAUNARD.....	Kevin Spooner
BENOIT	Darius Taylor
ALCINDORO.....	Darius Taylor
PARPIGNOL.....	Joan Marinez
CHORUS	Opera Artists Institute and Local Singers

Synopsis

ACT I

San Francisco, in the early 1970s. In their garret apartment, the near-destitute artist Marcello and poet Rodolfo try to keep warm on Christmas Eve by feeding the stove with pages from Rodolfo's latest play. They are soon joined by their roommates—Colline, a philosopher, and Schaunard, a musician, who brings food, fuel, and funds he has collected from an eccentric nobleman. While they celebrate their unexpected fortune, the landlord, Benoit, comes to collect the rent. After getting the older man drunk, the friends urge him to tell of his flirtations, then throw him out in mock indignation at his infidelity to his wife. As the others depart to revel at the Café Momus, Rodolfo remains behind to finish an article, promising to join them later. There is another knock at the door - the visitor is Mimi, a pretty neighbor, whose candle has gone out in the stairwell. As she enters the room, she suddenly feels faint. Rodolfo gives her a sip of wine, then helps her to the door and relights her candle. Mimi realizes that she lost her key when she fainted, and as the two search for it, both candles go out. Rodolfo finds the key and slips it into his pocket. In the moonlight, he takes Mimi's hand and tells boasts about himself. She recounts her life alone in a lofty garret, embroidering flowers and waiting for the spring. Rodolfo's friends call from outside, telling him to join them. He responds that he is not alone and will be along shortly. Happy to have found each other, Mimi and Rodolfo leave for the café.

ACT II

Amid the shouts of street hawkers, Rodolfo buys Mimi a hat and introduces her to his friends. They all sit down and order supper. The paleta vendor Parpignol passes by, besieged by children. Marcello's former sweetheart, Musetta, makes a noisy entrance for her performance at Momus Café with

the elderly, but wealthy, Alcindoro. The ensuing tumult reaches its peak when, trying to gain Marcello's attention, she loudly sings the praises of her own popularity. Sending Alcindoro away to buy her a new pair of shoes, Musetta finally falls into Marcello's arms. Police officers march by the café, and as the bohemians fall they sneak out, leaving the returning Alcindoro to pay the check.

ACT III

At dawn, police officers admit day workers past police barricades on the outskirts of the city. Drunks are heard drinking and singing within a nearby tavern. Mimì arrives, searching for the place where Marcello and Musetta now live. When Marcello appears, she tells him of her distress over Rodolfo's incessant jealousy. She says she believes it is best that they part. As Rodolfo emerges from the tavern, Mimì hides nearby. Rodolfo tells Marcello that he wants to separate from Mimì, blaming her flirtatiousness. Pressed for the real reason, he breaks down, saying that her illness can only grow worse, and he is not brave enough to face it. Overcome with emotion, Mimì comes forward to say goodbye to her lover. Marcello runs back into the tavern upon hearing Musetta's laughter. While Mimì and Rodolfo recall past happiness, Marcello returns with Musetta, quarreling about her flirting with a customer. They hurl insults at each other, but Mimì and Rodolfo decide to remain together until springtime.

ACT IV

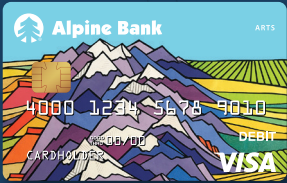
Months later in the garret, Rodolfo and Marcello, now separated from their girlfriends, reflect on their loneliness. Colline and Schaunard bring a meager meal. To lighten their spirits, the four stage a dance, which turns into a mock duel. At the height of the hilarity, Musetta bursts in with news that Mimì is outside, too weak to come upstairs. As Rodolfo runs to her aid, Musetta relates how Mimì begged to be taken to Rodolfo to die. She is made as comfortable as possible, while Musetta asks Marcello to sell her earrings for medicine and Colline goes off to pawn his overcoat. Left alone, Mimì and Rodolfo recall their meeting and their first happy days, but she is seized with violent coughing. When the others return, Musetta gives Mimì a muff to warm her hands, and Mimì slowly drifts into unconsciousness. Musetta prays for Mimì, but it is too late. The friends realize that she is dead, and Rodolfo collapses in despair.

Orchestra

FLUTE/PICCOLOMichelle Stanley
CLARINET.....Copper Ferreira
BASSOONCayla Bellamy
TRUMPET John King

HORN Katherine Smith
 HARP Jenna Allen
 TIMPANI Paul Finckel
 VIOLIN I CONCERT MASTER Mary Evans
 VIOLIN I Marika Basagoitia
 VIOLIN I Roman Carranza
 VIOLIN II PRINCIPAL..... Georgina Petheo
 VIOLIN II Elizabeth Furuye
 VIOLA PRINCIPAL..... Steve Gravagne
 VIOLA..... Daniella Angulo
 CELLO PRINCIPAL Romina Monsanto
 CELLO Erin Patterson
 BASS Ernie Glock

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DIRECTOR Stuart Handloff
SCENIC DESIGNER..... Johnmichael Bohach
COSTUME DESIGNER..... Ann Piano
LIGHTING DESIGNER Emily Maddox
CHOREOGRAPHER..... Vivienne Luthin
STAGE MANAGER..... Emma Rocheleau
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER..... Lauren Cernik- Price

Cast of Characters

BOBBYEvan Flemming
SARAH Michaela Wright

HARRYKevin Spooner
 SUSANJessica Rodriguez-Gonzalez
 PETER.....Colin Safley
 JENNYChelsea Scott
 DAVID.....Josef Samargia
 AMYMckenna Brunson
 PAULJustin Baptista
 LARRYMatthew Cook
 JOANNEKyrie Laybourn
 KATHYWallis Lucas
 MARTAJennifer Johnston
 APRILAlexandra King

Synopsis

In a series of vignettes, New York single Bobby learns about the perils and pleasures of love, marriage, dating and divorce from his married friends. This time and shape shifting production takes place as Bobby reflects on the occasion of his 35 birthday, looking to find meaning in connections and relationships despite a lifetime of misgivings.

Orchestra

DRUM SETMichael Carp
 BASSErnie Glock
 CLARINET/SAXOPHONE.....Copper Ferreira
 TRUMPETJohn King
 PIANOBeth Nielsen



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THE
THREE FEATHERS
LORI LAITMAN

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Production Staff

CONDUCTOR Kristin Ditlow
DIRECTOR Olga Flora
SCENIC DESIGNER..... Johnmichael Bohach
COSTUME DESIGNER..... Daniella Toscano
LIGHTING DESIGNEREmily Maddox
STAGE MANAGER..... Lauren Cernik-Price
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER..... Emma Rocheleau

Cast of Characters

DORA	Madison Holmes
DORA	Ella Torres
GILDA.....	Lily Smith
GILDA.....	Alice Del Simone
TILDA	Lauren Lundy
TILDA	Connor Locke
KING	Darius Taylor
FROG KING	Oliver Poveda
FROG PRINCE	Garrett Medlock
CHORUS	Opera Artist Institute and local singers

Synopsis

The Three Feathers is a new family opera for the main stage - a modern *Magic Flute*. Based on a little known tale by the Brothers Grimm, the opera presents a young female protagonist, Princess Dora, as its hero. A magic feather leads the shy, self-doubting princess to an enchanted Underworld ruled by a giant Frog King. Here she summons her courage and compassion to face a series of mysterious and comic adventures that change her life. Completing her quest, she saves her father's kingdom from the plots of her selfish sisters and earns her right to the crown.

Orchestra

FLUTE/PICCOLO	Megan Lanz
OBOE	Pablo Hernandez
CLARINET	Copper Ferreira
BASSOON	Cayla Bellamy
TRUMPET I	John King
TRUMPET II	Michael Bucalo
TROMBONE.....	Daniel Watts
TIMPANI	Michael Carp
PERCUSSION	Paul Finckel
HARP.....	Jenna Hunt
PIANO	Cheryl Lindquist
VIOLIN I	Ryan Jacobsen
VIOLIN II	Roman Carranza
VIOLA	Alex Vittal
CELLO.....	Romina Monsanto
BASS.....	Ernie Glock



AS ONE

MUSIC BY LAURA KAMINSKY

LIBRETTO BY MARK CAMPBELL AND KIMBERLY REED

Presenting Sponsor

Charlotte Cannon

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Jack Dysart and Carol Milligan

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Production Staff

CONDUCTOR Eden Lane
DIRECTOR Alexandra Enyart
SCENIC DESIGNERS Xander Claypool and Sue Oehme
COSTUMES Ann Piano
LIGHTING DESIGNER Emily Maddox

Cast of Characters

HANNAH BEFORE Lucas Boulk
HANNAH AFTER Nikola Printz

Synopsis

As One is a chamber opera in which two voices—Hannah before (baritone) and Hannah after (mezzo-soprano)—share the part of a sole transgender protagonist. Fifteen songs comprise the three-part narrative; with empathy and humor, they trace Hannah’s experiences from her youth in a small town to her college years on the West Coast, and finally to Norway where she is surprised at what she learns about herself.

Part I

In “Paper route,” Hannah rides around her suburban neighborhood delivering newspapers and revels in her more feminine impulses. Her youthful challenges in conforming to gender norms are related in “Cursive,” “Sex ed,” “Entire of itself” and “Perfect boy”—in such disparate subjects as handwriting, sex, a John Donne poem, and exemplary male behavior. However, in “To know,” she discovers that she is not alone in the world and seeks understanding about herself at a local library.

Part II

During her college years, Hannah struggles with her bifurcated existence in “Two cities,” but also encounters the joy of being perceived as she wishes in “Three words.” In “Close,” she has made the decision to undergo hormone therapy and briefly suffers its vertiginous effects before feeling at one with her own body. “Home for the holidays,” “A Christmas story” and “Dear son” all occur around the Christmas season and relate Hannah’s growing distance from her family and her past, which is countered by an immediate connection with a stranger in a local café. In “Out of nowhere,” Hannah escapes a harrowing assault that prompts her to find a link to the larger trans community and end her self-imposed alienation. Reacting to the conflicting voices in her head, she finally resolves to escape in the fragment, “I go on to...”

Part III

“Norway.”

In this extended aria, Hannah finds in nature, solitude, and self-reflection, the simple yet surprising equation that will help her achieve happiness.

List of Songs

Part I

Paper route | Cursive | Sex ed | Entire of itself | Perfect boy | To know

Part II

Two cities | Three words | Close | Home for the holidays | A Christmas Story | Dear son | Out of nowhere | I go on to...

Part III

Norway

Orchestra

VIOLIN I	Ryan Jacobsen
VIOLIN II	Roman Carranza
VIOLA	Alex Vittal
CELLO	Romina Monsanto

Production Artists



Johnmichael Bohach

Scenic Designer and Properties Master: *Company, The Three Feathers*

Johnmichael Bohach is a freelance scenic designer and properties artisan based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. After graduating in 2006 from the University of Pittsburgh with BAs in Theatre Arts and Architectural Studies, he has gone on to design over 200 theatrical productions all across the country. His newest endeavor has taken him into designing immersive, themed pop-up bars—The Neverland Experience, The Alice, and The Tippy Elf—all of which debuted in Pittsburgh before touring in other cities. Johnmichael’s Opera Steamboat designs include: *The Barber of Seville*, *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*, *Rusalka*, *Hansel & Gretel*, *Frida*, *The Enchanted Pig*, *Alcina*, *Florencia en el Amazonas*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and *Dido and Aeneas*.



Madison Booth

Costume Designer: *La Bohème*

Madison received her MFA in costume design at the University of Maryland, College Park in 2021 and is excited to be joining the Opera Steamboat production team for the first time this season. Her Colorado design credits include: *Fireflies* at Curious Theatre, *Fourteen Funerals* at BETC, and *Every Brilliant Thing* at Theatreworks UCCS. Her associate design credits include *Gold Mountain* at the Utah Shakespeare Festival, *The Tempest* at the Idaho Shakespeare Festival, *Mlima’s Tale* at the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis.



Lucas Bouk

Baritone: *Hannah Before, As One*

Lucas Bouk has been on a long journey with Hannah. He attended As One's world premiere in 2014 and the opera (and the people he met there) introduced him to the term "transgender." He came out as a trans man a few years later and performed Hannah-after twice (with Alamo

City Opera and then in his own production in NYC). In this performance of *As One* with Opera Steamboat, Lucas sings Hannah-before, a role made possible by two years of testosterone. Lucas worked steadily throughout the pandemic to vocally re-train and made his baritone debut in August 2021 with On Site Opera. In the 2022 season Lucas also sings Masetto in *Don Giovanni* with the Camerata Bardi Vocal Academy and Leporello in *Don Giovanni* in the Vienna Summer Music Festival.



Lauren Cernik-Price

Production Stage Manager: *La Bohème, The Three Feathers*

Lauren attended San Diego State University where she received her BA in Music: Vocal Performance with a Minor in Theater: Stage Management and an Entertainment & Management Certificate. Her stage

management experience includes operas, plays, musicals, and choral festivals, including San Diego Sings! - a 1,000 person choral festival in San Diego's Balboa Park. Recently, Lauren has been working in the Atlanta film industry, but she is ecstatic to be back working in live stage production.



Xander Claypool

Scenic Designer and Properties Master: *As One*

Xander Claypool is a proud transgender and queer designer who is currently based out of Denver, CO. Xander is working additionally in concerts and live entertainment with areas of expertise in scenic and lighting design. Xander

recently graduated from Gonzaga University with a B.A. in Theatre Arts concentrated in Technical Theatre and a minor in Interdisciplinary Arts. Studies also included Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas during summer of 2020 and 2021. Current work is in a variety of roles from leadership to hand work for Rhino Staging Denver. Most recently Xander worked for the GU Theatre & Dance department as the Student Lead Technician and the Master Carpenter. Xander has received multiple awards from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) Region 7.



Alaina DeBellevue

**Pianist & Vocal Coach: *La Bohème, As One;*
Pianist: *Variations Piano Series***

Alaina de Bellevue is a freelance pianist, vocal coach, and music director residing in Boulder, Colorado. She is currently engaged as an assistant conductor at Sarasota Opera and musical director of Colorado State University's opera program. In addition to her work in opera, she appears regularly with Centennial State Ballet as a répétiteur and as an orchestral pianist for Colorado Mahlerfest, Boulder Chamber Orchestra, and Front Range Chamber Orchestra. She is also active in Europe, having served on the music staff for Opera et Cetera in Wiesbaden, German Singer Sommer in Freiberg, and as a chamber musician at Talis Festival in Saas-Fee, Switzerland. De Bellevue holds a Masters in Collaborative Piano and an Artist Diploma in Vocal Coaching from the University of Colorado Boulder



Kristin Ditlow

**Conductor: *The Three Feathers;*
Pianist: *Variations Piano Series***

Kristin made her Opera Steamboat debut in 2021 as the music director of *Le Nozze di Figaro* and will return to Opera Steamboat for Lori Laitman's *The Three Feathers*. She has trained as a solo pianist, collaborative pianist, harpsichordist, coach, and conductor at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Westminster Choir College, Tanglewood Music Center, Franz Schubert Institut, San Francisco Opera Center - Merola, and the Eastman School of Music. She will make house conducting debuts at Salt Marsh Opera, Permian Basin Opera, and Opera Ithaca during the 2021-2022 season. She is the Music Director of the University of New Mexico Opera Theatre and has been an Assistant Professor of Vocal Coaching at UNM since 2014. Her solo recital will include works inspired by song and opera. These will be released on her upcoming CD, *Passage*, on the Affetto label, in 2023.



Alexandra Enyart

Conductor: *As One*

Alexandra Enyart has been called "one of Chicago's greatest operatic gifts" (Chicago Theatre Review) and "a podium talent to watch" (ChicagoClassical Review). She has performed with Opera Columbus, Australian Contemporary Opera Company, Opera Santa Barbara, and many others around the country and globe. She has served as a Chicago Sinfonietta

Fellow and as a “Turn the Spotlight” fellow with Chicago Opera Theatre music director, Lidiya Yankovskaya. In 2017 Alexandra won the CODA conducting competition and in 2018 she won CCM’s Mozart Overture Conducting Competition. Alexandra served as a panelist at the OPERA America conference in 2021 and serves currently on the Artistic Advisory Council for American Opera Projects. Alexandra is as comfortable on the podium as she is in the opera pit, having made her international debut in Tomsk Russia with the Tomsk Philharmonic Orchestra in 2016 while finishing her Master’s in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Louisville. At the same time she also worked as the apprentice conductor with the Louisville Orchestra and Kentucky Opera as well as the Assistant Conductor for the Louisville Youth Orchestra. Alexandra works as a champion of new music and helped to bring *As One*, *When Adonis Calls*, *Patience*, and *Sarah* to the stage, among many others. She also champions young singers and advocates for every voice in her work with Chicago Vocal Arts Consortium which includes productions of *La finta giardiniera*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, and *L’elisir d’amore*.



James Flora

Instructor: Opera Artist Institute

James Flora, hailed for his “resonant, impeccably-trained voice and fearlessness to his singing,” has received acclaim in repertoire ranging from Verdi and Wagner to works by Carlisle Floyd and Daron Hagen where he sang Louis Sullivan in Hagen’s *Shining Brow* at Frank Lloyd Wright’s 20th century

masterpiece: *Fallingwater*. James has sung with the Metropolitan Opera Chorus under Maestro Donald Palumbo in their most recent productions of *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and *Fidelio*. He made his Pittsburgh Opera debut as Fenton in *Falstaff* and has since returned for seven productions, including *Carmen*, *Turandot*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, and most recently as 2nd Jew alongside Patricia Racette in *Salome*. James has performed leading roles in opera companies across the United States. He was a young artist at Glimmerglass Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, and Arizona Opera. He is currently a voice professor at the University of New Mexico.



Roger Hanna

Scenic Designer: *La Bohème*

Roger has designed 150 sets for theater, dance, and opera. He leads the set design concentration as an Associate Professor at CSU in Fort Collins. Roger spent the Fall of 2021 as a Global Teaching Scholar on Semester at Sea, visiting 14 ports around the Mediterranean. He holds a BA in

Theater from UCLA and an MFA in Set and Lighting Design from NYU. Opera designs include the Sarasota Opera, Manhattan School of Music, NYU, and 15



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years as resident designer for the Mannes School of Music. Regional designs include sets for Tommy Tune's new musical, *FIFTY*FOUR*FOREVER*, and sets and lights for *Elephant's Graveyard* (2017 True West Award from the Denver Center)...a true story about a town that hung an elephant for murder. Most recently Off-Broadway, he designed the set for the Mint Theatre's *Chekhov/Tolstoy: Love Stories*. His other work Off-Broadway has been recognized by four Henry Hewes Design Award nominations, three Drama Desk nominations, and the Lucille Lortel Award for Best Set Design.



Stuart Handloff

Director: Company

Stuart Handloff is a theatre artist with over 50 years of theatrical and administrative experience, including a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Colorado-Denver and a Master's degree in Theatre Directing from the New Zealand National

Drama School, Toi Whakaari. He has produced the Piknik Theatre summer repertory outdoor theatre program in the Yampa River Botanic Park, the Bud Werner Memorial Library, and other outdoor locations in Steamboat Springs, CO since 2008. In 2021, Piknik Theatre expanded to offer educational theatre and musical theatre to local students in the Yampa Valley. Stuart is currently leading efforts to construct a 200-seat outdoor amphitheater in collaboration with the Steamboat Springs School District with construction planned for 2022 and occupancy in 2023.



Eden Lane

Director: As One

Eden Lane is a trailblazing freelance broadcast journalist based in Denver, Colorado. She is also an actor, director, and filmmaker. Eden returned to the theater in 2017 at the American Repertory Theater, for the premiere of *Trans Scripts, Part I: The Women*. Since then she has directed and

choreographed the critically acclaimed regional premier of *Priscilla Queen Of The Desert* at the Aurora Fox and directed two Jake Heggie operas, *To Hell and Back* and *Into the Fire*, for Opera Steamboat.



Cheryl Lindquist

Pianist and Vocal Coach: *The Three Feathers*

Cheryl Cellon Lindquist, pianist and coach, is a renowned collaborator who has performed with an array of singers, instrumentalists, choirs, chamber ensembles, and symphony orchestras. Known for her versatility of styles, she has been called an “outstanding soloist with intricate passagework” and an “excellent collaborator.” To promote and revitalize the importance of Art Song, she co-founded the Art Song Center for Poets and Musicians with Ruth C. Friedberg and continues to serve as Artistic/Executive Director. Cheryl most recently served as the Music Director of Opera Studies at Texas State University. She now resides in Dallas, where she has a private coaching studio that includes numerous opera singers, university faculty and students, chamber musicians, and amateurs. She is an avid recitalist and maintains an active performing schedule.



Vivienne Luthin

Choreographer: *Company*

Vivienne Claire Luthin is a professional actor and teaching artist based in New York City. A 2019 graduate from Webster University with departmental honors, a BFA in Acting, and a Minor in Music, Vivienne has worked with the St. Louis Shakespeare Festival, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, and Pktnik Theatre. Vivienne studied movement and classical acting at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama. In addition to performing, Vivienne has 9 years of teaching experience as a director, designer, teacher, and coach of educational theatre. In 2021, Vivienne was appointed Director of Educational Outreach for Pktnik Theatre. Vivienne is currently working as a teaching artist of TADA! Youth Theater.



Emily Maddox

Lighting Designer: *La Bohème, Company, The Three Feathers, As One*

Emily attended the University of Oklahoma, where she received her BFA in Drama in 2014. Emily has had the privilege of working in 37 different theaters and performance spaces throughout Colorado. Her recent lighting designs include *Nice Work If You Can Get It* with Performance Now in Lakewood; *Guys and Dolls* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Town and Gown in Stillwater, Oklahoma; *Blackademics*, *Shakespeare In Love*, and *The*

12 Dates of Christmas at Vintage Theater in Aurora; *L'enfant et les Sortilèges* and *Les Mamelles de Tiresias* at DU's Newman Center in Denver; *Climate Change Theatre Action: A Future We Create* at Town Hall Arts Center in Littleton; and *Every Brilliant Thing* at TheatreWorks Colorado Springs.



Omar Najmi
Rodolfo, *La Bohème*

Tenor Omar Najmi enjoys a versatile career in opera and concert. A regular artist at the Boston Lyric Opera, Omar has been featured in over fifteen of their productions including appearances as Nick in *The Handmaid's Tale*, Vanya Kudrjas in *Katya Kabanova*, Beppe in

Pagliacci, Goro in *The Butterfly Process*, Reverend Harrington in *Lizzie Borden*, and more. Omar made his Carnegie Hall debut in 2018 as the tenor soloist in Mark Hayes' *Gloria*. He has since returned as the tenor soloist in Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living* and as a featured soloist in Talents of the World Inc.'s *Caruso Tribute Concert*. His additional concert repertoire includes Bach's *Magnificat*, Beethoven's *9th Symphony*, *Missa Solemnis*, *Mass in C*, and *Choral Fantasy*, Britten's *Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings*, Handel's *Messiah*, and *Dixit Dominus*, Mendelssohn's *Lobgesang*, and *Die Erste Walpurgisnacht*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*, Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, and *Petite Messe Solennelle*, and Verdi's *Requiem*. Omar is the recipient of the Lorraine Hunt Lieberson Fellowship from Emmanuel Music, the Stephen Shrestinian Award from Boston Lyric Opera, and the Harold Norblom Award from Opera Colorado. He has been a prizewinner from the Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions and the Talents of the World International Voice Competition.



Beth Nielsen
Pianist and Vocal Coach: *Company*

Beth Nielsen is a pianist and vocal coach whose passion for opera, art song, and musical theater keeps her busy in the Denver metro area. She currently teaches Lyric Diction at the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music in addition to her role as a vocal coach and collaborator in

the voice, opera, and string departments. Beth has served on the faculties at CU Boulder, Metro State University, Northern Arizona University, and Azusa Pacific University as well as coaching for young artist programs with Opera Colorado, Land of Enchantment Opera Institute, and of course the young artists here at Opera Steamboat. Her most recent pre-COVID endeavor was music-directing a production of Jason Robert Brown's *Songs for a New World*.



Sue Oehme

Scenic Artist: As One

Sue Oehme received her BFA in Fine Art from the University of Michigan and continued studies at New York University after moving to New York City. She lived and worked as an artist and printmaker in NYC until moving to Steamboat in 1996 to head Riverhouse Editions, a fine print publications company. In 2010, she opened her own fine print studio which has grown into a nationally recognized art haven, hosting artists, workshops, classes, exhibitions, and students each year. Her own work is widely collected, by such corporations as Bank of America and the U.S. State Department Art Bank, and is in numerous private and corporate collections. She is represented in Denver at Space Gallery and in NYC by Jim Kempner Fine Art.



Olga Perez Flora

Director: *The Three Feathers*

Cuban-American mezzo-soprano and director, Olga Perez Flora, has performed with opera companies and symphonies across the country and internationally and is best known for her sultry Carmen. Olga has most recently directed *Albert Herring* by Benjamin Britten and *Dido and Aeneas* by Henry Purcell at University of New Mexico as well as *Lucrecia y el Canto de los Dudasaurios* by Nur Slim for Amity Trio. Olga holds the Doctorate in Musical Arts from The Ohio State University, a Master's in Music in Opera Theater from Arizona State University, and a Bachelor's in Music in Vocal Performance from Northern Arizona University. She is currently head of the voice area and stage director for the opera program at the University of New Mexico, Artistic Co-Director at the Idyllwild Summer Arts Festival Choral Intensive, and the Artistic Director of the Gobbi Villa summer young artist program in Rome, Italy. Her professional affiliations include being an active member of the National Opera Association (NOA) and the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS).



Ann Piano

Costume Designer: *Company, As One*

Ann Piano returns to Opera Steamboat for her fifth consecutive season. As the Costume Coordinator for Opera Colorado since 2003, she has designed their Young Artist Touring Production costumes as well as pieces for *Don Giovanni* (2013), *Carmen* (2014), and *The Magic Flute* (2015). Over the past twenty years, she has designed over 100 shows for Denver area opera, theater, and dance companies. In 2012, she won a True West "Best Costume



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Design” Award for *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity* at The Curious Theatre Company. In 2009, she was nominated for an “Outstanding Costume Design” Henry Award for *Enchanted April* at Miners Alley Playhouse. Most recently, she designed *Tosca* at Bravo! Vail and *Agrippina* at the Eklund Opera Department at CU-Boulder. She received a BFA in Fashion Design from Stephens College, Columbia, MO, with a Minor in Fine Art.



Nikola Printz

Hanna After, As One

Nikola Printz is an artist and performer known for their dark, velvety voice, charismatic stage presence, and artistic fearlessness. They most recently were seen as the titular role of Carmen as well as Dido with Opera San Jose. They were recently praised by Opera News as having “a

big opulent tone and an easy reach to their high register.” Other recent appearances include *Behind the Stage Door* with the 2021 Merola season, Poulenc’s *La Voix Humaine*, and the premiere of Jake Heggie’s song cycle, *Intonations*. Other role debuts include *Orfeo ed Euridice* and *Carmen* as well as Rosina, Cherubino, and Isabella in *L’italiana in Algeri* with Opera Memphis, where they were a resident artist.



Markel Reed

Marcello, La Bohème

Markel Reed, is a native of Charlotte, North Carolina, has been featured in various concerts, recitals, and performances throughout North America and Europe. Markel was most recently seen as Young Emile in Boston Lyric Opera’s production of *Champion*. In the Summer of 2019,

he originated the role of “Chester” in the premiere of Terence Blanchard’s acclaimed opera *Fire Shut Up In My Bones* with Opera Theater of St. Louis, returning to the production for the 2021-22 season at The Metropolitan Opera. During this time Mr. Reed had the pleasure of singing ensemble and covering Lawyer Frazier in The Met’s grammy winning production of *Porgy and Bess*. In the summer of 2021 he returned to OTSL to create the role of James Baldwin in *The Tongue & the Lash* composed by Damien Sneed. Markel pursued his Bachelors of Music Performance at Oakwood University and is an alumnus of the University of Kentucky Opera Theater program.



Ernest Richardson

Conductor: *La Bohème*

Ernest Richardson is a conductor, composer, arranger, organizational leader, and inspirational speaker. His versatility finds him within one season conducting Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite*, or Broadway artists in the works of Leonard Bernstein, or a live-to-movie production of *Harry*

Potter, facilitating strategic decision-making for leading arts organizations, or training young musicians. He has been at the forefront of symphonic video/live music productions, conducting live-to-movie scores of *Harry Potter* with Cine Concerts, *Indiana Jones*, *Jurassic Park*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Singing in the Rain*, the Charlie Chaplin silent film *The Gold Rush*, to name a few, and most recently *Star Wars: A New Hope*. Ernest is presently the principal pops conductor and resident conductor of the Omaha Symphony. Since 1992, he has led in the development of the Omaha Symphony's successful Symphony Pops and the education and community engagement programs. He also holds the position of music director and principal conductor of the Steamboat Symphony Orchestra. Ernest was a recipient of the 2016 Nebraska Governor's Arts Award for Excellence in Arts Education. He has also served as the founding artistic director and CEO of the innovative Rocky Mountain Summer Conservatory.



Emma Rocheleau

Stage Manager: *Company*

Emma holds a BM in Vocal Performance from the Peabody Conservatory. Based in Los Angeles, she is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Vocal Arts from the University of Southern California. In 2019, Emma was a stage management intern at Opera Steamboat and

was the assistant stage manager of *Hansel and Gretel*. Most notably, she was the assistant stage manager of Peabody Opera Theater's productions of Puccini's *La Rondine* (2020) and *Il Trittico* (2019), along with stage managing *The Falling and the Rising* (2019).



Samuel Sherman

Conductor: *Company*

Samuel Sherman is an active conductor, performer, and educator within the Denver, CO region. He holds a Bachelor's of Music degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Northern Colorado. Samuel has gone on to build a private studio of diverse

classical vocalists, pianists, and conductors. Additionally, Samuel has since performed with Opera Steamboat, Opera Classika Europa, The Evans Choir, and more. During his undergraduate study, Samuel recognized his passion for the podium and began studying choral and orchestral conducting. Now completing his Master of Music degree in Conducting as a Choral Graduate Teaching Assistant at the Lamont School of Music at the University of Denver, Samuel continues to pursue high-class vocal performance and academic achievement. Samuel currently assistant-conducts the Lamont Chorale, Lamont Women's Choir, and Lamont Men's Choir while being a featured conductor within the Vancouver Chamber Choir "Nordic Sounds" Concert Series and the Lamont Composers Concert Series. Within his academic settings, Samuel strives to bring diverse composers and choral selections to the concert stage while challenging modern gender portrayals within the sphere of academic music.



David Toro

Director: *La Bohème*

David Radamés Toro applies his vocal training and background in physical theatre to direct innovative opera. He has directed at companies including Opera Colorado, Minnesota Opera, the Wexford Opera Festival, and Tri-Cities Opera. David has produced *Flight*, *La Calisto*, and

Virtual Magic Flute. David has directed works such as *The Shining* (Opera Colorado, 2022), *Dead Man Walking* (Opera Idaho, 2022), *Glory Denied*, (Opera Fayetteville, 2020) and *Flight* (Minnesota Opera, 2020). David Radamés Toro attended The University of Texas (DMA), The Ohio State University (MM/MA), and The University of Colorado at Boulder (BM). His theatrical training includes Meisner Technique, Anne Bogart's Viewpoints, Suzuki Tadashi's acting training, and classical Mime.



Daniella Toscano

Costume Designer: *The Three Feathers*

Daniella Toscano is a costume designer and visual artist, recently graduated with an MFA in Costume Design from UC San Diego. She received her BA in Studio Art and Theater at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Alongside costume design projects, she has also worked

extensively in costume shops around the country in a variety of roles and has explored and developed skills in multimedia design as a way to further explore theatrical storytelling in the digital landscape. Recent design credits include Branden Jacobs Jenkins' *Everybody* (UCSD), Sophocles' *Elektra* (UCSD), and the world premiere of *Elephant* (Benchmark Theatre).



Emily Waldman

Production Intern and Assistant Stage Manager: *La Bohème*, *Company*, and *Three Feathers*

Emily Waldman is a violinist with a passion for arts administration. Starting her violin studies at age three, Emily grew up as a musician with a great interest in the business side of classical

music. Emily was concertmaster of the Colorado All State Orchestra in 2015 and has performed twice in Carnegie Hall throughout her violin career. Emily began her violin studies with Jim Maurer and has continued her studies with Linda Wang. Emily graduated from the University of Denver with a degree in violin performance in the Spring of 2022. Opera productions that Emily had been a part of include the Lamont School of Music’s productions of *Die Fledermaus*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Il Trittico*, *Les Mamelles de Tiresias*, and *L’enfant et les Sortilèges*. A Denver native, Emily enjoys camping, hiking, and spending time outside with her dog, Finn.

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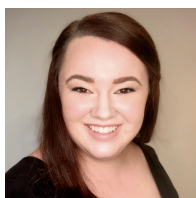
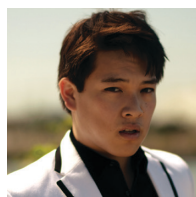
Soprano | Chicago, Illinois

Recent: Sarasota Opera - Fiordiligi (Partial), *Così fan tutte*; Agnes Sorel (Cover), *Maid of Orleans*; Opera Company of Middlebury - Joan of Arc (Cover), *Maid of Orleans*

Justin Baptista

Baritone | San Francisco, California

Recent: NYU - John Styx, *Orpheus in the Underworld*; Ensemble, *Applause*



McKenna Brunson

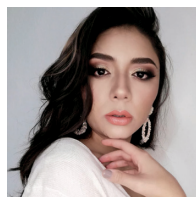
Mezzo Soprano | West Jordan

Recent: University of New Mexico Opera Theatre - Mum, *Albert Herring*; Utah University - Sorceress, *Dido and Aeneas*

Natacha Córdor Guevara

Mezzo-Soprano | Quito, Ecuador

Recent: Lamont Opera Theatre - Maman, *La tasse Chinoise*, *La libellule*, *L'enfant et les sortilèges*; Symphony Orchestra of Guayaquil-Ecuador - Flora, *La Traviata*



Matthew Cook

Baritone | Fairfax, Virginia

Recent: Opera in the Ozarks - Guglielmo, *Così fan tutte*; USC Opera - Traveler, *Curlew River*

Alice Del Simone

Soprano | Oakland, California

Recent: CU - *Now*, *Joan of the Hustle*, *Joan of the City*; Eklund Opera - *A Lady with a Hand Mirror*, *An Operetta Singer*, *Postcard from Morocco*, *Poppea*, *Agrippina*; Boulder Opera - *Le Feu*, *La Princesse*, *Le Rossignol*, *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*



Maria Jose Fabara

Soprano | Quito, Ecuador / Denver, Colorado

Recent: Guayaquil Symphony Orchestra - *Violetta*, *La Traviata*; Wichita State Opera Theater - *Susana*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*



Evan Fleming

Baritone | Cinnaminson, New Jersey

Recent: Aquilon Music Festival - *Father*, *OURLAND*
Montclair State University - *Anthony Hope*, *Sweeney Todd*

Chantal Freeman

Soprano | Chicago, Illinois

Recent: On Site Opera - *Martha King*, *What Lies Beneath*
Mannes Opera - *La Contessa*, *Le Nozze Di Figaro*



Jessica Gonzalez-Rodriguez

Mezzo-Soprano | Los Angeles, California

Recent: Opera Santa Barbara - *Chrisman Studio Artist Production*, *Dater #9*, *Speed Dating Tonight*; Opera Santa Barbara - *Mainstage Debut*, *Renata*, *Cruzar la Cara de la Luna*



Madison Holmes

Soprano | District Heights, Maryland

Recent: University of Hartford - *Adelina Altina*, *La Divina*;
Opera Steamboat - *Barbarina*, *Le nozze di Figaro*



Alejandro Izurieta

Tenor | Quito, Ecuador / Denver, Colorado

Jennifer Johnston

Soprano | Santa Cruz, California

Recent: Scotts Valley High School - *Reno Sweeney*, *Anything Goes*; *Roxie Hart*, *Chicago*





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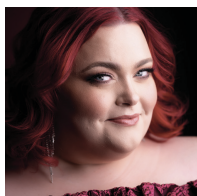
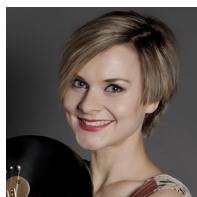
Mezzo-Soprano | Jefferson City, Missouri

Recent: Arizona State University - Pythia, *We've Got Our Eye On You* (English); Hexe (Witch), *Hänsel und Gretel* (German)

Alexandra King

Soprano | Oregon

Recent: UNM Opera Theatre - Cinderella, *Cendrillon*; Harry, *Albert Herring*



Kyrie Laybourn

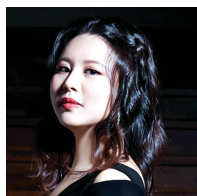
Soprano | Coppell, Texas

Recent: Eklund Opera - *Lady with Hatbox*, *Postcard from Morocco*, *Annina*, *La Traviata*

Jiayu Li

Soprano | Kunming, China

Recent: Peabody Opera Theatre - *Lady with the Cake Box*, *Postcard from Morocco*; Opera Steamboat - *Vitellia*, *La Clemenza di Tito*



Connor Locke

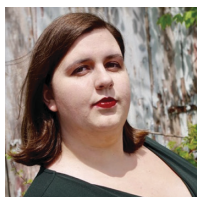
Mezzo-soprano | Kansas City, Missouri

Recent: Maryland Opera Studio - 2nd Lady, *Die Zauberflöte*; La musica lirica - Angelina, *La cenerentola*

Wallis Lucas

Soprano | Monroe, Georgia

Recent: Chicago Summer Opera - *Atalanta*, *Serse*; Saluzzo Opera Academy - *Barbarina*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*



Lauren Lundy

Mezzo-Soprano | Denver, Colorado

Recent: Opera Notre Dame - Ma Zegner, *Proving Up*
South Bend Lyric Opera - *Mamma Lucia*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*



Joan Márquez

Tenor | Ecuador

Recent: Lamont Opera Theatre - Le théière/Le petit vieillard/La rainette, *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*; Lacouf/Le journaliste (Cover)/Le fils (Cover), *Les Mamelles de Tirésias*



Garrett Medlock

Tenor | Albuquerque, New Mexico

Recent: University of New Mexico Opera Theatre - Albert Herring, *Albert Herring*; Lyrical Opera Theater (Salt Lake City, UT) - Fenton, *Falstaff*

Kenzie Paige

Soprano | Niwot, Colorado

Recent: Biola University - Stanley's Daughter, *Pirates of Penzance*



Oliver Poveda

Bass | Quito, Ecuador

Recent: Opera in Williamsburg - Dulcamara, *L'Elisir D'Amore* ISOFOM, Bartolo/Antonio, *Le nozze di Figaro*



Colin Safley

Baritone | Kansas City, Missouri

Recent: Chicago Summer Opera - Papageno, *Die Zauberflöte*; DePaul Opera Theatre - Voltaire/Dr. Pangloss/Cacambo/Martin, *Candide*



Josef Samargia

Baritone | West Palm Beach, Florida

Recent: Pera Delaware - Fiorello (cover), *Il barbiere di Siviglia*; Opera New Jersey - Sheye-Yidl/Red Cross Worker 4, *Liebovar*



Lily Smith

Soprano | Paris, France

Recent: Chicago Summer Opera - Cendrillon, *Cendrillon*; Sibelius Academy - Svetlana, *All the Truths We Cannot See*





Kevin Spooner

Baritone | Oneida, New York

Recent: Eastman Opera Theater - Johannes "Pa" Zegner, *Proving Up*; Rochester Summer Opera - Frank, *Die Fledermaus*

Darius Taylor

Baritone | Jackson, Tennessee

Recent: Opera Steamboat Artist Institute - Publio, *La Clemenza di Tito*; Fiorello, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*; Arizona State University - Beau, *Service Providers*, Henry Davis, *Street Scene*



Michaela Wright

Mezzo-Soprano | Orlando, Florida

Recent: Lyric Theatre Illinois - The Fox, *Cunning Little Vixen* (in English); The Armory Theatre - Orfeo, *Orfeo Ed Euridice* (in original language)

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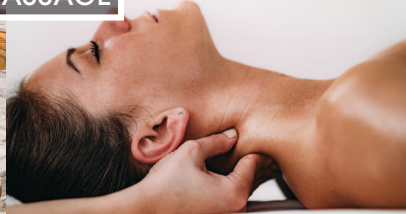
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