

Yale SCHOOL OF MUSIC

JOSÉ GARCÍA-LEÓN, DEAN

YALE OPERA PRESENTS



La  
BOHÈME

an opera by Puccini

MOONSTRUCK IN PARIS

FEBRUARY 14 & 15 · SHUBERT THEATRE



Yale School of Music • José García-León, Dean  
 Yale Opera • Gerald Martin Moore, Artistic Director



Music by Giacomo Puccini  
 Libretto by Giuseppe Giacosa & Luigi Illica  
 Based on *Scènes de la vie de bohème* by Henri Murger  
*Performed in Italian with projected English text*



CONDUCTOR	J. David Jackson
STAGE DIRECTOR	Christopher Mattaliano
SCENIC DESIGNER	Kiki Gordon
COSTUME DESIGNER	Rebecca Welles
WIG & MAKEUP DESIGNER	Karin Lopez
LIGHTING DESIGNER	Robert Wierzel
PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER	Clare Burovac
ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR/CHORUS PREPARATION	Alejandro Roca
MUSIC PREPARATION	Anna Smigelskaya
REHEARSAL PIANIST	Lucas Nogara

There will be one 15-minute intermission between Act II and Act III.  
 The approximate running time of the performance is 2 hours and 10 minutes.



## WELCOME *from the Dean*

Dear friends,

I am honored to welcome you to Yale Opera's production at the Shubert Theatre, where so many legendary performers have shared their talents over the years. We are delighted to continue our collaboration with this historic venue and to deepen our relationship with the New Haven community through performances of this scale and significance.

Giacomo Puccini's *La bohème* is one of the most beloved operas in the repertoire, celebrated for its emotional immediacy, lyrical beauty, and profound humanity. Set in Paris, the opera follows a group of young artists as they navigate love, friendship, ambition, and loss. The opera captures the intensity of youthful idealism and the fragility of life with extraordinary artistry.

This production offers the opportunity to hear a cast of remarkable young singers on the cusp of exciting professional careers. Our students are incredibly fortunate to be working with Yale Opera Director Gerald Martin Moore, whose leadership and artistry are recognized in opera houses around the world. I am thrilled for you to experience his vision for this production and for the Yale Opera program.

For these performances, the Yale Opera cast will be joined by Metropolitan Opera conductor J. David Jackson and the musicians of the Yale Philharmonia, who will bring Puccini's emotionally charged score to life.

From the cast to the orchestra and the entire creative team, the artists who have assembled this production believe deeply in their work and are eager to share it with you. I hope you will join me in applauding everyone who has contributed to this remarkable collaboration, both onstage and behind the scenes.

Wishing a happy Valentine's Day to you and your loved ones!

With warm regards,

José García-León  
*The Henry and Lucy Moses Dean of Music*



## WELCOME *from the Artistic Director*

Dear audience,

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you back to the Shubert Theater for Yale Opera's production of Puccini's beloved *La bohème*. Although the characters are age appropriate for students, vocally the roles are quite advanced and technically demanding. The luxury of having two spectacular casts this year for *La bohème* was simply too good an opportunity to pass up. It is my joy to prepare these young singers as they take on these roles for the first of no doubt many subsequent times. Their youthful exuberance runs through the performances and makes the joys and anguish of first love palpable. In short, *La bohème* is Yale Opera's valentine to the New Haven community.

With a large cast, chorus, and scenery required, *La bohème* is a huge undertaking for any opera company and requires the right team in place. We are thrilled to welcome back conductor J. David Jackson after last year's success with Tchaikovsky's *Iolanta*. A regular conductor at the Metropolitan Opera, he brings his top-tier experience to this production and guides the cast and Yale Philharmonia through the style and complexities of Puccini's score. Having worked with Yale Opera for many years during Doris Yarick Cross' tenure, stage director Christopher Mattaliano returns to New Haven after a distinguished career as General Director of Portland Opera and stage director for opera companies across the world. His passion for the artform and attention to detail are clear throughout this new production.

We are delighted to return to the historic Shubert Theatre again this year, and hopefully for many years to come. It is my fervent hope that the great supporters of Yale Opera will return for this, and many subsequent productions. Now, more than ever, these dedicated young singers rely on the support of audiences and patrons such as yourself, so thank you for your support. I have no doubt that the talent on display in our performances will make for an entertaining and moving experience.

Gerald Martin Moore  
*Artistic Director, Yale Opera*



## CAST

MIMI	Maia Aramburu SAT Julia Ernst SUN
MUSETTA	Laura Miah SAT Kaylan Hernandez SUN
RODOLFO	Dominic Salvati SAT Charles Styles SUN
MARCELLO	Chancelor Barbaree SAT Paul Jang SUN
SCHAUNARD	John Arlievsky SAT Justice Yates SUN
COLLINE	Shyheim Hinnant SAT Cole Stephenson SUN
BENOIT	Chris Leimgruber SAT Scott La Marca SUN
ALCINDORO	Cole Stephenson SAT Shyheim Hinnant SUN
PARPIGNOL	Scott La Marca
SERGEANT	Justice Yates SAT John Arlievsky SUN
CUSTOMS OFFICER	Anthony DeLuco



## CHORUS

### SOPRANO

Janet Aldrich  
 Alliese Bonner  
 Gina Consiglio  
 Alexandra Dima  
 Sophie Dvorak  
 Haley Stoliker

### MEZZO-SOPRANO

Rosario Armas\*  
 Charity Cooper\*  
 Estefani Lopez\*  
 Erin Aldrich  
 Carolyn Fagerholm  
 Mika Hiroi

### TENOR

Scott La Marca\*  
 Chris Leimgruber\*  
 Nikolas Brannan  
 Ajit Persaud  
 John Raskopf

### BASS/BARITONE

Anthony Deluco  
 Hadi Houalla  
 Caleb Morgan  
 Bob Scrofani  
 Brennan Ujda

\* indicates Yale Opera



## CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Michael Abdenour  
 Sowmya Boddupalli  
 Arwen Cardenas  
 Emmeline Gable  
 Isabella Kim

Ailene Lee  
 Daniela McTiernan Huges  
 Ada Semmel  
 Emmeline Swenson  
 Sekai Tengtenda

Children's chorus members from:

Trinity on the Green  
 Simon Lee, *director of music*

St. Paul's Fairfield  
 John Abdenour, *director of music*



## YALE PHILHARMONIA

### VIOLIN I

Matthew Cone  
Ashley Yoon  
Jinyoung Yoon  
Hayoung Choi  
Julimar Gonzalez Leon  
Alex Zhou

### VIOLIN II

Caroline Smoak  
Diego De la Cruz  
Iwadare  
Daniel Rafimayeri  
Leona Liu  
Chaewon Kim

### VIOLA

Vincenzo Calcagno  
Julian Seney  
Lola Pinney  
Nic Perkins

### CELLO

Bethany Bobbs  
Shengyu Meng  
Michael Bridges

### BASS

Andrew Vinther  
Skyler Lee

### FLUTE

Matthew Ober  
Carter Reynolds

### PICCOLO

Carter Reynolds  
Jolie Fitch\*  
Nadira Novruzov\*

### OBOE

Tina Shigeyama  
Jacob Duff

### ENGLISH HORN

Jacob Duff

### CLARINET

Katelyn Poetker  
Eszter Pokai

### BASS CLARINET

Eszter Pokai

### BASSOON

Logan Stokes  
Davey Hiester

### HORN

Aidan Lewis  
Esther Orlov-Mayer

### TRUMPET

Katie Hillstrom  
Jacob Rose  
Jon-Michael Taylor\*  
Ethan Wood\*

### TENOR TROMBONE

Madelyn Stoklosa

### BASS TROMBONE

Jeremy Mojado

### TIMPANI

Kyle Rappe

### PERCUSSION

Judy Hu  
Ethan Hall\*  
Anna Mueller\*

### HARP

Sebastian Gobbels

\* indicates *Banda*  
*musicians*

PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR

GENERAL MANAGER

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR &

MUSIC LIBRARIAN

Peter Oundjian

Jeffrey Mistri

Marika Basagoitia



## LA BOHÈME *Synopsis*

### ACT 1

On a cold Christmas Eve poet Rodolfo and painter Marcello struggle with their art in a run-down and unheated Parisian garret. Soon they're joined by friends, philosopher Colline and musician Schaunard, who triumphantly arrives with food, wine and firewood. Their landlord Benoit arrives and demands their overdue rent. Marcello skillfully ensure they avoid payment.

As his friends leave for Café Momus, Rodolfo stays behind to finish his writing when he hears a knock on the door. It is his neighbor, seamstress Mimì, who needs a match for her candle. Upon entry she faints from exhaustion, and Rodolfo offers her some wine and lights her candle. While leaving, her candle goes out and Mimì realizes she has lost her key. Searching for her key in the dark, the two touch hands. They introduce themselves, and in doing so, reveal an instant chemistry. They declare their love and head out.

### ACT 2

Among the bustle of the crowd in the Latin Quarter, Rodolfo and Mimì join his friends outside Café Momus. Marcello's former flame, the flamboyant Musetta, arrives and makes a scene to catch Marcello's attention, much to the consternation of her elderly date Alcindoro. Sending the old man off on a contrived errand, Musetta reunites with Marcello. The friends all depart, leaving Alcindoro to pay the bill.

~INTERMISSION~

### ACT 3

Two months later at dawn, Mimì arrives on the outskirts of Paris searching for Marcello, where he currently lives and works. She asks Marcello for help about Rodolfo's incessant jealousy. When Rodolfo enters, Mimì hides nearby to eavesdrop. After initial hesitation, Rodolfo finally confesses that Mimì is extremely sick, and he's worried that living with him in poverty is making it worse. Hearing his words, Mimì realizes she's dying. She is then discovered while having a coughing fit. Rodolfo tries to comfort her, but she tries to say goodbye instead. Hearing Musetta laughing with someone else, Marcello jealously rushes off to find her. The two then break up in a heated fight, while Rodolfo and Mimì reconcile and put off their separation until spring.

### ACT 4

Several months later and both now single, Rodolfo and Marcello reminisce about Mimì and Musetta. They are joined by their friends Schaunard and Colline bringing sparse food. Their horseplay is cut short when Musetta arrives with a gravely ill Mimì. The friends give the lovers some privacy as they recall the night they fell in love. Rodolfo comforts Mimì as she closes her eyes to sleep. Musetta returns with medicine, but it's tragically too late. Realizing Mimì has died, Rodolfo cries out in anguish.



## ARTISTIC & PRODUCTION TEAM

*Conductor* **J. David Jackson** returns to Yale Opera on the heels of leading the Italian premiere of the classic American opera *Little Women*. After conducting Yale Opera's 2025 production of *Iolanta*, he also covered several Met productions such as Strauss's *Arabella* and Tchaikovsky's *Queen of Spades*. 2026 will see the maestro on the podium with the Janáček Philharmonic conducting *Porgy and Bess* in concert at the Smetana Festival in the Czech Republic before leading *Così fan Tutte* at the Trentino Music Festival.

Jackson's recent seasons were marked with brilliant successes at the Metropolitan Opera with *The Magic Flute* and Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* starring Anthony Roth Costanzo. Other recent credits include the American maestro's debut with the Hong Kong Philharmonic in a gala concert with Korean soprano Sumi Jo, his Carnegie Hall debut with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra Chamber Players, and a gala concert at the Smetana Festival in Litomyšl, Czech Republic featuring soprano Deborah Voigt. At the Teatro Massimo Bellini in Catania, Sicily, Jackson has led the choral-orchestral version of Haydn's *The Seven Last Words of Christ* and the Catanian prima assoluta of Handel's *Messiah*. In Lisbon, he has conducted the famed Gulbenkian Orchestra in Janáček's *The House of the Dead*, and *Messiah*.

J. David Jackson made his conducting debut at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels with Don Pasquale, and has since won acclaim in Europe, Asia and America. His Metropolitan Opera conducting debut was with the Richard Jones production of *Hansel and Gretel*. Other conducting credits at the Met include *Porgy and Bess* with Eric Owens and Angel Blue, Simon Boccanegra with Plácido Domingo, and *The Queen of Spades*; in the U.S he has conducted at Palm Beach Opera, Central City Opera, El Paso Opera, Wolf Trap Opera Company, and Opera Omaha. European credits also include the Glyndebourne Festival and Genoa's Teatro Carlo Felice.

A versatile artist, Maestro Jackson's enormous operatic repertory includes everything from early Baroque to contemporary. He is noted for his interpretation of French and Russian opera, with acclaimed successes of *Le Jongleur de Notre Dame*, *Werther*, *Boris Godunov*, *Khovanshchina*, *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, *The Queen of Spades*, and *War and Peace*. Since 1996, his new conclusion to Mussorgsky's *Khovanshchina* is regularly performed in Brussels and elsewhere.

J. David Jackson was trained as a pianist and violinist before beginning his conducting career. He attended Amherst College and the Peabody Conservatory, studying with Philip Naegele, Lewis Sprattan, Otto Werner Mueller, and Franco Ferrara. In addition to his native English, he speaks Italian, French, Spanish, German and Russian, is conversant in Czech, and is an avid gardener and amateur chef.

*Stage Director*

**Christopher Mattaliano** has directed productions at the Metropolitan Opera of New York, New York City Opera, San Francisco Opera, Washington National Opera, the Canadian Opera Company, Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Minnesota Opera, Dallas Opera, Wolf Trap Opera, and Michigan Opera Theater, among many others. He has also worked internationally at L'Opera de Nice, L'Opera de Montreal, Spoleto's Festival dei Due Mondi, Norwegian National Opera and New National Theatre of Japan.

A dual citizen of Italy and the United States, Mr. Mattaliano has enjoyed a long career in the US as General Director at Portland Opera and Artistic Director at Pine Mountain Music Festival, and was a member of Opera America's Board of Directors for many years. He is a teacher of renown, with credits at Juilliard School, Manhattan School of Music, Yale University, Princeton University, the Metropolitan Opera Young Artist Development Program and Mannes College of Music.

Mr. Mattaliano recently founded a new opera company, OrpheusPDX based in Portland, OR, to produce professional opera on an intimate scale with an ensemble company of artists in summer residence. Now in its third season, the company's mission is to touch the soul of the community through the power of great music and singing.

*Artistic  
Director of  
Yale Opera*

**Gerald Martin Moore** was appointed in 2020 as Director of Yale Opera and Coordinator of Vocal Studies for the Yale School of Music. Mr. Moore is an internationally renowned singing teacher and a vocal consultant. He has worked in such houses as Covent Garden, La Scala, the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco and Opera de Bastille in Paris as well as the Aix-en-Provence, Edinburgh and Glyndebourne Festivals. He has given masterclasses at Glyndebourne, Merola, Washington National Opera, and is on the regular teaching faculty at Lyric Opera of Chicago's Ryan Opera Center, Merola Opera and Ravinia Steanes Music Institute.

A frequent recitalist with Renée Fleming, he has performed before such dignitaries as President Obama, President Clinton and Secretary of State



## ARTISTIC & PRODUCTION TEAM *(continued)*

Hillary Clinton, HRH King Charles, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. Mr. Moore was featured accompanying Renée Fleming in the soundtrack for the movie *Bel Canto* and also coached Julianne Moore who plays the role of Roxanne. In May 2024, Mr. Moore performed in recital with soprano Erin Morley at the Kennedy Center to mark the launch of their album “Rose in Bloom” by Orchid Classics.

Mr. Moore may be heard as a regular host of the Metropolitan Opera Quiz, and is a frequent judge for prestigious vocal competitions, including the Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition. Recent engagements include recitals with tenor Jonghyun Park at Carnegie Hall and with Erin Morley in Dallas.

*Scenic Designer*

**Kiki Gordon** is a US/EU/UK scenographer currently pursuing her MFA in Set Design at the David Geffen School of Drama at Yale (Class of 2027). She holds a bachelor’s degree in fine art and graphic design from the Gerrit Rietveld Academie in Amsterdam, NL and has worked across Europe with artists, directors, and designers in The Netherlands, Kosovo, Germany, France, and Iceland before continuing her studies in New Haven, Connecticut. [kikigordon.com](http://kikigordon.com)

*Costume Designer*

**Rebecca Welles** DGSD ‘12 has been designing for Yale Opera since 2013 where her credits include, *The Rape of Lucretia*, *L’elisir d’amore*, *Florenzia en el Amazonas*, *Eugene Onegin*, *The Magic Flute*, *Hansel and Gretel*, Fall 2017- 2020 Opera Scenes, *Le pauvre matelot*, *The Bear*, *Don Quichotte*, *La Cenerentola*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *Riders to the Sea*, *Bon Appetit* and *Iolanta*. Rebecca is also an adjunct professor of performing arts at Eastern Connecticut state University, and the costume shop manager at The Mystic Seaport Museum. Other design credits include *The Tempest*, and *Comedy of Errors*, Elm Shakespeare Company, *Million Dollar Quartet* and *Tenderly: The Rosemary Clooney Story* at Ivoryton Playhouse, *Cenerentola*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *The Trial*, *Magic Flute*, and *La bohème*, for Salt Marsh Opera; *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Aspen Opera Center; *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *I Pagliacci*, *Bohème*, Opera New Jersey.

*Wig & Makeup Designer*

**Karen Lopez** Proud IATSE local #74 for 25 years, local to The Shubert Theater. Design Credits 2021 Christmas Story Nat. Tour, South Pacific / American in Paris 2022 Nat. Tour, 2022 Legally Blonde Tour, Community Credits Waterbury Arts Magnet Productions Wig & Costumes, Waterbury Youth Theater Group Costumes & Whitney Players Makeup. Thank you for this opportunity to design your show.

*Lighting  
Designer*

**Robert Wierzel** has worked with artists and directors from diverse disciplines and backgrounds, in opera, theatre, dance and museums, on stages throughout the country and abroad. His NYC Broadway productions include *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*, the musical *FELA!* (Tony Award nomination) and David Copperfield's *Dreams and Nightmares*. Other notable work includes over 40 years with Bill T. Jones and the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company. Additionally, Robert has designed at most major regional opera & theaters across the country. Future projects include *Siegfried*, the third opera of the *Der Ring Des Nibelungen* at the Atlanta Opera and *Tosca & The Rake's Progress* at the Glimmerglass Festival, summer 2025. Wierzel is a creative partner at Spark Design Collaborative and is on the faculty of NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Design For Stage & Film.

*Props  
Designer*

**Karen Root** returns to Yale Opera where she previously worked on *The Seven Deadly Sins*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *The Rake's Progress*, Yale Fall Opera Scenes, *The Rape of Lucretia*, *Le comte Ory* and *L'elisir d'amore*. Selected theatre set design credits include: *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Elm Shakespeare), *Gallathea* (Southern Connecticut State University), *The Tempest* (Elm Shakespeare), *Taste of Fear* (Elm Shakespeare), *All About Image/We Are the Elite* (NY International Fringe Festival), *Great Catherine* (Helen Gardiner Phalen Playhouse), *Like Mamma Made You* (Factory Theatre). Other theatre credits include: *The Comedy of Errors*, and Elm Shakespeare Youth Festival (Elm Shakespeare), *La Ronde* (Soulpepper Theatre Company), *The Seagull* (Stratford Festival), *Pericles*, *Prince of Tyre* (Helen Gardiner Phalen Playhouse). Karen has served as Guest Designer and Adjunct Professor at Southern Connecticut State University. She is also an Emmy nominated and Parent's Choice Award winning production designer. Karen holds an Honors BA from University of Toronto. [karenrootdesign.com](http://karenrootdesign.com)

*Production  
Stage  
Manager*

**Clare Burovac** is the former General and Artistic Director of New Orleans Opera. Prior to her time in New Orleans, Burovac was Director of Artistic Operations at Portland Opera, where she oversaw all artistic planning and education and community engagement programs. As the director of the Portland Opera Resident Artist Program, Burovac developed the program into one of the most competitive in the United States, producing many singers who went on to international careers after their residency in Portland. Burovac spent 14 years at Seattle Opera, beginning in the stage management department and taking on a variety of increasingly demanding positions, including production stage manager and production coordinator of the company's world-renowned Ring cycle. A recipient of an OPERA America Fellowship, she has been a guest stage manager for San Francisco Opera, Los



## ARTISTIC & PRODUCTION TEAM *(continued)*

Angeles Opera, The Los Angeles Philharmonic, and The Glimmerglass Festival, among many others.

*Assistant  
Conductor/  
Chorus  
Preparation*

Opera coach and conductor **Alejandro Roca**'s recent engagements include performances of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* at Liceu Conservatory in Barcelona, new productions with the Bogota Philharmonic Orchestra of Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* and Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, performances with the Medellín Philharmonic Orchestra of Falla's *Master Peter's Puppet Show*, and debuts with the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra and the Orchestra of the Cláudio Santoro National Theater in Brasilia, Brazil. Rocahas collaborated with such renowned conductors as Rinaldo Alessandrini, Gustavo Dudamel, Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Josep Caballé Domenech, Patrick Fournillier, Hilary Griffiths, Gérard Korsten, and Miguel Roa. Roca has appeared in recital with numerous vocalists around the world and has recorded music by several Latin American composers. Since 2006, Roca has served as a conductor and pianist at the Opera of Colombia, in Bogotá, and his repertoire includes more than 70 fully prepared operas and zarzuelas.

Roca serves as Lecturer in Music/Opera Coach at the Yale School of Music. He previously served as Opera Coach and Director of the Opera Workshop at Central University, in Bogotá, and at Scuola Italia's summer program for young opera singers in Sant'Angelo in Vado, Italy. He has also been a member of the faculty at the University of Antioquia, in Medellín, and at Pontifical Xavierian University in Bogotá, and has served as Director of the Cartagena International Music Festival's academic program. Roca's pedagogical experience includes the presentation of master classes at Indiana University and the University of Michigan in the United States, Nayang Academy of Fine Arts in Singapore, Capela di Santa Maria in Curitiba, Brazil, and the University of Valle and the University of the North in Colombia, among other institutions.

*Music  
Preparation*

Following the successful conclusion of her second academic year as a Lecturer with the Yale School of Music, **Anna Smigelskaya** returns to the Santa Fe Opera as a member of the music staff for her fourth festival season. With the Santa Fe Opera, Smigelskaya has played productions of *La Traviata* and *Tosca*, including the offstage organ solo of the latter. She also prepared excerpts from *Eugene Onegin*, *La Bohème* and *Boris Godunov* for the Apprentice Scenes program. Additionally, Smigelskaya has been serving as the company's primary Russian diction coach. Prior to her two-year fellowship with Yale Opera, other engagements have included the Merola Opera Program, Music

Academy of the West, and Renée Fleming’s Song Studio. Smigelskaya has formerly held music staff positions at both the Manhattan School of Music and the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston. She began her collegiate education in her native city of St. Petersburg at the Rimsky–Korsakov Music College, subsequently earning solo piano degrees from Sam Houston State University (B.M.) and University of Houston (M.M.). As a student at the Manhattan School of Music, Smigelskaya completed her second Master of Music under the tutelage of Warren Jones.

*Rehearsal  
Pianist*

**Lucas Nogara** is currently completing his second year as a Collaborative Piano Fellow at the Yale School of Music under the mentorship of Gerald Martin Moore. He holds both a Master of Music and a Performance Diploma in collaborative piano from Indiana University, where he studied under Kevin Murphy.

In 2024 Lucas finished his second season as a young artist at Los Angeles Opera. His work there included productions of *Tosca*, *The Rape of Lucretia*, *Pelléas et Mélisande*, *The Barber of Seville*, *Der Zwerg*, *Highway 1*, and *Turandot*. During these productions, he had the opportunity to work with conductors such as James Conlon, Louis Lohraseb, Lina Gonzalez-Granados, Kevin Miller and Zoe Zeniodi. He also collaborated closely with tenor Russell Thomas, performing two recitals centered on Black American composers—including three world premieres—and making his Kennedy Center debut with Thomas in February 2024.

From 2021 to 2025, Lucas worked as a collaborative pianist for the Singers Program at the Ravinia Steans Music Institute. He also performed at the Concours Musical International de Montréal for singers in 2022. In the Summer of 2025, he was music director and conductor of *Bastien and Bastienne* and *Cavalleria Rusticana*, double bill produced by Modern Vintage Opera in Simsbury, Connecticut.



## PRINCIPAL CAST

**Maia Aramburu** *soprano* • Mimì SAT

*Hometown  
Education  
Young Artist*

Lima, Peru  
B.M. the University of Michigan; M.M. USC Thornton School of Music  
Ravinia Steans Institute; Janiec Opera Company; Vienna Summer Music  
Festival

*Upcoming*

Miss Jessel in *The Turn of the Screw* (Yale Opera)



## PRINCIPAL CAST *(continued)*

- John Arlievsky** *baritone* • Schaunard SAT • Sergeant/Ensemble SUN  
*Hometown* New York, NY  
*Education* B.M. Peabody Conservatory  
*Young Artist* Tanglewood Music Center; Castleton Vocal Immersion Program; Berlin Opera Academy  
*Upcoming* Studio Artist with Wolf Trap Opera
- Chancellor Barbaree** *baritone* • Marcello SAT  
*Hometown* Amarillo, TX  
*Education* B.M. University of Oklahoma; M.M. University of Florida  
*Young Artist* Gulfshore Opera; Opera Neo; Opera Theatre of St. Louis  
*Upcoming* Geronio cover in *Il Turco in Italia* (Teatro Nuovo)
- Julia Ernst** *soprano* • Mimi SUN  
*Hometown* New Orleans, LA  
*Education* B.M. Loyola University of New Orleans  
*Young Artist* Aspen Music Festival; Saluzzo Opera Academy; Music Academy of the West  
*Upcoming* Governess in *The Turn of the Screw* (Yale Opera); Ravinia Steans Music Institute
- Kaylan Hernandez** *soprano* • Musetta SUN  
*Hometown* Miami, FL  
*Education* B.M. Stetson University; M.M. University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music  
*Young Artist* Glimmerglass Opera  
*Upcoming* Miss Jessel in *The Turn of the Screw* (Yale Opera)
- Shyheim Hinnant** *bass-baritone* • Colline SAT • Alcindoro SUN  
*Hometown* Woodbridge, VA  
*Education* B.M. Virginia Commonwealth University; M.M. UCLA  
*Young Artist* Glimmerglass Opera; Des Moines Metro Opera; Lyric Opera of Orange County  
*Upcoming* Sergeant of the Police in *The Pirates of Penzance* (Opera Theatre of St. Louis)
- Paul Jang** *baritone* • Marcello SUN  
*Hometown* Seoul, South Korea  
*Education* B.M. Hanyang University College of Music; M.M. Yale School of Music  
*Young Artist* Des Moines Metro Opera; Music Academy of the West  
*Upcoming* Harlequin in *Ariadne auf Naxos* (Merola Opera)

**Scott La Marca** *tenor* • Parpignol • Benoit SUN

*Hometown* New York, NY  
*Education* B.M. Queens College; M.M. Manhattan School of Music  
*Young Artist* Chautauqua Opera Conservatory; Aspen Music Festival  
*Upcoming* Peter Quint in *The Turn of the Screw* (Yale Opera); Azor in *Zemire et Azor* (Berkshire Opera Festival)

**Chris Leimbruger** *tenor* • Benoit SAT

*Hometown* Lancaster, OH  
*Education* B.M. Oberlin Conservatory  
*Young Artist* Janiec Opera Company; Trentino Music Festival  
*Upcoming* Peter Quint in *The Turn of the Screw* (Yale Opera)

**Laura Miah** *soprano* • Musetta SAT

*Hometown* San Juan, Puerto Rico  
*Education* B.M. Conservatory of Music, Puerto Rico; M.M. Yale School of Music  
*Young Artist* Aspen Music Festival; Young Artist Vocal Academy Houston Grand Opera;  
*Upcoming* Ravinia Steans Music Institute; Governess in *The Turn of the Screw* (Yale Opera)

**Dominic Salvati** *tenor* • Rodolfo SAT

*Hometown* Eastvale, CA  
*Education* B.M. California Baptist University  
*Young Artist* Castleton Festival; Pacific Opera Project  
*Upcoming* First Priest in *The Magic Flute* and Lensky cover in *Eugene Onegin* (Santa Fe Opera)

**Cole Stephenson** *bass* • Alcindoro SAT • Colline SUN

*Hometown* Des Moines, IA  
*Education* B.M. Iowa State University; M.M. University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music  
*Young Artist* Des Moines Metro Opera, Savannah Voice Festival

**Charles Styles** *tenor* • Rodolfo SUN

*Hometown* Tamworth, United Kingdom  
*Education* B.A. & MPhil University of Oxford  
*Young Artist* Opernfest Berlin; Glyndebourne Festival Opera  
*Upcoming* Don Jose in *La Tragédie de Carmen* (Merola Opera)

**Justice Yates** *bass-baritone* • Sergeant/Ensemble SAT • Schaunard SUN

*Hometown* Leesburg, FL  
*Education* B.M. Stetson University; M.M. Yale School of Music  
*Young Artist* American Institute of Musical Studies Program in Graz, Austria; SongFest;  
*Upcoming* Young Artist Vocal Academy Houston Grand Opera; Merola Opera



## YALE OPERA PRODUCTION STAFF

Erika Niemi	<i>General Manager</i>
Regina Carson	<i>Production Coordinator</i>
Emma Kay Staunton	<i>Assistant Stage Manager</i>
Andrew Griffin	<i>Associate Scenic Designer</i>
Karen Root	<i>Properties Designer &amp; Manager</i>
Andrew Griffin	<i>Associate Lighting Designer</i>
Everett Rende	<i>Production Electrician</i>
Lucas Nogara	<i>Surtitled Operator</i>
Kevin Vondrak	<i>Assistant Chorus Director</i>



## YALE SCHOOL OF MUSIC STAFF

Laura Adam	<i>Director of Operations</i>
Christopher Melillo	<i>Operations Coordinator</i>
Regina Carson	<i>Production Coordinator</i>
Katherine Ludington	<i>Concert Office Manager</i>
Sam Bobinski	<i>Concert Office Coordinator</i>
Jenny Chen	<i>Director of Communications</i>
Omar Price-Dairanich	<i>Communications Officer</i>
Sara Gardner	<i>Design Manager</i>
Shaun Wright	<i>Video Producer</i>
Matthew LeFevre	<i>Director of Technology</i>



## SPECIAL THANKS

David Geffen School of Drama  
at Yale  
Goodspeed Musicals Costume  
Collection  
Hayden Production Services  
Mystic Seaport  
Shubert Theatre  
St Paul's Episcopal Fairfield  
Trinity New Haven  
John Abdenour  
Laura Adam

Janna Baty  
Erik Diehl  
Jeff Douma  
Jamie Farkas  
Robert Heltzel  
Riccardo Hernandez  
Simon Lee  
Matthew LeFevre  
Christopher Melillo  
JJ Penna  
Benjamin Schwartz



## UP NEXT

### Britten's *The Turn of the Screw*

MAY 2 & 3 | Sat 7:30 p.m. & Sun 2:00 p.m. | Morse Recital Hall

Yale Opera presents a fully staged production of Benjamin Britten's *The Turn of the Screw*. Performed with piano.

Tickets start at \$13, Yale faculty/staff start at \$10, Students start at \$6.  
For tickets, call 203 432-4158, visit [music-tickets.yale.edu](http://music-tickets.yale.edu), or visit the box office in Sprague Hall.



## YALE OPERA DEGREE RECITALS

Morse Recital Hall | Free Admission

March 2	Maia Aramburu <i>soprano</i> 4:30 p.m.	March 30	Shyheim Hinnant <i>bass-baritone</i> 4:30 p.m.
March 6	Justice Yates <i>bass-baritone</i> 4:30 p.m.	April 15	Charles Styles <i>tenor</i> 4:30 p.m.
March 26	John Arlievsky <i>baritone</i> 4:30 p.m.	April 23	Paul Jang <i>baritone</i> 7:30 p.m.
March 27	Julia Ernst <i>soprano</i> 1:30 p.m.		

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