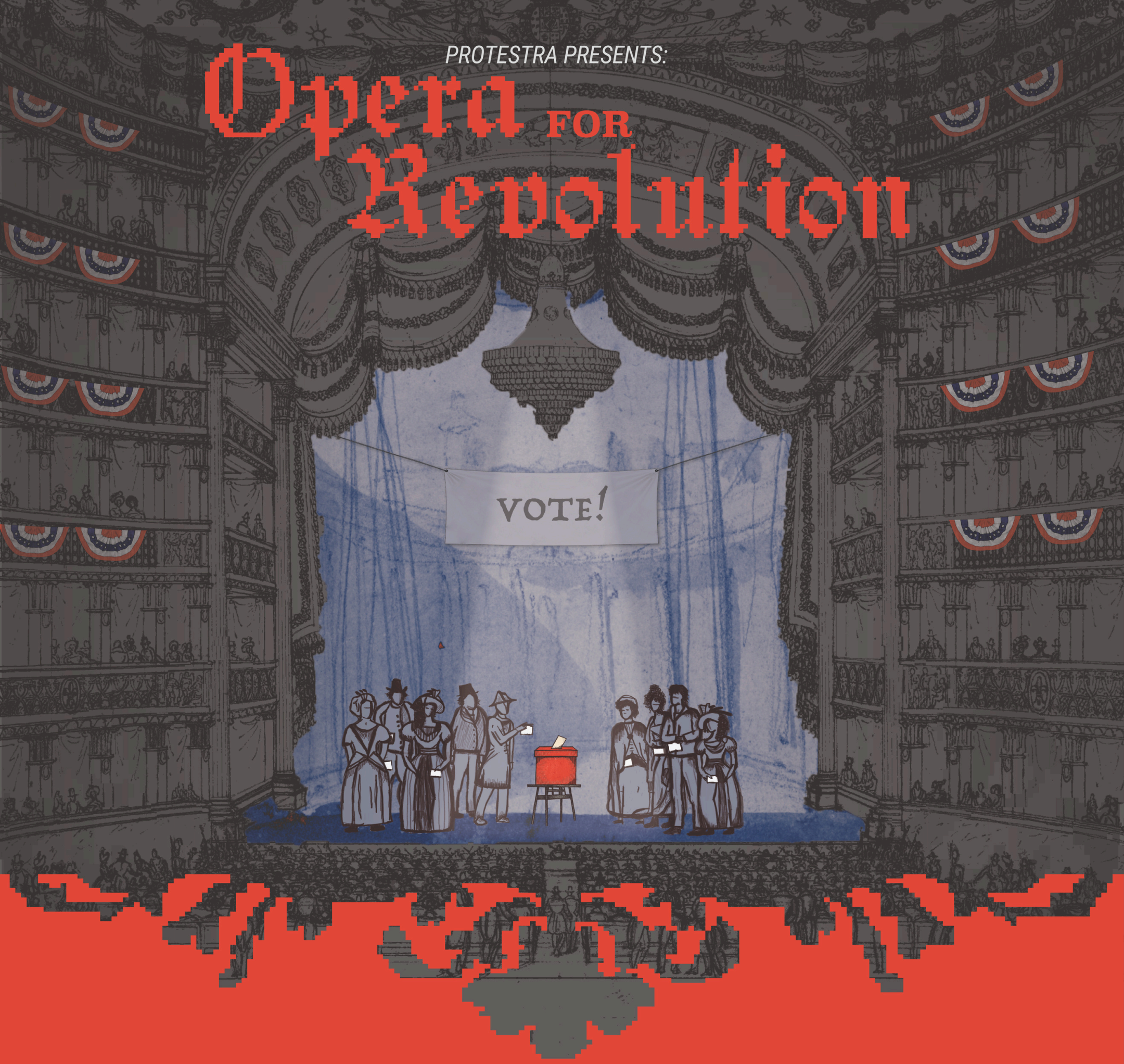
PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera FOR Revolution



11.01.26
7:00 PM

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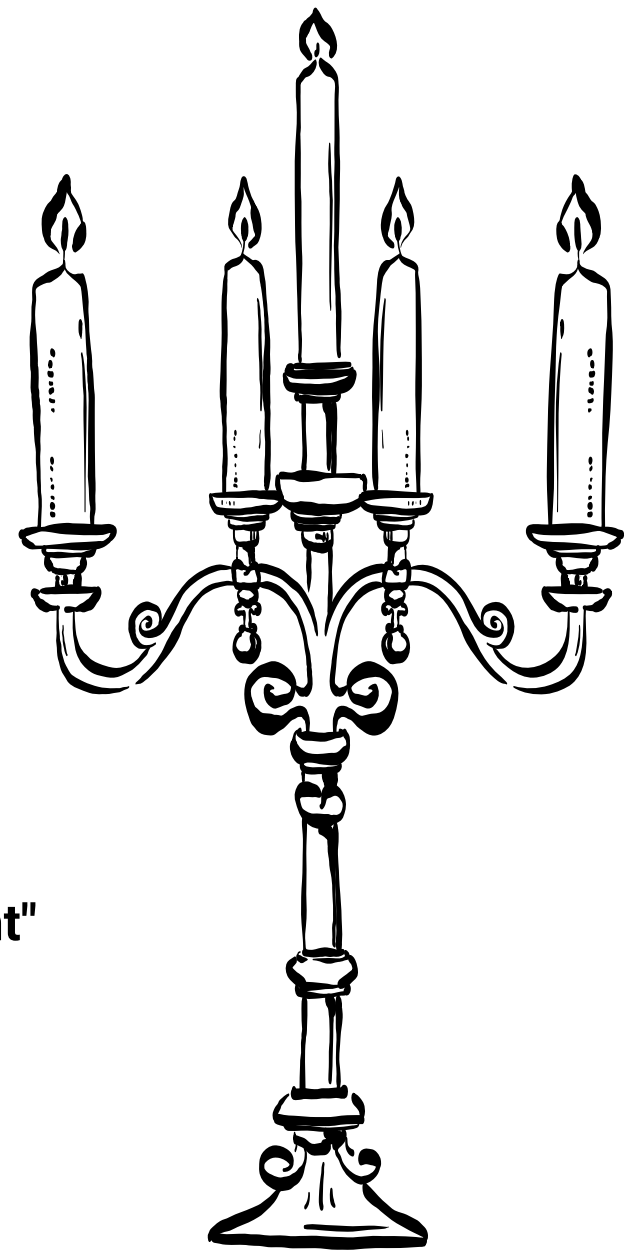
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Opera for Revolution

Overture: Finale
William Tell
Gioachino Rossini

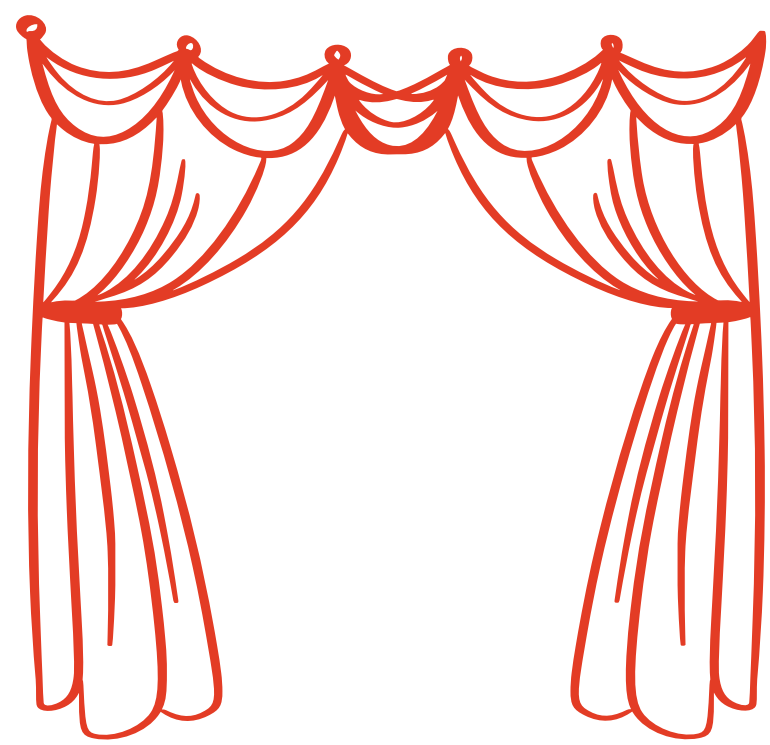


"Dovunque al mondo"
Madama Butterfly
Giacomo Puccini
Benjamin Franklin Pinkerton - Nicholas Huff
Sharpless - Jonathan Patton
Goro - Ramon Gabriel Tenefrancia

"Der Hölle Rache"
Die Zauberflöte
W. A. Mozart
Queen of the Night - Emily Misch

Tarquinius's Ride / "Within this frail crucible of light"
The Rape of Lucretia
Benjamin Britten
Male Chorus - Jonathan Pierce Rhodes
Tarquinius - Kyle White
Female Chorus - Lisa Marie Rogali

Act II
Tosca
Giacomo Puccini
Floria Tosca - Melissa Citro
Baron Scarpia - Jonathan Patton
Mario Cavaradossi - John Viscardi
Spoletta - Ramon Gabriel Tenefrancia
Sciarrone - Nate Mattingly



INTERMISSION

"Senza mamma"
Suor Angelica
Giacomo Puccini
Suor Angelica - Laura Soto-Bayomi

"To this we've come" / "Papers!"
The Consul
Gian Carlo Menotti
Magda Sorel - Teresa Castillo

"O signor, di Fiandra arrivo"
Don Carlo
Giuseppe Verdi
Rodrigo, Marquis of Posa - Kyle White
Filippo II, King of Spain - Nate Mattingly

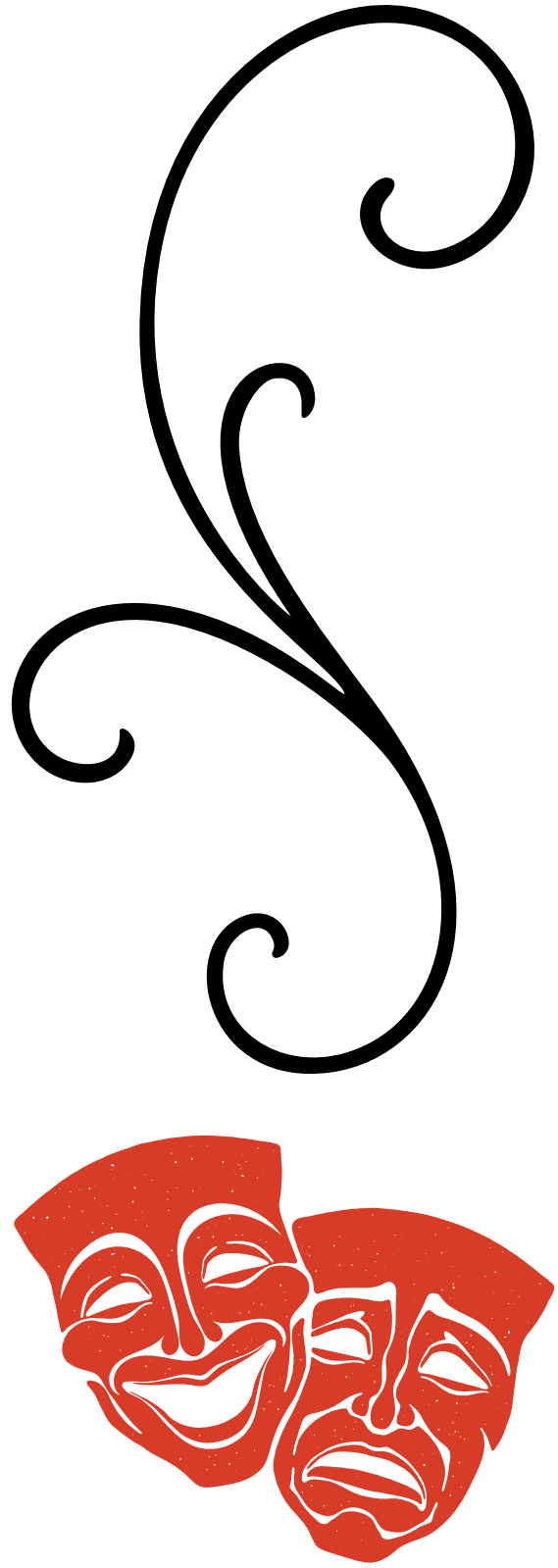
"Quiero cantar entre las explosiones"
Ainadamar
Osvaldo Golijov
Federico García Lorca - Lisa Marie Rogali
Margarita Xirgu - Teresa Castillo

"Er sterbe!"
Fidelio
Ludwig van Beethoven
Don Pizarro - Nate Mattingly
Florestan - David Freides
Leonore (Fidelio) - Laura Soto-Bayomi
Rocco - Brian McQueen

Epilogue
Blue
Jeanine Tesori
The Mother - Briana Hunter
The Father - Brian McQueen
The Son - Jonathan Pierce Rhodes

"Nessun dorma"
Turandot
Giacomo Puccini
Calàf - Nicholas Huff

"Va, pensiero"
Nabucco
Giuseppe Verdi



PROTESTRA

ARTISTIC ADMIN

Michelle Rofrano - Artistic & Music Director
Kamna Gupta - Associate Conductor
Will Cabison - Librarian & Asst. Conductor
Adrienne Boris - Stage Director
Erica Pajonas - Stage Manager
Ian Vlahović - Creative Director
Erin Schwab - Director of Communications
Juan Carlos Narváez - Director of Operations
Scout Sánchez - Projection & Poster Designer

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera for Revolution

ARTISTS



Teresa Castillo

Soprano

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: Teresa Castillo, Soprano

Magda Sorel in Aria "To this we've come... Papers!" — The Consul / Gian Carlo Menotti
Margarita Xirgu in Duet "Quiero cantar entre las explosiones" — Ainadamar / Osvaldo Golijov

Teresa Castillo has been hailed by the SF Gate as a "standout, bringing [vocal] power and florid elegance," and by Opera News for exhibiting "a clean, concentrated sound, and a lovely, intelligent musicianship." Castillo has been seen on stages around the world including the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Teatro Lirico di Cagliari, Carnegie Hall, Houston Grand Opera, The Kennedy Center, Opera Omaha, The Rose Theater at Jazz at Lincoln Center, Opera Southwest, Opera San Jose, Chicago Opera Theater and with The War Memorial Opera House while at Merola. She was also a finalist in the George London Foundation Competition and is on the roster at The Metropolitan Opera.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera FOR Revolution

ARTISTS



Melissa Citro

Soprano

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: Melissa Citro, Soprano

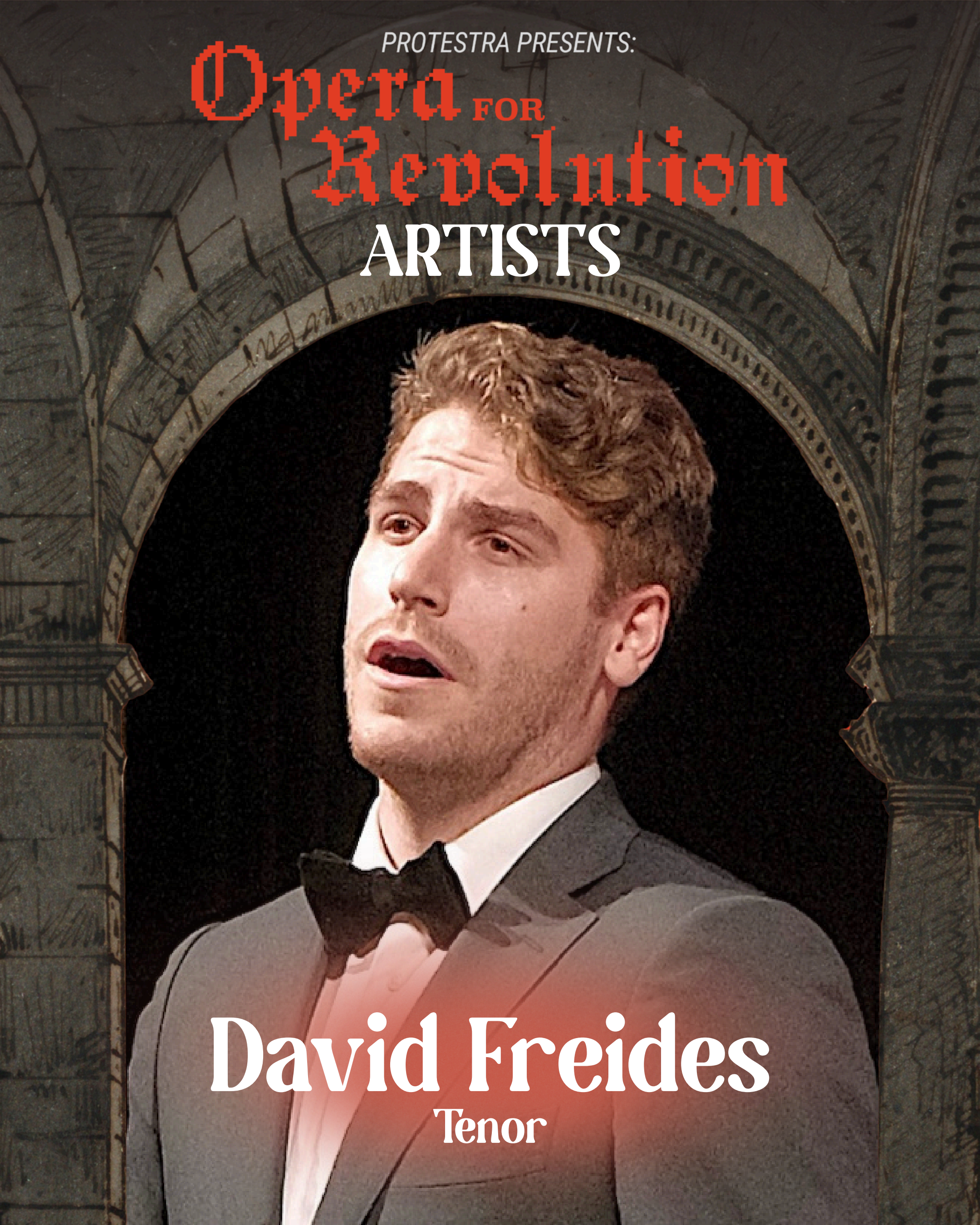
Performing as
Floria Tosca in Act II - Tosca / Giacomo Puccini

Melissa Citro , celebrated by Opera News for her "bright and beautiful" voice and "fully-nuanced," "ravishingly sung" portrayals, specializes in bringing the great soprano heroines of Puccini, Wagner, Janáček, and Dvořák to life. Grand Finals Winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and Winner of the George London Award, Citro has performed with the San Francisco Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Washington National Opera, Glimmerglass Festival, Stuttgart Opera, Detroit Opera, Opera Colorado, New Orleans Opera, Opera Southwest, Virginia Opera, Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Dallas Opera, Hawaii Opera Theatre, Bard Summerscape, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and Richmond Symphony Orchestra.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera FOR Revolution

ARTISTS



David Freides

Tenor

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: David Freides, Tenor

Florestan in Quartet ""Er sterbe"" – Fidelio / Ludwig van Beethoven

David Freides is a graduate of Manhattan School of Music. Raised in New Jersey, David began as a trumpet player but switched paths to singing during his college years. Recently he has performed as Rodolfo in La boheme with Sarasota Opera, as Albazar in Rossini's il Turco in Italia with Teatro Nuovo at the Rose Theater in Lincoln Center, and with Regina Opera as Don José in Carmen. A student of tenor Arturo Spinetti, David is living in Queens, New York pursuing a career in music.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera for Revolution

ARTISTS



Nicholas Huff

Tenor

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: Nicholas Huff, Tenor

Benjamin Franklin Pinkerton in "Dovunque al mondo" — *Madama Butterfly* / *Giacomo Puccini*
& Calaf *in* **"Nessun dorma" — Turandot**

Nick Huff has been hailed for his "Vocal and dramatic fearlessness" (Voix des arts) in leading roles across the country. Highlights include Rodolfo in Pocket Opera's La Boheme which won 'Best Opera Performance' in San Francisco Classical Voice's Audience Choice Awards; Steve Wozniak in WNO's The [R]evolution of Steve Jobs; and as Don Ottavio in Mozart's Don Giovanni with the Florida Grand Opera. "An authentic bel canto singer [...], free, ringing high tones that stopped the show [... and] the melting lyric timbre, beguiling stage personality and theatrical aplomb to dominate the stage." (South Florida Classical Review).

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera for Revolution

ARTISTS



Briana Hunter

Mezzo-Soprano

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
Briana Hunter, Mezzo-Soprano

Performing as
The Mother in Epilogue — Blue / Jeanine Tesori

Brianna Hunter has been hailed by Opera News as "a mesmerizing mezzo-soprano with a fiery theatrical presence and dynamic vocalism." This past season she returned to her artistic home The Metropolitan Opera to reprise her role of Mercedes in Carrie Cracknell's Carmen and cover the role of Bersi in Andrea Ch**é**nier. In February she had the immense privilege of joining The Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle in Durham, NC to perform Mahler's masterpiece "Das Lied von der Erde." Then came Europe with an unexpected performance in Rome, Italy at the Refettorio di Trinit**à** dei Monti for Opera Affinity.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera FOR Revolution

ARTISTS



Nate Mattingly

Bass-Baritone

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
Nate Mattingly, Bass-Baritone

Filippo - "Restate" - Don Carlo / Giuseppe Verdi
Sciarrone - Tosca Act II / Giacomo Puccini
Don Pizarro - "Er Sterbe" from Fidelio / Ludwig v. Beethoven

From Fort Worth, TX, bass-baritone, **Nate Mattingly**, is known for his acute musicianship, powerful stage presence, beautiful vocal production, and background in theory and composition. Nate has appeared in roles such as Salieri in Mozart **&** Salieri **(**Opera Saratoga**)**, Secret Police in The Consul **(**Opera Saratoga**)**, Judge Dodsworth in Voir Dire **(**Fort Worth Opera**)**, Yeltsin in Yeltsin in Texas **(**Fort Worth Opera**)**, and Friedrich Bhaer in Little Women **(**Opera in the Heights**)**. When not on stage, Nate collaborates in new music forums such as Frontiers, American Lyric Theater's Composer Librettist Development Program, and Seagle Music Colony's American Center for New Works Development.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera for Revolution

ARTISTS



Brian McQueen

Bass

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: Brian McQueen, Bass

Rocco in "Er sterbe" — *Fidelio* / *Ludwig van Beethoven*
& *The Father in Epilogue* — *Blue* / *Jeanine Tesori*

Brian McQueen is an operatic bass and voice instructor based in New York City. They were recently seen as Commendatore in Opera Wilmington's production of Mozart's Don Giovanni and in Anthony Davis' Amistad with Connecticut Lyric x Harlem Opera Theatre. In February, Brian will return to Opera Wilmington in recital for the Caterina Jarboro recital series and will conduct a masterclass presented by the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. In addition to owning Brian McQueen Voice Studio, Brian is a Teaching Artist with Lincoln Center Education, The Metropolitan Opera, Culture for One and other organizations in the NYC area. This is their debut performance with PROTESTRA.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera for Revolution

ARTISTS



Jonathan Patton

Baritone

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: Jonathan Patton, Baritone

Sharpless in "Dovunque al mondo" — Madama Butterfly / Giacomo Puccini
& *Baron Scarpia in Act II — Tosca / Giacomo Puccini*

Jonathan Patton is establishing himself as a compelling presence on the operatic stage, acclaimed for his "crystal-clear voice" and commanding stage presence. A native of Durango, Colorado, Patton began building his career as a Cafritz Young Artist with Washington National Opera. In the 2026-27 season, Patton returns to The Metropolitan Opera for La fanciulla del West and joins Lyric Opera of Chicago for Omar. Additional future engagements include Giorgio Germont in La traviata with Opera Modesto and Eisenstein in Die Fledermaus with Opera St. Petersburg.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera FOR Revolution

ARTISTS



Jonathan Pierce Rhodes

Tenor

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
Jonathan Pierce Rhodes, Tenor

Male Chorus in selections from The Rape of Lucretia / Benjamin Britten
& *The Son in Epilogue — Blue / Jeanine Tesori*

Praised as a "big-voiced standout" by The Wall Street Journal, tenor **Jonathan Pierce Rhodes** has emerged as an exciting young presence in opera. Recent highlights include his Houston Grand Opera debut as Mingo in Porgy **&** Bess, Zodzetrick in Treemonisha at Washington National Opera, and the Governor in Kurt Weill's Happy End with The Glimmerglass Festival. A former Cafritz Young Artist at Washington National Opera, Mr. Rhodes holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music and Rice University.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera for Revolution

ARTISTS



Lisa Marie Rogali

Mezzo-Soprano

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
Lisa Marie Rogali, Mezzo-Soprano

Federico García Lorca in "Quiero cantar entre las explosiones" — Ainadamar / Osvaldo Golijov
Female Chorus in selections from The Rape of Lucretia / Benjamin Britten

Lisa Marie Rogali has been praised by Opera News as "a Rossini star in the making" and by Parterre Box for her "strong, warm voice" and "vibrant physicality." Highlights of her 2026-27 season include Rosina in Il barbiere di Siviglia with Kentucky Opera, the title role in Carmen with Opera Montana, Cherubino in Le nozze di Figaro with San Diego Opera, and Verdi's Requiem with the Louisville Orchestra. Recent engagements include Carmen with San Diego Opera, Virginia Opera, Florentine Opera, Toledo Opera, and Gulfshore Opera; Angelina in La Cenerentola with Virginia Opera; and the Offred Double in The Handmaid's Tale with Detroit Opera.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera FOR Revolution

ARTISTS



Laura Soto-Bayomi

Soprano

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
Laura Soto-Bayomi, Soprano

Suor Angelica in "Senza Mamma" — *Suor Angelica / Giacomo Puccini*
& *Leonore* **(***Fidelio***)** *in "Er sterbe"* — *Fidelio / Ludwig van Beethoven*

Applauded by OperaWire for her "thrilling" performances and by the Times Argus for her "lovely warm soprano voice and heart-wrenching lyricism," soprano **Laura Soto-Bayomi** is an expressive and versatile artist celebrated for her stage presence. Her recent concert highlights include A Night at the Opera with the Queens Symphony, Opera Southwest's New Year's Eve 2026 celebration, and regular appearances as a soloist with the Riverside Church Choir. Laura studied under Pat Misslin at the New England Conservatory and Bard College.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera FOR Revolution

ARTISTS



Ramon Tenefrancia

Tenor

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
Ramon Tenefrancia, Tenor

Goro in "Dovunque al mondo" — Madama Butterfly / Giacomo Puccini
& *Spoletta in Act II — Tosca / Giacomo Puccini*

Ramon Tenefrancia is a rising tenor praised for his “commanding lyric tenor” (The Philippine Daily Inquirer) and “crisp tenor and sly charisma” (American Presswire). Known for his dramatic versatility and charismatic stage presence, he continues to distinguish himself in leading roles across the operatic repertoire. A graduate of the Manhattan School of Music, his credits include Edgardo (Lucia di Lammermoor), Alfredo (La Traviata), Don Ottavio (Don Giovanni), Little Bat McLean (Susannah), Beppe (I Pagliacci), and Prince Charming (Knightly News).

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera FOR Revolution

ARTISTS



John Viscardi

Tenor

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
John Viscardi, Tenor

Mario Cavaradossi in Act II — Tosca / Giacomo Puccini

Classically trained as an opera singer, **John Viscardi's** "powerful, nuanced, and absolutely riveting" voice, as described in Local Arts Live, has been wowing people everywhere. He "brought both swagger and depth of feeling to the role of Cyrano, said the Charlotte Observer. "The audience loved him!" For his starring role in the Magic Flute, the Toledo Blade remarked: "His robust singing is outdone only by his near-maniacal acting ability. He creates such a lovable character that he dominates the stage whenever he enters." Upon Viscardi's 2022 tenor debut at Opera Carolina in Puccini's Tosca, OperaWire celebrated the "fullness of Viscardi's voice," and raved that his aria "soared through the auditorium."

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera for Revolution

ARTISTS



Kyle White

Baritone

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
Kyle White, Baritone

Tarquinius in The Rape of Lucretia **-** "*Within this frail crucible*" **/** *Benjamin Britten*
& *Rodrigo*, *Marquis of Posa in* **"O signor, di Fiandra arrivo" —** *Don Carlo* **/** *Giuseppe Verdi*

Praised for his excellent singing and acting, **Kyle White** has found success performing roles from both modern and standard repertoire. White's recent and upcoming engagements include Yakuside in the Brescia version of Madama Butterfly, covering the title role in Eugene Onegin, and singing Eric Allatini in the American Premier of Tobias Picker's Lili Elbe at The Santa Fe Opera, Gary in the world premiere of Jorge Sosa **&** John de los Santos' Ofrenda, a soloist in concert with Protestra, the Bass Soloist in Handel's Messiah with The Long Bay Symphony, and as Un Mandarino in Turandot with Cincinnati Opera.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera for Revolution

ARTISTS



Michelle Rofrano

Music Director

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
Michelle Rofrano, Music Director

Michelle Rofrano is an Italian-American opera and orchestra conductor with a keen interest in the intersection of music and storytelling. Highlights of engagements for recent and upcoming seasons include leading Tosca with Fargo Moorhead Opera; Madama Butterfly with Maryland Opera; Bellini's I Capuleti e i Montecchi with the Academy of Vocal Arts and University of North Texas, and serving as cover conductor for Houston Grand Opera, Seattle Opera, and the National Symphony Orchestra. Past seasons have included Turandot with Fargo Moorhead Opera, La Bohème with Knoxville Opera, La Cenerentola with Toledo Opera, L'Amant Anonyme with Madison Opera, and guest appearances at conservatories such as The Curtis Institute and the Juilliard School. Rofrano has previously served as cover conductor with companies such as Santa Fe Opera, San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Washington National Opera, The Glimmerglass Festival, and Spoleto Festival USA. A champion of social progress in classical music, Rofrano is the Founder and Artistic Director of PROTESTRA, an activist orchestra in New York City that advocates for social justice.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera FOR Revolution

ARTISTS



Kamna Gupta

Associate Conductor

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
Kamna Gupta, Associate Conductor

French-born, Indian-American conductor **Kamna Gupta** is an American Prize-winning artist known for her versatility, nuanced interpretations, and collaborative style. With experiences that span operatic, orchestral, and choral repertoires, she is a widely sought-after artist with a unique range. In summer 2026, she will join the music staff at Santa Fe Opera as the cover conductor for the American premiere of Tobias Picker's Lili Elbe. In recent seasons, she served as a cover conductor at the New York Philharmonic and Washington National Opera. In 2026, she was one of three conductors invited to perform in a masterclass led by Fabio Luisi and the International Conductors Guild.

PROTESTRA PRESENTS:

Opera FOR Revolution

ARTISTS



Adrienne Boris

Stage Director

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:
Adrienne Boris, Stage Director

Adrienne Boris' career has focused on community-based projects that try to make opera relevant and enjoyable for all. As Resident Stage Director at Opera Boston, she directed several short operas, including Trouble in Tahiti and The Seven Deadly Sins in non-traditional spaces. At NEMPAC Opera Project, she staged La Boheme and Die Fledermaus in Boston's Faneuil Hall, and as Artistic Associate at OperaHub, she co-commissioned and stage directed the world premiere of the music-theater piece DIVAS, giving personal voice to opera divas of the past and showcasing their impact on culture and music history. Most recently, she directed Gilbert **&** Sullivan's Ruddigore with Blue Hill Troupe **(**NYC**)** and a semi-staged production of Sweeney Todd at Pacific Symphony **(**Costa Mesa, CA**)**.


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Dario Cazzani, ***concertmaster***
Inês Ayer
Edan Sabah
Anna Pavlou
Sierra Freeman

Violin II
Holly Workman, ***principal***
Alexandria Pritchard
Louis Barker
Amber Sears

Viola
Rebecca Chaqor, ***principal***
Jessica Wong
Judith Insell

Cello
Nathaniel Bernecker, ***principal***
James Pedersen
Pavel Vasilyev

Bass
Morton Cahn, ***principal***
Zarina Kotwal

Flute
Juan Carlos Narváez, ***principal***
Jackie Traish
Mitzy Nonaka

Oboe
Kamil Tarnawczyk, ***principal***
Leo Egen

Clarinet
Danny King, ***principal***
Timothy Hanley

Bassoon
Sanford Schwartz, ***principal***
Aric MacDavid

Horn
Noah Fotis-Larsen, ***principal***
Benjamin Hommowun
Alex Partridge
Aiden Bower

Trumpet
Lindsay Ross, ***principal***
John P. Johnson
Sam Friedman

Trombone
Natalie Shields, ***principal***
Julie Zedeck
Laura Fallon, *bass trombone*

Tuba
Genevieve Blesch, ***principal***

Percussion
Owen Bloomfield
Jay Nerger

Timpani
Jacky Xu

Keyboard
Hannah Comia

Piano
Neill Campbell

PROTESTRA

ABOUT PROTESTRA

PROTESTRA (protest + orchestra) is a grassroots orchestra based in NYC that bridges the divide between advocacy and classical music. Since 2017, PROTESTRA has educated audiences about contemporary issues of social justice through orchestral performances, donating a portion of ticket proceeds to mission- and policy-driven nonprofit organizations related to the concerts' themes. Since 2017, PROTESTRA has held 15 issue-centered benefit concerts that have reached several thousand in-person and online viewers, collectively raised $68,000+ in audience donations for nonprofit beneficiaries, and provided $79,000+ of paid work to 300+ musicians.

Learn more: protestra.org

ACACIA
CENTER FOR JUSTICE

ABOUT ACACIA CENTER FOR JUSTICE

The **Acacia Center for Justice** is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that supports and partners with a national network of human rights defenders who provide legal defense to immigrants at risk of detention or deportation. Acacia fights for access to legal defense for vulnerable immigrants at risk of detention or deportation, regardless of age, ability, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, race, the perceived strength of a case, previous interaction with the criminal system, or any other factor.

Learn more: acaciajustice.org

FURTHER YOUR IMPACT

Make an additional contribution to our concert crowdfunding campaign for ACACIA Center for Justice!



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