

The Gerda Lissner Foundation presents

Yale SCHOOL OF MUSIC

An Evening with Yale Opera

Featuring:

Leah Hawkins, soprano

Jillian Tate, soprano

Rosario Armas, mezzo

Ryan Capozzo, tenor

Gerald Martin Moore, piano

Tuesday Sept 24, 2024

7pm The Greene Space

THE
GERDA LISSNER FOUNDATION

"encouragement and assistance to young opera artists..."

Generously sponsored by The Gerda Lissner Foundation
and the Lissner Charitable Fund, Karl Michaelis

Program

An Evening with Yale Opera

Gerald Martin Moore, piano

Antonin Dvořák
1841-1904

Vidino divna přesladrká from *Rusalka*

Jaroslav Kvapil

Ryan Capozzo, tenor

Georges Bizet
1838-1875

Seguidilla from *Carmen*

Ludovic Halévy
Henri Meilhac

Rosario Armas, mezzo

Bizet

**Je vais danser en votre honneur...
La fleur que tu m'avais jetée** from
Carmen

Halévy
Meilhac

Rosario Armas, mezzo
Ryan Capozzo, tenor

Lili Boulanger
1893-1918

Nous nous aimerons

Francis Jammes

Leah Hawkins, soprano

Francis Poulenc
1900-1963

Les chemins de l'amour

Jean Anouilh

Leah Hawkins, soprano

André Previn
1929-2019

Take my Mother Home from *Honey and Rue*

Toni Morrison

Jillian Tate, soprano

Program

Peter Ashbourne 1950-	Nobody's Business Leah Hawkins, soprano	traditional
Ruperto Chapi 1851–1909	Al Pensar from <i>Las hijas del zebedeo</i> Rosario Armas, mezzo	José Estremera
Franz Lehár 1870-1948	Dein ist mein ganzes Herz from <i>Das Land des Lächelns</i> Ryan Capozzo, tenor	Ludwig Herzer Fritz Löhner-Beda
Richard Strauss 1864-1949	Hab' mir's gelobt, ihn lieb zu haben from <i>Der Rosenkavalier</i> Leah Hawkins, soprano Jillian Tate, soprano Rosario Armas, mezzo	Hugo von Hofmannsthal
Traditional spiritual	There is a balm in Gilead Leah Hawkins, soprano Jillian Tate, soprano	traditional

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Artist Profiles

Soprano **Leah Hawkins** is the recipient of the Metropolitan Opera's 2024 Beverly Sills Artist Award and a graduate of their Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. Additional honors include the Marian Anderson Award, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra's Women in Classical Music Career Advancement Award, and a Richard Tucker Foundation Career Grant.

Highlights of the 24/25 season include her San Francisco Symphony debut in Verdi's *Messa da Requiem* conducted by Esa Pekka-Salonen, and a return to Arizona Opera for her highly anticipated titular role debut in *Aida*. On the concert stage she returns to The Philadelphia Orchestra for Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, joins The Apollo Orchestra as a guest soloist in a concert of Verdi Arias, and returns to the Park Avenue Armory for a self-curated recital entitled *C'est ainsi que tu es* or *That is how you are*, which is "a glimpse into my ongoing journey of finding, accepting, and living as my truest self." Future engagements include debuts with La Monnaie / De Munt and The Dallas Opera, along with returns to the Metropolitan Opera and The Philadelphia Orchestra.

Last season, Hawkins returned to the Metropolitan Opera as the Soprano Soloist in Verdi's Requiem, and performed Musetta in *La bohème* with The Philadelphia Orchestra, both conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin. Other season engagements included a role debut in Anthony Davis' *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X* (Louise/Betty) with the Metropolitan Opera and Seattle Opera. In the spring, she made her role and house debut at Dutch National Opera in a new production of *Il tabarro* (Giorgetta) directed by Barrie Kosky. On the concert stage she performed the Dvořák Requiem with the American Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Hall.

Jillian Tate is a soprano currently pursuing her Master of Musical Arts degree at Yale University under the tutelage of Gerald Martin Moore. Recently she appeared in Yale Opera Scenes as Peter in Joel Thompson's *The Snowy Day*, Soeur Constance in Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmélites*, and Barbarina in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*. This spring she was featured as Lauretta in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* with Yale Opera. She has appeared as a soloist with Yale Philharmonia performing the New England premiere of Adolphus Hailstork's *JFK: The Last Speech* in November 2023. Additionally, she was honored to be a winner in the Boston District of the Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition in December 2023. Jillian is an alumna of the University of Maryland where she studied with Mezzo Soprano Delores Ziegler.

Artist Profiles

Rosario Armas, a New York-based Mexican mezzo-soprano from Tlaxcala, Mexico, trained at the Escuela Nacional Autónoma de México before moving to New York in 2016. She earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees at the Manhattan School of Music. Rosario's notable roles include Cherubino in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Dorabella in *Così fan Tutte*, and Carmen in *La Tragédie de Carmen*. She has won the MONC "Encouragement Award," 3rd Prize in the Joan Taub Ades Competition, and 2nd Prize for Zarzuela at the Gerda Lissner Foundation Competition. She has been an Apprentice Singer at Sarasota Opera and Studio Artist for two summers at Wolf Trap Opera. This Fall Rosario joined the Yale School of Music for her MMA degree. Rosario is also a professional Bolero and Traditional Mariachi singer.

American tenor **Ryan Capozzo** recently finished his final season as a young artist with the Ryan Opera Center at the Lyric Opera of Chicago and *Opera News* has exclaimed that he is "generating genuine drama." In Chicago for the 2023-2024 season Ryan has sung the role of Steuermann in Wagner's *Der fliegende Holländer*, and has covered the roles of Steva in Janáček's *Jenufa* and Howie Albert in Terence Blanchard's *Champion*. Elsewhere, he has sung excerpts from *Carmen* as Don José with the Schauspielhaus Zürich for his European debut. This summer he also attended the Académie du Festival d'Aix.

In the upcoming 2024-2025 season at the Metropolitan Opera, Mr. Capozzo will sing the role of The Voice of a Young Man in *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, and cover the role of Narraboth in *Salome*. He will also sing the role of the Prince in *Rusalka* next summer at the Gran Teatre del Liceu.

In the 2022-2023 season, Ryan Capozzo sang Remendado in *Carmen* with the Lyric Opera of Chicago as part of the Ryan Opera Center and participated in the Ryan Opera Center's Rising Stars concert. He also joined the Berkshire Opera Festival for their Spring Concert *To Paris with Love* and collaborated with the Georg Solti Accademia in Italy. Mr. Capozzo holds a B.M. and a M.M. from the Purchase College Conservatory of Music, as well as a M.M.A. from the Yale School of Music – where, upon graduation, he was awarded the Phyllis Curtin Career Entry Prize. During his time at Yale, he had the pleasure of working with esteemed professionals and performing artists including Richard Cross, Gerald Martin Moore, J.J. Penna, and Howard Watkins. Ryan was awarded second place in the Southeast Region of The Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition in 2022. He received the Windsor Encouragement Award in Vero Beach Opera's Rising Stars Competition, was selected as a semi-finalist for Annapolis Opera's 2021 Vocal Competition, and he was awarded the Briarcliff Music Scholarship in 2016.

Artist Profiles

In 2020 **Gerald Martin Moore** was appointed Director of Yale Opera and Coordinator of Vocal Studies for the School of Music. Gerald Martin Moore is an internationally renowned singing teacher and a vocal consultant. He has worked closely with Renée Fleming for many years since first collaborating on the production of *Alcina* with William Christie at the Palais Garnier in Paris. He then went on to work with Ms. Fleming on many subsequent roles, Decca recordings and recitals. Other leading artists he has prepared for roles and recordings include Natalie Dessay, Marie McLaughlin, Sabine Devieilhe, Erin Morley, Elīna Garanča, and Sarah Connolly. He has worked in such houses as Covent Garden, La Scala, the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco, Opera de Bastille, Champs-Élysées and Châtelet in Paris as well as the Aix-en-Provence, Edinburgh and Glyndebourne Festivals.

Since moving to NYC in 2008 he has been on the teaching faculty of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann program and is also on the adjunct faculty at Curtis Institute of Music. He regularly gives masterclasses at Glyndebourne, Merola, Washington National Opera, COC in Toronto, Atelier Lyrique Montreal, LA Opera, And the Ryan Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago.

An authority on vocal technique, Mr. Moore is a frequent guest on multiple radio programs and was honored with an hour-long special interview on BBC Radio 3's Voices, focused particularly on American singers and child stars. For OPERA magazine, he interviewed Beverly Sills on the technique of coloratura singing. Mr. Moore may currently be heard as a regular host of the Metropolitan Opera Quiz, and is also in demand as a judge for prestigious vocal competitions, including the Metropolitan Opera regional auditions.

In addition to teaching voice, Mr. Moore has assisted William Christie and Les Arts Florissants in preparing the soloists for productions and recordings including Handel's *Orlando*, *Semele*, and *Alcina*, and Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, and *Die Entführung*. He similarly assisted Sir Charles Mackerras at the Edinburgh Festival for Mozart's *Idomeneo* and *La clemenza di Tito*, Donizetti's *Maria Stuarda*, together with Rossini's *Zelmira*, *Adelaide di Borgogna* and *La donna del lago* conducted by Maurizio Benini. As a specialist in ornamentation Mr. Moore has composed countless embellishments for leading singers, notably in his role as vocal consultant to Opera Rara and Decca. An additional area of Mr. Moore's expertise is the neglected French repertoire of Delibes, Thomas, Gounod, Meyerbeer, and Massenet.

He is a frequent recitalist, most notably with Renée Fleming. He has performed before such dignitaries as President Obama and the First Lady, President Clinton and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, HRH King Charles, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. Gerald was recently featured accompanying Renee Fleming in the soundtrack for the movie *Bel Canto*.