

# PROTOTYPE

OPERA | THEATRE | NOW

Co-produced by: **BMP**  
BETH MORRISON PROJECTS  
More Opera and New Music

**HERE**

Co-presented by:

**fi:af**

french institute  
alliance française

&

**HarlemStage**  
Diverse Artists. Transformative Art.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS | OPERA

## STINNEY: AN AMERICAN EXECUTION

### COMPANY BIOGRAPHIES: CREATIVES

---

**FRANCES POLLOCK (COMPOSER & CO-LIBRETTIST)** Known for her “bold and bracing” (*Baltimore Sun*) opera writing, Frances Pollock’s music “pulls no punches and never flinches” (*City Paper*). Originally from North Carolina, Frances’ music digs its roots into jazz, blues, gospel, folk, and a variety of other styles. Her music has been performed all over the country by the Bridge Ensemble, Prima Volta, The North Carolina Governors’ School, Divine Waters Ensemble, Aspen Contemporary Ensemble, and many others. In 2016, Frances was commissioned by Washington National Opera to write a one-act opera entitled “What Gets Kept” as part of the Kennedy Center’s “American Opera Initiative” Festival. *Stinney*’s accolades thus far include multiple awards from Johns Hopkins University and beyond, including the Diversity Innovation Grant and a Baltimore City Paper’s “Best of Baltimore” award. This past summer, Frances was a composition fellow at the Aspen Music Festival and with American Opera Projects’ Composers and the Voice where she is developing a new opera entitled *Salt*. Frances is also a “Turn the Spotlight” fellow and working under the mentorship of Kamala Sankaram. Frances is currently working on a children’s opera with Chicago Lyric Opera that will premiere in Fall of 2019. Frances is a founding member of the new music non-profit, Prima Volta. She currently studies with Christopher Theofanidis at Yale University.

**TIA PRICE (CO-LIBRETTIST)** is a Black, queer community artist that promotes the liberation of black and brown youth through arts education.

**ALEXANDER LLOYD BLAKE (MUSIC DIRECTOR)** is the founder of Tonality, a new professional choral ensemble founded in June 2016 with the intention of connecting people with our shared humanity through song. Established with the idea that we are all one people, Tonality performs a variety of music in an effort to unify the community through concerts focused on unity, peace, and social justice. Blake also works as the Choir Director of the Los Angeles County School for the Arts (LACHSA), the Assistant Choir Conductor at First Congregation Church Los Angeles and the Associate Conductor of the National Children’s Chorus. An ABD candidate in the Doctoral Choral Music program at the University of Southern California, Blake earned the Master of Music at UCLA and the Bachelor of Arts degree in Vocal Performance at Wake Forest University. Blake currently serves on the Choral Music Faculty of the North Carolina Governor’s School, where he also guest conducts for the Governor’s School Orchestra. Additionally, Blake recently prepared choirs for MacArthur Fellow Taylor Mac’s *Holiday Sauce* and *24-Decade History of Music* concerts.

**EMMA WEINSTEIN (CO-DIRECTOR)** is a writer and a director of new plays, films, musicals, and interactive installations. At Yale School of Drama, Emma directed the first workshop production of *Slave Play* by Jeremy O. Harris, an all-female, pop-infused *Romeo & Juliet* set in a Catholic high school, and *In the Palm of a Giant* by Christopher Gabriel Nuñez as part of the New Play Lab. Emma’s thesis production was an immersive musical co-written with Michael Breslin that explored queer utopias and featured original songs by Julian Hornik. Emma’s short film *Candace* has played at festivals worldwide including the Mill Valley Film Festival, Outfest, the Rhode Island International Film Festival and the American Pavilion Emerging LGBTQ Filmmakers Showcase at the Cannes Film Festival, where it won Best Film. Prior to grad school, Emma’s work included *Dreamland*, a 1:1 installation that explored audience agency in interactive narrative environments, and the 18-month national tour of Madeline Burrows’s *Mom Baby God*. Emma is currently working on several original projects including *Come My Beloved*, a new play with music about the intersections of Jewish and Black history in Detroit, Michigan, that has had developmental readings in New York, Chicago, and Detroit. Emma graduated summa cum laude from Smith College, is an alumna of the Drama League Directors Project, and is a New Georges Associate Artist. Emma is currently in their final semester at Yale School of Drama where they’ll receive an M.F.A. in directing in May 2019. [emmaweinsteindirector.com](http://emmaweinsteindirector.com)

**JEREMY O. HARRIS (CO-DIRECTOR & CO-DRAMATURG)** is a theatre artist currently residing in New Haven, CT by way of Los Angeles, CA. As a playwright, his full-length plays include *Xander Xyst*, *Dragon: 1*, “Daddy”, *WATER SPORTS*; or *insignificant white boys*, and *Slave Play* (Winner of the 2018 Kennedy Center Rosa Parks Playwriting Award and the Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award). His work as a writer and director has been presented or developed by Pieterspace, JACK, Ars Nova, The New Group, NYTW, and Playwrights Horizons. His work as an actor has been seen at About Face Theatre, The Goodman, and most recently HBO’s *High Maintenance*. He is a 2016 MacDowell Colony Fellow, 2016 Chesley/Bumbalo Playwriting Award Finalist, 2016 Princess Grace Award Semi-Finalist, resident playwright with Colt Coeur, and is under commission from Lincoln Center Theater and Playwrights Horizons. Jeremy is currently in his second year at the Yale School of Drama.

**IMANI DANIELLE MOSLEY (CO-DRAMATURG)** is currently a PhD candidate in Musicology at Duke University. She is currently writing her dissertation entitled “The queer things he said’: British Identity, Social History, and Press Reception of Benjamin Britten’s Postwar Operas.” In addition to her work on Britten, she also specializes in contemporary opera, feminist and queer theory, masculinities studies, reception history, and British and American music from 1890 to 1945. She also works actively as a librettist, dramaturge, and public historian.

## PERFORMERS

---

**JAZMIN BLACK GROLLEMUND (ALMA STINNEY)** A native of Charlotte, North Carolina, Jazmin Black Grollemund earned her bachelor’s degree in vocal performance at Furman University. After completing her master’s degree at the Maryland Opera Studio, Jazmin earned a Perfectionnement Diploma at the Conservatoire de Versailles. In 2015, Jazmin’s performance at the International Singing Competition of Vivonne, France garnered both first and the Audience Choice Prize. In November of 2017, Jazmin was presented with the Cite de la Voix prize at the International Singing Competition in Mâcon, France. Jazmin made her European operatic debut as Nedda in *I Pagliacci* in Brittany, France. Her opera repertoire includes Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte*, Mimì in *La Bohème*, Mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, and Flora in *La Traviata*. She has performed in numerous European venues, including the Sala Biała in Poznan, Poland, Théâtre Montparnasse and L’Olympia in Paris, and the Royal Albert Hall in London. This season, Jazmin will interpret Fiordiligi (*Così fan tutte*) at the Teatru Manoel in Malta and Arminda (*La finta giardiniera*) at the Théâtre de Roanne in France.

**DANIEL SAMPSON (GEORGE STINNEY SR.)** Praised by *The New Orleans Times-Picayune* for his “strong and moving performance,” tenor Daniel E. Sampson brings inspiration and expression every time he sings. Daniel sang the role of Monostatos in Loyola Opera’s *The Magic Flute*. A lover of musical theatre, he appeared in productions of *Big River* and *Godspell*, as well as covering roles for Tulane Summer Lyric Theater. Sampson has been a featured soloist for many churches in both Baltimore and New Orleans, including an appearance as the Tenor Soloist for Vivaldi’s *Magnificat* at New Orleans’ historic St. Louis Cathedral. He also sang with the New Orleans Opera Chorus for five seasons. Recently, Daniel was a featured soloist in Leonard Bernstein’s *Mass* with Peabody Conservatory under the baton of Maestra Marin Alsop. He is also the winner of the 2018 Interplay Artist Residency at University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Daniel received his Bachelor of Music Education and Voice from Loyola University New Orleans. He is currently pursuing the Master of Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from the Peabody Conservatory, studying with Stanley Cornett.

**FITZGERALD ST. LOUIS (REVEREND WILLIAMS)** The Dominican-born baritone Fitzgerald St. Louis is drawing attention for his beautiful and lyrical voice. Mr. St. Louis is a graduate of the Middle Tennessee State University and The Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University. He recently performed Luciano Berio’s *Coro* with the Lucerne Festival Academy under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle. Mr. St. Louis’ past opera roles at Peabody include Henry in *Street Scene*, Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Frédéric in *Lakmé*, 2nd Commissioner in *Dialogues des carmélites*, and Count Almaviva in *le nozze di Figaro*. Mr. St. Louis has also performed as a chorus member for the Nashville Opera in their productions of *Rigoletto* and *Carmen* respectively.

**AARON “AJ” GARRETT (GEORGE STINNEY JR.)** is excited to reprise the role of George Stinney, Jr. in *Stinney: An American Execution* for the PROTOTYPE Festival. He is a senior at Baltimore’s George Washington Carver Center for Arts & Technology. AJ is an actor, dancer, and a naturally gifted entertainer. His stage credits include Stillpointe Theatre Company’s *Caroline or Change* and The Peabody Conservatory’s *Stinney: An American Execution*. Upon graduation, AJ plans to study fine arts so that he can develop his skills and continue to seek out exciting new roles. AJ thanks his parents, family, and friends for always encouraging him to always pursue his dreams.

**CLAIRE GALLOWAY (BARBARA THAMES)** British-American soprano Claire Galloway's theatricality covers the gamut of "palpable pain" and "splendid, funny moments" (*B.I.T.R.*). She has performed such roles as Dinah in Bernstein's *Trouble in Tahiti*, Contessa in *Nozze di Figaro*, Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*, and has premiered a role in Jonathan Dove's *Mansfield Park*. In past seasons, Ms. Galloway has performed with Baltimore Concert Opera, the Savannah Voice Festival, Bel Cantanti Opera, and Stillpointe Theatre. This season she will present a recital based on the life of Rosa Ponselle at the elegant George Peabody Library. Ms. Galloway is curator of the related Ponselle exhibit at the Peabody Institute, where she currently teaches. Ms. Galloway's innovative recital programming has resulted in the best attended concert event at the Baltimore War Memorial Arts Initiative in past seasons. A frequent soloist with Concert Artists of Baltimore, Ms. Galloway has also performed concert and oratorio works with Bach in Baltimore, the American Symphony Orchestra, and the Peabody Concert Orchestra.

**FELICIA MOORE (JEAN BINNICKER)** has been recognized as a powerful and innovative emerging artist. She recently earned an Artist Diploma in Opera Studies from The Juilliard School and was named one of the winners of The Sullivan Foundation Competition and the first prize winner of The Jensen Foundation. In the current season, Ms. Moore makes her debut at Palm Beach Opera as Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* and joins the Las Vegas Philharmonic to perform Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*. Ms. Moore's training has included resident artist apprenticeships at Merola Opera Program, Des Moines Metro Opera, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, Portland Opera, and the Ravinia Festival's Steans Institute. Her work in these programs featured role preparations for First Lady in *Die Zauberflöte*, Alice Ford in *Falstaff*, Amelia in *Un ballo in Maschera*, Madame Lidoine in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, Leonore in *Fidelio*, and the title role of Tobias Picker's *Emmeline*. Ms. Moore has received awards from the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, George London Foundation Competition, Opera Index, and the Gerda Lissner Foundation.

**DARYL YODER (FRANK SPEARMAN/JUDGE MATTHEWS)** was raised in southern Africa and received his musical training at the Oberlin Conservatory and Boston University. He has been a soloist with the Handel Choir of Baltimore, Apollo's Fire, Boston's Cantata Singers, the Columbus Bach Ensemble, the Consortium musicum Plzen, the Kolegium pro duchovní hudbu, Three Notch'd Road, the Waltham Philharmonic, the Maryland Choral Society and the Friday Morning Music Club Chorale, among many others, in music ranging from Monteverdi to Mendelssohn to new music premieres. His opera credits include Dulcamara (*L'elisir d'amore*), Basilio (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*), Elviro (*Seerse*), Pirro (*I Lombardi*), Daniel Webster (*The Mother of Us All*) and Balthazar (*Amahl and the Night Visitors*). A frequent recitalist with a repertoire of more than 250 songs, he and pianist Jung-Yoon Lee performed all three of the great Schubert song cycles during 2015-16 in Baltimore's War Memorial and beyond. He has sung with the professional choirs of the Handel and Haydn Society, Emmanuel Music, Apollo's Fire, Chantry and Opera Lafayette, and is a member of the chamber ensemble Third Practice.

**BLAKE FRIEDMAN (JIMMY SMITH)** Cited by *The New York Times* for the "plummy fullness and dusky hue" of his voice and by the *New York Classical Review* for his voice's "buttery top," tenor Blake Friedman made his Dallas Opera debut last season in the Donizetti and Company concert while also covering Florian in *Der Ring des Polykrates* by Korngold. Passionate about new opera, Blake has served as the resident tenor for American Opera Projects Composer's and the Voice for the past two cycles. Notable performances include his critically acclaimed portrayal of Irving Tashman in the New York City premiere of *Morning Star* by Ricky Ian Gordon with On Site Opera and Iago in Rossini's *Otello* with LoftOpera. Other roles include Nemorino, Almaviva, and Alfredo in *La Traviata*. He has performed as soloist with New York Choral Society, New York City Ballet, Ensemble for the Romantic Century, Choral Artists of Sarasota, Key Chorale, and York Symphony. He holds a Master's and Professional Diploma from Manhattan School of Music and a Bachelor's from The Eastman School of Music.

**ANDREW HANN (DEAN CLARKSON)** has demonstrated his versatility by appearing on stage as a vocalist, harpsichordist, and pianist. He holds Masters of Music degrees in both Early Music Voice and Harpsichord Performance (2015) at Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University. He previously attended Shenandoah Conservatory, where he attained a BM in Voice Performance. Favorite roles include Arnalta in *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, Orphée in *La descente d'Orphée aux enfers*, Pane in *La Calisto*, and Jimmy Smith in the premiere of Frances Pollock's social justice opera *Stinney*. Andrew maintains a private voice and piano studio in Baltimore, MD and also serves as music director/teaching artist for Imagination Stage in Washington, DC. Andrew most recently served on voice faculty at the University of Portland.

**ROB MCGINNESS (ED WALL)** has been praised by the *Baltimore Sun* for his "impressive singing ... well-supported tone and supple phrasing." This season, Rob is looking forward to his Kennedy Center solo debut with The Washington Chorus. His season will also include performances with the Maryland Symphony Orchestra and Washington National Opera. Often featured portraying opera's "bad boy," Rob's operatic credits include title roles in *Eugene Onegin* and *Don Giovanni*, as well as Marcello in *La Bohème*. As a featured soloist, Rob has performed Mahler's *Songs of a Wayfarer* with the Peabody Symphony Orchestra, and Schubert's *Mass in G* with Concert Artists of Baltimore, where Rob's performance was lauded by the *Baltimore Sun's* Tim Smith for its "poetic warmth." Rob has degrees from the Oberlin Conser-

vatory and the Peabody Institute, and was a young artist with Pittsburgh Festival Opera and Bel Canto at Caramoor. His awards and competitions include first place in the Sylvia Greene Vocal Competition, second place in the Piccola Opera Competition, and finalist in the Annapolis Opera Vocal Competition.

**MADLINE POLLOCK (BETTY JUNE BINNICKER)** Since the age of three, Madeline Pollock has been dancing, singing, and acting with enthusiasm in Winston-Salem, NC. Her children's theatre credits include Iris in *Fame, Jr.*, Miss Lynch in *Grease*, Sabrina in *Legally Blonde, Jr.*, and Rita in *Thoroughly Modern Millie, Jr.* She practices lyrical, modern, contemporary, jazz, ballet, and tap with Kari Anderson at Forsyth Country Day School, while concentrating on ballet with Brantley Shapiro at Wake Forest University Community Ballet. Within competitive dancing, Madeline's solos have earned first place overall honors in regional and fourth overall in national Showstopper Dance Competitions. At the Boogie Fever USA National Dance Championships, she has won her age group and has been their first runner up Teen Miss Dance recipient for a well-rounded dancer with excellent leadership. Kids Artistic Revue has offered her a scholarship to the Hollywood Dance Invitational following her first place regional competition honors. When not performing, Madeline can be found working with power tools in her second year engineering class as a sophomore at Forsyth Country Day School.

**VIVIAN POE (MARY EMMA THAMES)** is delighted to be making her PROTOTYPE debut. Regional credits: Alabama Shakespeare Festival: *Annie* (Annie); Ballet Concierto de San Juan, Puerto Rico: *The Nutcracker*. DC Metro credits: Signature Theatre: *Billy Elliot* (Debbie Wilkinson); Olney Theatre Center: *Annie* (Annie); Imagination Stage: *Beauty and the Beast* (Chip); Wolf Trap Opera: *La Bohème* (Child Soloist); The Washington Ballet: *The Nutcracker*. Education: Coro de Niños de San Juan (2011-2014), the Children's Chorus of Washington (2015-2016), and voice training with soprano Heather Fetrow (2017-present); Imagination Stage, Acting Conservatory; Ballet Concierto de San Juan (2009-2014), The Washington School of Ballet and Level 5 Pointe (2014-present); Spanish immersion student, the International Baccalaureate® Program, Westland Middle School. Representation: Carson-Adler Agency, Inc., New York. Instagram: [@vivian\\_poe\\_official](#).

**TAYLOR-ALEXIS DUPONT (FEMALE CHORUS)** is a Mezzo-Soprano from Orlando, FL. While attending the Peabody Conservatory for her Masters in Voice she performed in several Opera's including *Così fan tutte* as Dorabella, *Cendrillon* as Prince Charmant, Rimsky-Korsakov's *The Snow Maiden* as Lel, Mikhail Glinka's *Ruslan and Ludmilla* as Prince Ratmir, and performed in the premiere production of *Stinney*. Since graduating, she performed in young artists programs and opera companies such as the Ising International Young Artist Festival in Beijing and Suzhou, China, the Glimmerglass Festival, Sarasota Opera's Apprentice Artist Program, Opera Orlando, and St. Petersburg Opera's Emerging Artist Program. This past year she was the Rosalia (cover) in Sarasota Opera's production of *Tiefland* and was the Flora (cover) for St. Petersburg's *La Traviata*. She was last seen earlier this winter performing as the titular character in St. Petersburg's production of *Pinocchio*. Taylor-Alexis is excited to be involved in *Stinney* once more to give voice to a story that needs to be heard.

**LAQUAVIA ALSTON (FEMALE CHORUS)** is a recipient of the Gene Ferguson Encouragement Award (South Carolina Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions). Alston attended school in Charleston, SC and holds a B.A. in Voice Performance and an Artist Certificate. She has performed in ensembles supporting major artists, such as world-renowned opera star Denyce Graves in Bizet's *Carmen*. Alston has performed internationally throughout Italy. In England, she sang as a part of the Canterbury Cathedral Choir in Residence during The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Alston has also performed as a soloist in Barcelona at the Iglesia de Sant Pere de les Puel·les. Post-grad, she has established a teaching career as a private voice instructor and clinician. Her students have gone on to the The Paul McCartney School of Music at the Liverpool Institute, signed major contracts with Royal Caribbean, Carnival, Spirit Cruise lines, and more. Currently, Alston is on faculty at Imagination Stage in Bethesda, MD. She is the co-founder of a DC-based art collective that promotes individual creative growth and interpersonal artistic connections, facilitating social justice through the arts.

**TIRZAH HAWLEY (FEMALE CHORUS)**, a native of Columbus, OH, started singing at a very early age. She has a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from Oakwood University and a Master of Music in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from Peabody Conservatory. Her recent credits include performing the role of Dionne in *Hair* and understudying the role of Effie in *Dreamgirls* at Short North Stage in Columbus. Tirzah is thrilled to return to the cast of *Stinney*.

**ALEXANDRA SCHLEUDERER (FEMALE CHORUS)**, hailing from the Hudson Valley, performs and teaches regularly throughout the city. Her passion has grown from a love for the rich history of opera and is reinvigorated by the voices of our time. This season she is a featured soloist and member of C4; a choral, composer, and conductor collective focused on cultivating new choral works in NYC. Also this season she performed in *The Mile Long Opera*, with music by David Lang and texts by Anne Carson and Claudia Rankine. She made her professional debut with the Schenectady Symphony Orchestra for their 2012 performance of Mahler's *4th Symphony*. Opera roles performed have included Susanna (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*), Rosalinda (*Die Fledermaus*), Amy March (*Little Women*), Adina (*L'elisir*

*d'amore*), Baby Doe (*The Ballad of Baby Doe*), and Persephone (*La Descente d'Orphée aux enfers*). Alexandra holds a Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance from the Peabody Institute. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the SUNY Oneonta where she graduated cum laude.

**MARY KATHRYN MONDAY (FEMALE CHORUS)**, mezzo-soprano, has been praised for her wide array of vocal colors and passion for characterization on the operatic stage. As a native of Knoxville, TN, she grew up around dynamic storytelling which has led her to also perform musical theater and contemporary original works. During the 2017-18 season, Ms. Monday gave a recital entitled *L'amour et la mort* comprised of Berlioz's *Les nuits d'été*, and scenes as Didon from *Les Troyens* and as Carmen at the National Opera Center. She also took the stage as Charlotte (*Werther*) and Maddalena (*Rigoletto*) with Golden Rose Opera. Other highlights include *La suora infermiera (Suor Angelica)* with Chelsea Opera, Queen Gertrude (*Hamlet*) with Cantanti Project, and being featured in the chorus of LoftOpera's *Tosca*. Ms. Monday performed two world premieres, *Never Land* by Mavis Pan and *Moment* by Deborah Lau, with the Composers Collective. Mary Kathryn resides in Manhattan and continues her vocal studies with Carol Yahr. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Furman University. Say hello at [mkmonday.com](http://mkmonday.com).

**LYNNESHA CRUMP (FEMALE CHORUS)** hails from Washington, DC. She received her Bachelor of Music from Oberlin Conservatory of Music in 2013 and continued her education and training at Mannes College of Music, where she recently received her Master of Music. Ms. Crump was a young artist in the 2018 Aspen Music Festival, where she covered the role of Stella. Her previous roles include Angelica (*Suor Angelica*) with Martina Arroyo's Prelude to Performance and Venus (*Tannhäuser*) with Apotheosis Opera. Ms. Crump recently performed the National Anthem for the DC United Soccer team at Audi Field. She performed in the inauguration concert for Barack Obama and has been featured as one of the young artist in 'The Song Continues' at Carnegie Hall. She has also performed scenes from *La Traviata*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Don Giovanni*, *La Bohème*, and *Le nozze di Figaro*. Ms. Crump received the Encouragement Award from the Met Opera National Council Philadelphia District in December 2018. Ms. Crump is currently under the tutelage of Ruth Falcon.

**KERRY HOLAHAN (FEMALE CHORUS)** is a versatile solo and ensemble singer, heralded for her interpretation of Baroque cantatas and oratorios, in particular those of J.S. Bach and Handel. She manages and sings with Baltimore-based chamber ensemble Charm City Baroque, has appeared as soloist with American Bach Soloists in San Francisco and recently made her debut with Grammy-winning vocal ensemble Seraphic Fire at the Aspen Music Festival. Early in her career, Kerry lived in Beijing for eight years where she toured with local Chinese and international ensembles, including performances with world-renown Early Music soprano Dame Emma Kirkby and Metropolitan Opera bass-baritone Shenyang. Fluent in Mandarin, Kerry is one of the few American sopranos to be actively singing Chinese works both in the US and China. Kerry holds a Bachelor of Arts in East Asian Studies at Wesleyan University; a Master of Music, Early Music Vocal Performance from the Peabody Conservatory; as well as a Vocal Performance Diploma with Distinction from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, UK.

**BRIAN MUMMERT (MALE CHORUS/BILL MARTIN)** A charismatic and versatile musician, baritone and conductor Brian Mummert adapts easily to a wide variety of musical genres and eras. He has appeared as a soloist at the American Bach Soloists and Tafelmusik Summer Festivals, with the New York Pops at Carnegie Hall, singing music of Vaughan Williams and Schubert with the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, and with the Academy of Sacred Drama in New York, and has directed a variety of vocal ensembles in venues spanning six continents. Brian's operatic roles include Aeneas in *Dido and Aeneas*, Bob in *The Old Maid and the Thief*, Mother in Kurt Weill's *Die Sieben Todsünden*, Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Apollo in both Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* and Charpentier's *Orphée*, in addition to a broad oratorio and concert repertoire ranging from Buxtehude's *Membra Jesu Nostri* to Pärt's *PASSIO*. He is also the founder and musical director of The New Consort, a solo-voice ensemble dedicated to the juxtaposition of music from diverse composers and repertoires and winners of the 2015 American Prize in Chamber Music. [brianmummert.com](http://brianmummert.com)

**JÁVONN B. BRIGHT (MALE CHORUS/UNDERSTUDY REVEREND WILLIAMS)** is an award-winning, multi-genre recording artist, conductor, and speaker. The American baritone hails from Washington, DC. He is a proud alumnus of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts. He also studied at Morgan State University and The Boston Conservatory. Recently, he was nominated for the prestigious "Medaglia Beato Angelico," commissioned by Pope John Paul II, due to his excellent artistic presentation while touring Italy. JáVonn serves as the musical director and founder of La Bella Voce Ensemble. The Ensemble has begun to make quite a mark on the international scale. In the course of their existence, Bella has premiered two of Bright's compositions and arrangements *Till We Meet Again* and *Plenty Good Room*. Currently, he is working on the recording of the sacred music project in collaboration with international soprano, Karen Slack. In his entirety of ministry, he stresses that God is his first love. JáVonn resides in Rosedale, MD, with his wife Bryana and daughter Chloe Roselyn.

**DWAYNE WASHINGTON (MALE CHORUS)** A Juilliard School Graduate, Dwayne was recently seen in the national tour of *In The Mood*. He is New Hampshire Theater winner for Best Supporting Actor, for his role as Lun Tha in *The King and I* directed by Diane DiCroce. Hailed for his role as Lil B-Man in *Figaro 90210*, Off-Broadway at The Duke Theater, highly praised By Anthony Tomasini with *The New York Times*. Prior to that he appeared in *TONYA & NANCY: The Rock Opera* at NYMF 2015. Seen as Joshua in Emerging Artist Theater Reading of *Freedom Song* and the nine-time Barrymore Nominated production of *Ragtime* at Bristol Riverside Theatre. Previously, Dwayne has been seen as Collins (nominated for a NY-IT award as Outstanding Actor in a Featured Role) in *RENT* at Gallery Players in New York City. His work in London includes Ezra Axelrod's *Songs from the American Motel* and Paul Taylor-Mills' *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* as Chief Bromden for which he received much praise. He was also seen in Robin Norton Hale's 2011 Olivier Award winning production of *La Boheme* at the Soho Theater and a production of *Cinderella* at Kings Head Theater. Follow him on his road from Baltimore to Broadway and Beyond @DwaynesVoice (Twitter/IG).

**ROB NEUBAUER (ELECTRONICS CREATOR/OPERATOR)** is a composer and audiovisual producer from Baltimore, MD. He received Bachelor's ('15) and Master's ('16) degrees in computer music composition from the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University where he studied with Dr. McGregor Boyle and Dr. Geoffrey Wright. His audio and visual work focuses on interactive elements for immersive display and performance. Neubauer has contributed work to events such as sound art for the International Computer Music Conference in Athens and interactive projection design for the World Harp Congress in Hong Kong. He is currently active as a solo performer, producer, audio engineer, and media composer.

**SAMUEL HUNTER (ORCHESTRATOR)** (b. 1988) is a composer of a wide variety of music whose vocal and choral works have been performed across the United States and internationally. He has received commissions from Vox Cordis, Furman University's Chancel Choir, Pastyme, the Association of Anglican Musicians, the AURA Contemporary Ensemble, and a variety of Anglican church choirs, and his music has been performed by Coro Città di Roma, the Association of Anglican Musicians Conference Choir, the Furman University Chamber Choir, and many others. In addition to his work as a composer, Samuel is an experienced arranger and orchestrator, and is the Principal Orchestrator for Frances Pollock's critically acclaimed debut opera *Stinney: An American Execution*. Samuel is also a founder and board member of Prima Volta, a Houston-based nonprofit organization dedicated to creating performance opportunities for young and upcoming artists, both behind-the-scenes creators and those bringing art to life on stage. Samuel holds degrees from Furman University and the University of Houston, and has studied with Mark Kilstofte, Lorenzo Donati, Benjamin Broening, and Rob Smith, in addition to lessons and Master Classes with Daron Hagen, Jeffrey Ryan, and Kaija Saariaho. He is married to répétiteur Hailey Anthum Hunter, and they currently live in Asheville, North Carolina, with their cat Dinah.

**HAILEY ANTHUM HUNTER (REHEARSAL/PIT PIANIST)** is a freelance pianist, répétiteur, and musical director. She has collaborated on productions, recitals, and devised work throughout the southeast and abroad, including recent performances with Glow Lyric Theatre, KST Studio Of Voice, All Souls Cathedral Chorus, and Presbyterian College. 2018 stage credits include *Fidelio*, *In The Heights*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Godspell*, *Songs of the Jazz Age*, and *Armed*. Hailey holds degrees in Piano Performance (BM) from Furman University and Collaborative Piano (MA) from Middle Tennessee State University, and is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society. She is also a founding board member of the new music collaborative Prima Volta and is an active performer of modern music. An Alabama native, Hailey resides in Asheville, NC, with her husband Samuel and their calico cat Dinah.

**MATTHEW WOODARD (VIOLIN I)** is a composer-performer whose varied interests have sparked a diverse creative output. Matthew began his musical career as a violinist, and appeared as soloist most recently with The Orchestra Now of Bard College, with whom he performed Ligeti's Violin Concerto in April 2017. As a composer, Matthew's works have been performed at Bard College, the New England Conservatory, the Rivers School, Rice University, and Yale University, as well as on the radio and television program From the Top. Recent collaborations include new music for dance with the Yale Undergraduate Theater/Dance Studies Department at the Yale University Art Gallery to commemorate its former director Jock Reynolds. Matthew also frequently collaborates musically with the Yale School of Drama, and has performed in two Yale Cabaret productions. Matthew has attended many summer festivals, and this past August he traveled to Switzerland to attend the Lucerne Festival Academy. He earned a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music from Bard College and Conservatory, and is currently pursuing a Master of Music in Violin Performance at Yale.

**ABBY SWIDLER (VIOLIN II)** is a performer, composer, and educator. A violinist and vocalist, she is a passionate collaborator, frequently performing with Shattered Glass, NYC's premier young chamber orchestra; Tredici Bacci, NYC's Italian film score rock band; and *ruby*, a song collaboration with singer Kim Mayo, among other projects across genre lines. As a composer, Abby has collaborated with dance, film, theater, and performing ensembles, working with artists like Carla Kihlstedt, Mirah, Shizuka Duo, Anthony Coleman, Bent Knee, Dance Visions INC., and Giselle Ty. She has degrees from The Eastman School of Music and The New England Conservatory. Originally from Missoula, MT, she currently lives in Brooklyn.

**DANIEL JACOBS (VIOLA)** is a Los Angeles-based violist and teaching artist. As a violist, Daniel has performed at the Aspen Music Festival and School, Shriver Concert Hall, and the Overture Center for the Arts; and has collaborated in performance with violinist Jorja Fleezanis, Pacifica Quartet, and members of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and Pro Arte Quartet. An advocate for new music, he has performed with the Thornton Edge Ensemble and Peabody Institute's Now Hear This; and he has worked with many living composers including Donald Crockett, Georg Friedrich Haas, and Laura Elise Schwendinger. Daniel completed his Graduate Performance Diploma at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University studying with Victoria Chiang. He has studied chamber music with members of the Aspen String Trio, Pro Arte Quartet, and Alarm Will Sound. In 2017-2018, Daniel was an ArtistYear AmeriCorps Fellow.

**JESSICA WANG (CELLO)** Cellist Jessica Wang is an active performer with a wide array of musical interests and experience, spanning classical orchestras to rock & jazz bands to Broadway pits. She has appeared in solo, chamber and orchestral performances at distinguished venues including Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, the Santa Barbara Bowl, the Naumburg Bandshell and the Mozarteum Concert Hall. In 2017-2018, Jessica toured the country on the first national Broadway tour of *An American in Paris*, performing in 24 different cities. Prior to that, she made her Off-Broadway debut in the Theatre for a New Audience's production of *Pericles*, directed by Tony Award-winning director, Trevor Nunn. Other musical theatre credits include performances at the Signature Theatre and the American Theatre of Actors. Jessica has also been featured in Season 4 of the award-winning Amazon TV series *Mozart in the Jungle*. Jessica holds a B.A. in Psychology from Harvard College and an M.M. in Cello Performance from The Juilliard School.

**SAMUEL ZAGNIT (DOUBLE BASS)**, a native New Yorker, is a graduate of the Manhattan School of Music, where he studied with Orin O'Brien and David Grossman, bassists of the New York Philharmonic. He currently is pursuing his graduate studies at the Yale School of Music, with Don Palma. An avid chamber music player, Sam attended The Bowdoin International Music Festival, Decoda Skidmore Chamber Music Institute, and Texas Music Festival. In August 2018, he attended the Lucerne Music Festival. Sam is part of the duo *confluss*, with Amber Evans, soprano: a new chamber ensemble committed to the performance of repertoire for their instrumentation and other unconventional setups. At MSM, Sam played with a myriad of ensembles, including *Tactus*, an ensemble part of the Contemporary Performance Program. As their stand-in bassist, Sam was able to play contemporary music as an undergraduate in this graduate program for four years, including Carter's *A Mirror on Which to Dwell* and *Figment III*. Sam is former principal bassist of the award-winning New York Youth Symphony and recently graduated from their composition program.

**ROBERTA MICHEL (FLUTE)** is a Brooklyn-based flutist dedicated to the music of our time. Praising her "extreme adventurousness," *New York Concert Review* said she "riveted with her performance, inspiring one to want a repeated hearing." Michel is the Co-Artistic Director of Wavefield Ensemble. A founding member of Duo RoMi and Cadillac Moon Ensemble, Michel has also performed with: Ecce Ensemble, Portland String Quartet, Newspeak, SEM Ensemble, Wet Ink Ensemble, Argento, Iktus, Wordless Music Orchestra, Bang on a Can All-Stars, Ensemble LPR and Cygnus Ensemble, among others. Recent venues include: Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Merkin Hall, The Kennedy Center, Roulette, Issue Project Room, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She can be heard on New Dynamic, Innova, Tzadik, and Meta Records. Michel has commissioned and premiered hundreds of new works and has worked with many notable composers of our day. Michel holds degrees from the University of Colorado at Boulder, SUNY-Purchase College, and the City University of New York Graduate Center. Her teachers include Robert Dick, Tara O'Connor, and Alexa Still. She currently teaches at St. Francis College, Sarah Lawrence College, and at her private studio in Brooklyn. [robertamichel.com](http://robertamichel.com)

**KATE AMRINE (TRUMPET)** A passionate and creative performer, Kate Amrine is a prominent trumpet player balancing a multifaceted career from developing new repertoire and curating concerts to freelancing with many different groups in the NYC area. Recent past performances include shows with Wordless Music Orchestra, two solos with an orchestra in Japan, and a show at Carnegie Hall with the new Wavefield Ensemble. Upcoming performances include an Off-Broadway run of Duncan Sheik's new musical *Alice by Heart* and various gigs with her brass ensemble eGALitarian. Kate is extremely dedicated to commissioning and performing new music, premiering over 30 pieces both as a soloist and a chamber musician. Her debut album *As I Am* was released in Fall 2017, featuring new music by women composers. Kate's second album of music inspired by politics and social concepts is due for release in September 2019. In addition to performing, Kate co-curates the Brass Chicks blog and maintains a teaching studio of all ages from elementary school to college students at NYU where she is an Adjunct Instructor.

**DAN MEINHARDT (SAXOPHONE)** has been establishing himself as an important young voice in music communities on the West Coast, Chicago, and now New York City, where he freelances and lends his skills as a sideman in the historically rich music scene. As a multi-instrumentalist, Dan has collaborated with some of the finest artists across styles, performing in projects led by peers (Carl Kennedy, Michael Nearpass, Josh Torrey), backing world-class performers (Steve Wilson, Dan Tepfer), and leading his own group, Outset. Outset released their eponymous debut record on ears&eyes Records in 2016. Outside of the jazz world, Dan works as a dance accompanist, and has provided musical support to the best dancers in the world at American Ballet Theatre, Dance Theatre of Harlem, and Hubbard Street Dance companies. Dan lives and works in New York City.

**RUSSELL FISHER (PERCUSSION I)** was born and raised in New York, and began studying percussion at age seven. Since then, Russell has completed his undergraduate studies at NYU under the tutelage of Jonathan Haas, Simon Boyar, James Saporito, and Sean Statser. Currently Russell is completing his Masters degree at Yale School of Music with Professor Robert van Sice, and is an active performer and educator in Baltimore. Russell is a co-founder of New York City percussion quartet Palladium Percussion. One of Russell's main interests in contemporary music is the advancement and standardization of the Steel Pan. Currently, Russell is commissioning composers to write new and innovative solos for the budding instrument.

**LUIS JACOME (PERCUSSION II)** is a percussionist and drummer who enjoys performing all around New York City, from Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Peter Jay Sharp, and New York City Center to smaller venues like 54 Below, The Green Room 42, and Rockwood Music Hall. He has also been fortunate enough to have toured China, South Korea, and Japan. Personal highlights include playing Tokyo's Suntory Hall, performing for Steve Reich, and performing this beautiful work!

## PRODUCTION

---

**EMILY ROLLER (PRODUCER)** is a librettist, writer, and educator from southwest Missouri. She has written and developed portions of two operas - *Salt* (with composer Frances Pollock) and *Why We Bleed* (with composer Sky Macklay) - with American Opera Projects. Her chamber opera *Lifeboat* (with composer Matthew Peterson) was commissioned and presented by Washington National Opera as part of the 2017 American Opera Initiative. Her chamber opera *The Surrogate* (with composer Sky Macklay) was workshopped at University of Illinois and will be presented in Salt Lake City at the National Opera Association's annual conference. She was a librettist fellow with American Opera Projects' Composers and the Voice series from 2015-16. Emily has also presented several musical theater projects and songs at venues including Joe's Pub, Dixon Place, and New York University. She is the author of *The Alloway Files*, a novel based on her teaching experience in Baltimore City Public Schools, and several short stories and essays. She has been a teaching artist with the Metropolitan Opera Guild. Emily has her MFA in Musical Theatre Writing from New York University, her MA in Writing from Johns Hopkins, and a BA in English from Yale. She teaches high school English in Connecticut.

**KATHLEEN WRINN (OPERATIONS MANAGER)** is a performer and writer of musical theater, as well as a Vocal Instructor in the BFA Musical Theater program at Syracuse University's Department of Drama. Prior to joining the faculty at Syracuse, Wrinn worked professionally as an actor, singer, and teaching artist throughout the Chicagoland area, including spending three years as an actor/deviser with the physical theater company Theater Unspeakable and playing the title role in *Evita* in NightBlue Theater's co-production with the Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra. Wrinn then went on to receive her M.F.A. in Graduate Musical Theatre Writing from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. She is currently developing three full-length musicals, and her work has been showcased at The Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival, The Kraine Theatre, Joe's Pub at the Public Theater, NYU Tisch, Berklee College of Music, NAMT's Songwriters Cabaret, and NYMF's Women of Note concert for three years in a row. She is a proud alumna of Syracuse University's Department of Drama and member of the Dramatists Guild of America.

**KRISTA SMITH (LIGHTING DESIGNER)** is a New York based theater and visual artist. Upcoming projects: *A Doll's House, Part 3* (TriskelionArts) and *Twin Size Beds* (Public Theater Under the Radar Festival). Recent credits include *This American Wife* (New York Theater Workshop Next Door); *A Doll's House, Part 3* (Ars Nova); *An Enemy of The People* (Yale Repertory Theater); *The Winter's Tale, Everything That Never Happened, The Hour of Great Mercy, Bulgaria! Revolt!*, and *The Merchant of Venice* (Yale School of Drama); *LEAR, Anthony + Cleopatra, Adam Geist, Alice in Wonderland* (Yale Summer Cabaret); And

*Tell Sad Stories of the Death of Queens, The Apple Tree, Ni Mi Madre, Dutch Masters, Styx Songs, Collisions, Débâcles, the Other World, and Circling The Drain or, All That Vacant Possibility* (Yale Cabaret). Originally from California, her regional credits include *Beneath Paris Skies, The Marriage of Figaro, Once on This Island, Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris, and Rent* (Cinnabar Theater); *The Great Tragedies* by Mike Daisey (California Shakespeare Theater); *Anatol* (Aurora Theatre); *Fire Work* (Theatre FIRST); *Little Brother* (Custom Made Theatre); *A Doll's House, The Wild Party, Flu Season, and Sueño* (A.C.T. Conservatory); *Equus* (Boxcar Theatre). She received her MFA from Yale School of Drama, and her BA in Drama from San Francisco State University. [KristaSmithLD.com](http://KristaSmithLD.com)

**CAMILLA TASSI (PROJECTION DESIGNER)** Born in Florence, Italy, and described by Third Coast Percussion as “sharing passion for meaningful cross-disciplinary collaboration,” Camilla Tassi is a musician and designer interested in visual projection as a layer of accessibility into providing performance context for classical music’s form, narrative, and history. She has designed projections for oratorio, opera, and chamber works, including Apollo’s Fire’s 2018 tour of Monteverdi’s *L’Orfeo*, Glass’ *The Fall of the House Usher* for Arthur Yorinks at MASS MoCA, and Mozart’s *Magic Flute* for the Berlin Opera Academy. Passionate about the production process, she has directed and produced performances of early and contemporary works, including Handel’s *Resurrezione* and a joint theater and opera project of Tennessee Williams & Larry Delinger’s *Talk to Me Like the Rain*. As an Italian coach and soprano, she has created program translations for Carnegie Hall (*L’Arpeggiata*), and has performed roles such as Cunegonde in Bernstein’s *Candide*. Camilla holds a B.S. in Computer Science, a B.A. in Music from the University of Notre Dame, and a M.A. in Digital Musics from Dartmouth College. She is currently a Research Fellow in Projection Design at the Yale School of Drama.

**THE FRENCH INSTITUTE ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE (FIAF)** is New York’s premiere French cultural and language center. FIAF’s mission is to create and offer New Yorkers innovative and unique programs in education and the arts that explore the evolving diversity and richness of French cultures.

**HARLEM STAGE (CO-PRESENTER)** is a performing arts center that celebrates and perpetuates the unique and diverse artistic legacy of Harlem and the indelible impression it has made on American culture. We provide opportunity, commissioning and support for artists of color, make performances accessible to all audiences, and introduce children to the rich diversity, excitement and inspiration of the performing arts.