
OPERA AMERICA'S
**EMERGING ARTIST
RECITALS**

**MICHIGAN OPERA
THEATRE STUDIO**

The National Opera Center

Thursday, April 19, 2018 | 7:00 p.m.

Monica Dewey, soprano

Briana Elyse Hunter, mezzo-soprano

Michael Day, tenor

Harry Greenleaf, baritone

Erik Van Heyningen, bass

Tessa Hartle, Studio Principal Coach/Accompanist

THE NATIONAL OPERA CENTER
AMERICA

MICHIGAN
OPERA
THEATRE

PROGRAM

“Sibilar gli angui d’Aletto”

Rinaldo

George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)

Erik Van Heyningen

“De’ miei bollenti spiriti”

La traviata

Giuseppe Verdi (1813–1901)

Michael Day

One Star

The Grapes of Wrath

Ricky Ian Gordon (b. 1956)

Libretto by Michael Korie

Monica Dewey and Harry Greenleaf

“Amour, viens rendre à mon âme”

Orphée et Eurydice

Christoph Willibald Gluck (1714–1787)

Briana Elyse Hunter

“Look! Through the port comes the moonshine astray!”

Billy Budd

Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

Libretto by E.M. Forster and Eric Crozier

Harry Greenleaf

“Voglio dire ... Obbligato!”

L’elisir d’amore

Gaetano Donizetti (1797–1848)

Michael Day and Erik Van Heyningen

“Par le rang et par l’opulence...Salut à la France!”

La fille du régiment

Gaetano Donizetti (1797–1848)

Monica Dewey

“Ni sna ni otdycha izmucennoj duse!”

Prince Igor

Alexander Borodin (1883–1887)

Erik Van Heyningen

“The bells ring”

27

Ricky Ian Gordon (b. 1956)

Libretto by Royce Vavrek

Monica Dewey and Briana Elyse Hunter

“Roxane, adieu ... Je vais mourir!”

Cyrano

David DiChiera (b. 1935)

Libretto by Bernard Uzan

Harry Greenleaf

Maria

West Side Story

Leonard Bernstein (1918–1990)

Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Michael Day

“Am I in your light?”

Doctor Atomic

John Adams (b. 1947)

Libretto by Peter Sellars

Briana Elyse Hunter

Make Our Garden Grow

Candide

Leonard Bernstein (1918–1990)

Libretto by Lillian Hellman

Ensemble

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Tenor **Michael Day** hails from Rockford, Illinois, and is a Michigan Opera Theatre Studio Artist. At MOT, he recently performed Spoletta in *Tosca*, Pablo Picasso and F. Scott Fitzgerald in Ricky Ian

Gordon's *27*, and Don Basilio in *Le nozze di Figaro*. His performance credits also include Indiana University Opera Theatre, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, Indianapolis Pro Musica, Bloomington Chamber Singers and Utah Festival Opera. This past summer, Day returned to Opera Theatre of Saint Louis as a Richard Gaddes Festival Artist, singing the role of Al Joad in a new version of Ricky Ian Gordon's *The Grapes of Wrath*. He is a two-time district winner in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, as well as winner of the Indianapolis Matinee Musicale Competition. He holds a bachelor's degree in music education and vocal performance from Indiana University. Day will return to Opera Theatre of Saint Louis this summer to perform the role of Leo Hubbard in Blitzstein's *Regina*.



Atlanta native **Monica Dewey** is Michigan Opera Theatre Studio's resident soprano. She recently performed the role of Alice B. Toklas in Ricky Ian Gordon's *27* at MOT and made her

debut with San Francisco Opera singing Poussette in *Manon*. Prior to joining the MOT Studio, she returned to Opera Theatre of Saint Louis for a second season, where she made her role debut as Servilia in *La clemenza di Tito*. As a regional winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Dewey will compete in the upcoming semi-finals on the stage of the Metropolitan Opera. In 2017, she won first prize in the Hilde Zadek International Voice Competition in Vienna and received a Sullivan Foundation Award. Dewey received her Master of Music from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music and a dual bachelor's degree in music and arts administration from the University of Kentucky. This summer, she will perform the role of Alexandra Giddens in *Regina* at Opera Theatre of Saint Louis.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Tessa Hartle has established herself as one of opera's most valued and in-demand coach/accompanists, helping to develop and prepare young singers for professional careers. She is principal coach/accompanist of the Michigan Opera Theatre Studio and recently completed her fifth season as pianist/coach on the music staff of Opera Theatre of Saint Louis. She has held prior appointments on the music staffs of Florida Grand Opera, Virginia Opera, Sarasota Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Opera North and Aspen Opera Center. In addition to her work in the standard operatic repertoire, Hartle has also prepared and performed numerous contemporary American works, notably the world premiere of Gregory Spears' *Paul's Case*, presented by UrbanArias in Arlington, Virginia. She holds a bachelor's degree in piano performance from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in collaborative piano from the University of Maryland, College Park.



Originally from Malvern, Pennsylvania, **Briana Elyse Hunter** is completing her second year as Michigan Opera Theatre Studio's resident mezzo-soprano. Her MOT credits include Gertrude Stein in Ricky Ian Gordon's *27*, Giovanna in *Rigoletto*, Wowkle in *La fanciulla del West*, Jo March in Mark Adamo's *Little Women*, Madeleine Audebert in Kevin Puts' *Silent Night* and Mercedes in *Carmen*. She has also performed with The Santa Fe Opera, Knoxville Opera, Sarasota Opera, El Paso Opera and Music Academy of the West. In addition to her roles at MOT, she most recently performed at The Glimmerglass Festival as Annie in *Porgy and Bess* and covered Arsamene in *Senso*. She holds a Master of Music in vocal performance from the Manhattan School of Music and a bachelor's degree in theater from Davidson College. This spring, she will perform with the Opera Theatre of Saint Louis as Flora in *La traviata* and Pvt. Stanton in *An American Soldier*.



Harry Greenleaf, hailing from Wixom, Michigan, is Michigan Opera Theatre Studio's resident baritone. He made his debut with MOT in 2016 in the role of Top in *The Tender Land*. His credits with

MOT also include Leo Stein and Man Ray in Ricky Ian Gordon's *27*, Sciarrone in *Tosca*, Marullo in *Rigoletto*, Le Bret in *Cyrano*, Jack Wallace in *La fanciulla del West* and Moralès in *Carmen*. He has been a studio artist with the Wolf Trap Opera, an apprentice artist with Des Moines Metro Opera and a young artist with The Glimmerglass Festival. He holds a Master of Music from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and is an alumnus of the Michigan State University College of Music. This summer, Greenleaf will reprise the role of Top in *The Tender Land* with Des Moines Metro Opera.



A native of Poway, California, **Erik Van Heyningen** is Michigan Opera Theatre Studio's resident bass-baritone. At MOT, he recently performed as Angelotti in *Tosca*, Henri Matisse and

Ernest Hemingway in Ricky Ian Gordon's *27*, and Count Ceprano in *Rigoletto*. He has sung with opera companies across the country, including performing as a Richard Gaddes Festival Artist and Gerdine Young Artist with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, and recently made his debut with Austin Opera as Truffaldino in *Ariadne auf Naxos*. Van Heyningen holds a bachelor's degree in vocal performance from Boston University and will attend The Juilliard School for an artist diploma in opera studies in the fall of 2018. This summer, he will return to The Santa Fe Opera to perform the roles of the Imperial Commissioner in *Madama Butterfly* and Ragotzki/Archbishop in *Candide*. There, he will also cover Haly in *L'italiana in Algeri*, Voltaire/Pangloss/Cacambo in *Candide*, and J. Robert Oppenheimer in *Doctor Atomic*.

ABOUT MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE STUDIO

Each year from September to June, the resident artists of Michigan Opera Theatre Studio gain valuable experience through myriad performance opportunities on the mainstage and in community productions, while honing their skills through masterclasses and training with an array of world-class professionals, guest artists and coaches. Through their residency, Studio Artists also benefit from advanced individual training and mentorship from tenor Richard Leech, MOT's director of resident artist programs. For this evening's concert, the Studio Artists will present repertoire that highlights both their own specialties, as well as MOT's recent and upcoming seasons.

ABOUT THE EMERGING ARTIST RECITALS

These recitals reflect the joint efforts of OPERA America and its member companies to identify and nurture the careers of the most promising young artists. Each recital hosts emerging singers and pianists at the National Opera Center's Marc A. Scorca Hall. The concerts are streamed live to opera companies around the world, introducing these artists to a broad community of producers and other casting professionals who can help advance their careers, as well as to a worldwide public interested in tracking the accomplishments of aspiring artists who have achieved success through competitions and young artist programs. The recitals reach a growing, international audience through live streams from the National Opera Center. For more information about OPERA America's *Emerging Artist Recitals*, please contact Laura Lee Everett, director of artistic services, at LEverett@operaamerica.org.

JOIN US FOR THESE FUTURE EVENTS AT THE NATIONAL OPERA CENTER:

CONVERSATIONS | AILYN PÉREZ

Thursday, May 3, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Soprano Ailyn Pérez — described by The New York Times as “a major soprano” and “a beautiful woman who commands the stage” — will sit down with OPERA America President/CEO Marc Scorca to discuss her remarkable career. The 2017–2018 season sees Pérez’s return to the Bayerische Staatsoper for her role debut as Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte* and Micaëla in *Carmen*. She also sings title role in *Thaïs* and Juliette in *Roméo et Juliette* at the Metropolitan Opera.

EMERGING ARTIST RECITALS | ALAN M. AND JOAN TAUB ADES VOCAL COMPETITION WINNERS

Monday, May 7, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

The winners of the 2018 Alan M. and Joan Taub Ades Vocal Competition will be featured in this Emerging Artist Recital. This competition is designed to encourage the most promising and deserving young students graduating from Manhattan School of Music.

See all upcoming events and register at operaamerica.org/Onstage.

Speak to an OPERA America staff member if you have questions about any of our events or if you are interested in becoming a member.

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