

**PORTLAND OPERA**

24/25 RESIDENT ARTISTS  
POPS & ARIAS CONCERT



Friday, October 18  
7 PM  
Alberta House

## RESIDENT ARTIST BIOS



### **GINAIA BLACK**

Soprano

**Pronouns:** she/her

**Hometown:** Birmingham, AL

**Role:** Soloist

**Portland Opera Debut:** Soloist, *The Juliet Letters* (2024)

**Recently:** Nuria, *Ainadamar*, Juliette, *Roméo et Juliette*, Indiana University Opera and Ballet Theatre; Shannon (cover), *The Righteous*, The Santa Fe Opera

**Upcoming:** Soloist, *The Juliet Letters*, Mrs. Grady, *The Shining*, Nannetta (cover), *Falstaff*, Portland Opera



### **ERIN ROTH THOMAS**

Mezzo-soprano

**Pronouns:** she/her

**Hometown:** Lufkin, TX

**Role:** Soloist

**Portland Opera Debut:** Soloist, *The Juliet Letters* (2024)

**Recently:** Juditha, *Juditha Triumphans*, American Baroque Opera Company; Soloist, Mahler's Symphony No. 2 Resurrection, Plano Symphony Orchestra; Paula, *La Pastorella*, Orchestra of New Spain

**Upcoming:** Soloist, *The Juliet Letters*, Mrs. Massey, *The Shining*, Meg Page, *Falstaff*, Portland Opera



### **NATHANIEL CATASCA**

Tenor

**Pronouns:** he/him

**Hometown:** Albuquerque, NM

**Role:** Soloist

**Portland Opera Debut:** Soloist, *The Juliet Letters* (2024)

**Recently:** Radio Announcer, *Two Corners*, Finger Lakes Opera; Le Remendado, *Carmen*, Sarasota Opera; Ferrando, *Così fan tutte*, Opera Arlington

**Upcoming:** Soloist, *The Juliet Letters*, Bill Watson/Lloyd the Bartender, *The Shining*, Bardolfo, *Falstaff*, Portland Opera



### **MATTHEW MAISANO**

Baritone

**Pronouns:** they/them

**Hometown:** Philadelphia, PA

**Role:** Soloist

**Portland Opera Debut:** Soloist, *The Juliet Letters* (2024)

**Recently:** Director/Gendarme, *Les mamelles de Tirésias*, Hogfish; Sergeant, *La Bohème*, Opera Philadelphia; Leporello, *Don Giovanni*, Lancaster Symphony

**Upcoming:** Soloist, *The Juliet Letters*, Horace Derwent, *The Shining*, Pistola, *Falstaff*, Portland Opera



### **CLAIRE FORSTMAN**

**Pronouns:** she/her

**Hometown:** Birmingham, AL

**Role:** Music Director, Collaborative Pianist

**Portland Opera Debut:** Music Staff, Chorus Rehearsal Pianist, *The Marriage of Figaro* (2023)

**Recently:** Principal Pianist and Orchestral Keyboardist, Puccini: *In Concert*, Offstage Conductor, *The Snowy Day*, Second Pianist, *Enchanted Woods: Shakespeare & Song*, Portland Opera

**Upcoming:** Music Director, Resident Artist Opera Scenes Program, Principal Pianist, *The Juliet Letters*, Orchestral keyboards, *The Shining*, Principal pianist, *Falstaff*, Portland Opera

# CONCERT PROGRAM

## **Seguidilla, Carmen by Georges Bizet**

Erin Roth Thomas, mezzo-soprano, Claire Forstman, piano

## **The Lorelei, Pardon My English by George Gershwin**

Matthew Maisano, baritone, Claire Forstman, piano

## **Quando m'en vo, La Bohème by Giacomo Puccini**

Ginaia Black, soprano, Claire Forstman, piano

## **Questa o quella, Rigoletto by Giuseppe Verdi**

Nathaniel Catasca, tenor, Claire Forstman, piano

## **Mambo, Cha-cha from "The Dance at the Gym" and Somewhere, West Side Story by Leonard Bernstein**

Matthew Maisano, baritone, Claire Forstman, piano

## **Everybody Says Don't, Anyone Can Whistle by Stephen Sondheim**

Nathaniel Catasca, tenor, Claire Forstman, piano

## **By Strauss by George Gershwin**

Erin Roth Thomas, mezzo-soprano, Claire Forstman, piano

## **Je veux vivre, Roméo et Juliette by Charles Gounod**

Ginaia Black, soprano, Claire Forstman, piano

## **De' miei bollenti spiriti, La Traviata by Giuseppe Verdi**

Nathaniel Catasca, tenor, Claire Forstman, piano

## **Mon cœur s'ouvre à ta voix, Samson et Dalila by Camille Saint-Saëns**

Erin Roth Thomas, mezzo-soprano, Claire Forstman, piano

## **I Have Dreamt, Wuthering Heights by Bernard Herrmann**

Matthew Maisano, baritone, Claire Forstman, piano

## **Give Me No Body Without Your Soul, Blue Steel by William Grant Still**

Ginaia Black, soprano, Claire Forstman, piano

## ~ INTERMISSION ~

## **Bella siccome un angelo, Don Pasquale by Gaetano Donizetti**

Matthew Maisano, baritone, Claire Forstman, piano

## **Act IV Prelude, Otello by Giuseppe Verdi**

Claire Forstman, piano

## **Farewell, you Native Hills and Fields, The Maid of Orleans by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**

Erin Roth Thomas, mezzo-soprano, Claire Forstman, piano

## **Del Cabello más sutil by Fernando Obradors**

Ginaia Black, soprano, Claire Forstman, piano

## **Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man, Show Boat by Jerome Kern**

Ginaia Black, soprano, Claire Forstman, piano

## **The Apple Orchard by Lori Laitman**

Nathaniel Catasca, tenor, Claire Forstman, piano

## **These Foolish Things by Jack Strachey**

Erin Roth Thomas, mezzo-soprano, Claire Forstman, piano

## **What I Did for Love, A Chorus Line by Marvin Hamlisch**

Matthew Maisano, baritone, Claire Forstman, piano

## **What do I Need with Love, Thoroughly Modern Millie by Jeanine Tesori**

Nathaniel Catasca, tenor, Claire Forstman, piano



The Portland Opera Resident Artist program is made possible with generous support from:

**Eleanor Lieber Auditions Fund of  
The Oregon Community Foundation  
Norman P. Krasne  
Remy Wines  
Sue and Drew Snyder**



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This concert is a part of this season's programming for Dramatic Vocal Arts at Willamette University. Special thanks to Dr. Hannah Penn and Leslie Berning, Nicholas Fox, Paul Floyd, Richard Zeller, Kelley Nassief, and Alberta House.

**SAVE THE DATE**

24/25 RESIDENT ARTISTS  
OPERA SCENES

Saturday, January 18  
7 PM  
Brunish Theatre