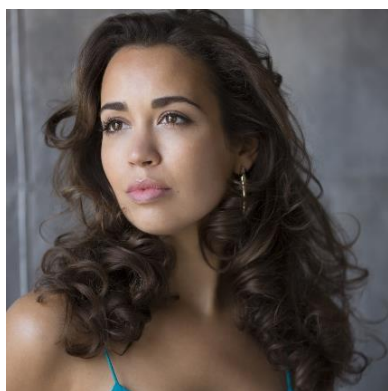


MANON

Cast Biographies



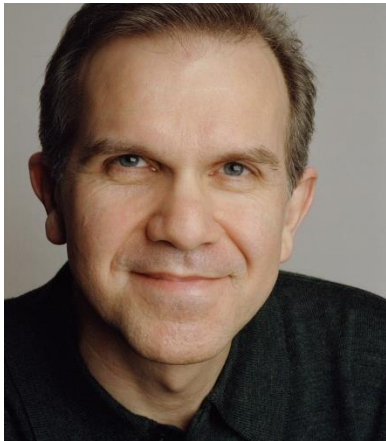
Soprano **Nadine Sierra** (Manon) made her San Francisco Opera debut in 2011 creating the roles of Juliet and Maria in the world premiere of *Heart of a Soldier* and returned as Papagena in *The Magic Flute*, Musetta in *La Bohème*, Countess Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and the title role of *Lucia di Lammermoor*. Winner of the 2009 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and a former San Francisco Opera Adler Fellow, Sierra has appeared as Gilda in *Rigoletto* with the Metropolitan Opera, Teatro alla Scala, Teatro di San Carlo in Naples, Florida Grand Opera, Boston Lyric Opera, Atlanta Opera, and Seattle Opera; Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* with Opéra National de Paris and the Metropolitan Opera; Tytania in *A Midsummer's Night Dream* with Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia in Valencia; and Flavia Gemmira Flavia Gemmira in *Eliogabalo* at Opéra National de Paris. Upcoming engagements include Lucia at Venice's La Fenice, Ilia in *Idomeneo* at the Metropolitan Opera, and Gilda at Opéra National de Paris. Sierra holds first prizes from the George London, Gerda Lissner, Loren Zachary, and Marilyn Horne Foundation Competitions and is a recipient of the Richard Tucker Music Foundation's Study and Career Grant.



Tenor **Michael Fabiano** (Chevalier des Grieux) made his San Francisco Opera debut as Gennaro in *Lucrezia Borgia* in 2011, and has since returned as the tenor soloist in the Verdi Requiem in 2013, Rodolfo in *La Bohème* in 2014 and Luisa Miller in 2015, and in the title role of Don Carlo in 2016. His 2015–16 engagements included Rodolfo with Zurich Opera; Lensky in *Eugene Onegin* with the Royal Opera, Covent Garden; the Duke of Mantua in *Rigoletto* with Paris Opéra; and Jacopo Foscari in *I Due Foscari* at Madrid's Teatro Real. For the 2016–17 season, he appears in the title role of Faust at Houston Grand Opera, Rodolfo and Alfredo in *La Traviata* at the Metropolitan Opera, and Jean the Baptist in *Hérodiade* at Washington Concert Opera. Recipient of the 2014 Richard Tucker Award and the 2014 Beverly Sills Artist Award, Fabiano is the first artist to win both awards in the same year.



American baritone **David Pershall** (Lescaut) made his San Francisco Opera debut in 2016 as Roucher in *Andrea Chénier*. A graduate of the Merola Opera program and the Virginia Opera Resident Artist program, he has recently appeared at the Vienna State Opera as Figaro (*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*), Belcore (*L'Elisir d'Amore*), Sharpless (*Madama Butterfly*) and Sebastian in *The Tempest*. He has performed Figaro in an abridged, English version of *The Barber of Seville* at the Metropolitan Opera and also appeared there in the roles of Schaunard in *La Bohème* and Lord Cecil in *Maria Stuarda*. Pershall is proud of his partnership with the Beethoven Easter Festival and the Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra with whom he participated in three live performance albums featuring his performances as Don Pedro in *Maria Padilla*, Manfredo in *L'Amore dei Tre Re*, and Orestes in *Iphigénie en Tauride*. He has won many prestigious vocal competitions, most recently the top prize in the annual George London Competition.



Making his San Francisco Opera debut as Emperor Altoum in *Turandot*, veteran tenor **Robert Brubaker** (Guillot de Morfontaine) has been a frequent performer at the Metropolitan Opera, including as Mime in *Siegfried* and *Das Rheingold*, Maletestino in *Francesca da Rimini*, the Witch in *Hänsel und Gretel*, and Chairman Mao in John Adams' *Nixon in China*. He has also recently performed as the Jailer/Inquisitor in *Il Prigionero* at the Teatro Liceu in Barcelona; Herod in *Salome* with the Dallas Opera; Old Man Marshall in Mark-Anthony Turnage's *Anna Nicole* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music; Alviano in *Die Gezeichneten*, Dr. Caius in *Falstaff*, and Begearss in *The Ghosts of Versailles* at Los Angeles Opera; Luigi in *Il Tabarro* and Canio in *I Pagliacci* at Opera Theatre of St Louis; and Wilmer McLean / J. Edgar Hoover in Philip Glass' *Appomattox* at Washington National Opera. Brubaker's 2016–17 season includes performances of *Herod* at Pittsburgh Opera.