



SAN FRANCISCO
OPERA

Così fan tutte Cast Biography



(Cahir, Ireland)

Jennifer Davis is an alumna of the Jette Parker Young Artist Programme and has appeared at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden as Adina in *L'Elisir d'Amore*; Erste Dame in *Die Zauberflöte*; Ifigenia in *Oreste*; Arbate in *Mitridate, re di Ponto*; and Ines in *Il Trovatore*, among other roles. Following her sensational 2018 role debut as Elsa von Brabant in a new production of *Lohengrin* conducted by Andris Nelsons at the Royal Opera House, Davis has been propelled to international attention, winning praise for her gleaming, silvery tone, and dramatic characterisation of remarkable immediacy.



(Sacramento, California)

American Mezzo-soprano **Irene Roberts** continues to enjoy international acclaim as a singer of exceptional versatility and vocal suppleness. Following her "stunning and dramatically compelling" (*SF Classical Voice*) performances as Carmen at the San Francisco Opera in June, Roberts begins the 2016/2017 season in San Francisco as Bao Chai in the world premiere of Bright Sheng's *Dream of the Red Chamber*. Currently in her second season with the Deutsche Oper Berlin, her upcoming assignments include four role debuts, beginning in November with her debut as Urbain in David Alden's new production of *Les Huguenots* led by Michele Mariotti. She performs in her first Ring cycle in 2017 singing Waltraute in *Die Walküre* and the Second Norn in *Götterdämmerung* under the baton of Music Director Donald Runnicles, who also conducts her role debut as Hänsel in *Hänsel und Gretel*. Additional roles for Roberts this season include Rosina in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Fenena in *Nabucco*, Siebel in *Faust*, and the title role of *Carmen* at Deutsche Oper Berlin.

Roberts studied at the University of the Pacific and the Cleveland Institute of Music, and is a graduate of the young artist program at Palm Beach Opera. She won 2nd prize in the Advanced Division at the 41st Annual Palm Beach Opera Vocal Competition and was a finalist for the 2014 Richard Tucker Career Grant.



(Montreal, Canada)

French-Canadian tenor **Frédéric Antoun** was born in Québec and trained at the Curtis Institute of Music, Philadelphia. He has worked with such conductors as Alain Altinoglu, Ivor Bolton, Emmanuelle Haïm, Marc Minkowski and Michel Plasson, and directors including Pierre Audi, Robert Carsen, Barrie Kosky, Robert Lepage, Laurent Pelly and Olivier Py. He has appeared with such international companies as Bavarian State Opera, Canadian Opera Company, Opéra de Montréal, La Monnaie, Brussels, Dutch National Opera, Theater an der Wien, Opéra-Comique, Paris, Paris Opéra, Salzburg Festival and Zürich Opera. His large repertory ranges from Hippolyte (*Hippolyte et Aricie*) to Tom Rakewell (*The Rake's Progress*) and Caliban (Adès's *The Tempest*). His French roles include Orphée (*Orphée et Eurydice*), Gérald (*Lakmé*), Roméo (*Roméo et Juliette*), Des Grieux (*Manon*), Bénédicte (*Béatrice et Bénédicte*), Nadir (*Les Pêcheurs de perles*) and Gonzalve (*L'Heure espagnole*). He has sung Mozart roles including Ferrando (*Così fan tutte*), Belmonte (*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*), Don Ottavio (*Don Giovanni*) and Tamino (*Die Zauberflöte*), and bel canto roles including Count Almaviva (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*), Don Ramiro (*La Cenerentola*), Nemorino (*L'elisir d'amore*), Edgardo (*Lucia di Lammermoor*), Tonio and Arturo (*I puritani*).

Antoun is also active in the oratorio repertory, and has appeared with leading orchestras and ensembles in works including Handel's *Messiah*, Bach's Magnificat and *Passions* and Mozart's Requiem.



(Greenville, South Carolina)

American baritone **John Chest**'s "presence and delivery complements the dark, rich colors in his voice" (Opera Now). Recent highlights include singing the title role in Britten's *Billy Budd* with the San Francisco Opera/Deutsche Oper Berlin, company debuts with Teatro Real Madrid (Valentin Faust) and Opera Philadelphia (Conte Almaviva *Le Nozze di Figaro*), Nick Carraway *The Great Gatsby* with Staatsoper Dresden and Pelléas with the Glyndebourne Festival (*Pelléas et Mélisande*). Future performances include a European tour with Ensemble Pygmalion, Papageno *Magic Flute* at Teatro Municipal de Santiago, and Mozart repertoire with the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin.

Equally passionate about art song, Chest is an active recitalist, recently appearing with Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, the Paris Philharmonie and Wigmore Hall. Chest is a recipient of the top prize at the prestigious 2010 Stella Maris International Vocal Competition and the Arleen Auger Prize in the 2012 Hertogenbosch International Vocal Competition. He is a graduate of the Deutsche Oper Berlin Ensemble Studio and the Studio Bayerische Staatsoper, where he sang over eighty performances. He has held apprenticeships with the Santa Fe Opera and the Chicago Opera Theater, and took part in the esteemed Merola Opera Programme. Chest holds a Master of Music from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, where he studied with David Holloway.



(Sacile, Italy)

Italian Bass **Ferruccio Furlanetto** originally studied classical philology and natural science. He switched to singing at the age of 22, studying with Ettore Campogalliani, and made his professional debut in 1974. He made his debut at La Scala, Milan, in 1979 singing Banquo (*Macbeth*). In addition to his Royal Opera roles, his repertory includes Zaccaria (*Nabucco*), Silva (*Ernani*), Banquo (*Macbeth*), Procida (*I vespri siciliani*), Khovansky (*Khovanshchina*), Tommaso Becket (*Assassinio nella cattedrale*), Arkel (*Pelléas et Mélisande*) and the title roles of *Attila*, *Boris Godunov* and *Don Quichotte*. He sings regularly for such companies as the Metropolitan Opera, New York, Vienna State Opera, Teatro Real, Madrid, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Paris Opéra, Bolshoi Theatre and Mariinsky Theatre.

Furlanetto is a prolific concert artist and recitalist. He has sung Verdi's Requiem worldwide, including at the BBC Proms, and has performed Schubert's *Winterreise* at venues including the Paris Opéra. He is an Honorary Ambassador to the United Nations.



(Seoul, South Korea)

"...her singing as Rossini's determinedly provocative heroine Rosina is indeed phenomenal, especially as she started out to some eyes — well, my eyes — only acting like an alluring spitfire rather than actually being one." Geoff Brown, *The Times*

In the 2019-20 season, **Hera Hyyesang Park** will join forces with Marina Abramović for *7 Deaths of Maria Callas* which will have its world premiere at the Bayerische Staatsoper followed by performances at the Maggio Musical Fiorentino and Greek National Theater. Ms. Park's operatic engagements include returns to the Metropolitan Opera as Amore in the Mark Morris production of Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice*, the Komische Oper Berlin as Lylo in Paul Abraham's *Dschainah, das Mädchen aus dem Tanzhaus*, and Gilda in Verdi's *Rigoletto* directed by Barrie Kosky. In concert with the Münchner Rundfunkorchester she will perform and record Rossini's *Le Comte Ory*. She will also debut at the Washington National Cathedral singing Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* in addition to performing the Brahms *Requiem* with the New York Choral Society. A solo recital with piano brings her to Buenos Aires. The season concludes with Mr. Park's Santa Fe Opera debut creating the role of Comrade Chin/Shu Fang in Huang Ruo's *M. Butterfly*, a world premiere.

Ms. Park graduated from The Juilliard School with an Artist Diploma in Opera Studies as well as a Master's Degree. She currently resides in New York City.