

DON PASQUALE

PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES



Maurizio Muraro (Don Pasquale) In 2013, Italian bass-baritone Maurizio Muraro made his San Francisco Opera debut as Doctor Bartolo in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, a role he has also performed with Munich's Bavarian State Opera, the Metropolitan Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin, and Paris Opera. Muraro is the winner of several important international prizes, including the 1990 Katia Ricciarelli International Competition, the 1994 A. Belli Competition in Spoleto, and the E. Waechter Prize as the best opera singer of the 1999–2000 season at the Vienna State Opera. Other engagements include Dr. Bartolo (*Le Nozze di Figaro*) with the Paris Opera, the Met, Berlin State Opera, and Milan's La Scala; Sulpice (*La Fille du Régiment*) at the Met and Hamburg State Opera; Don Alfonso (*Così fan tutte*) in Tokyo; and

Leporello (*Don Giovanni*) in Genova. His films include *Tosca* with the Covent Garden Orchestra and a DVD of *Le Nozze di Figaro* at La Scala; his recordings include *Carmen* with Giuseppe Sinopoli, *Tosca* with Antonio Pappano, and *Le Nozze di Figaro* and *Don Giovanni* with Bertrand de Billy.



Heidi Stober (Norina) made her San Francisco Opera debut in 2010 as Sophie (*Werther*) and has since returned as Susanna (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Atalanta (*Xerxes*), Pamina (*The Magic Flute*), Nannetta (*Falstaff*), Magnolia Hawks (*Show Boat*), and Oscar (*Un Ballo in Maschera*). The American soprano's recent engagements include Pamina with the Metropolitan Opera; Pamina, Susanna, Gretel (*Hänsel und Gretel*), Adina (*L'Elisir d'Amore*), and Micaëla (*Carmen*) with Deutsche Oper Berlin; and Zdenka (*Arabella*) with the Santa Fe Opera. A recent principal artist with Deutsche Oper Berlin, her other engagements with that company have included Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*), Oscar (*Un Ballo in Maschera*), Ninette (*L'Amour des Trois Oranges*), Ascagne (*Les Troyens*), and Roggiero (*Tancredi*). Stober is a

graduate of the Houston Grand Opera Studio, and her credits there include Musetta (*La Bohème*), Atalanta, Blonde (*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*), Norina (*Don Pasquale*), Susanna, The Rose (Portman's *The Little Prince*), and La China in the world premiere of Catán's *Salsipuedes*. Other career highlights include Gretel with the Metropolitan Opera; La Folie and Thalie (*Platée*), Tigrane (*Radamisto*), Musetta, and Ada Levenson in the world premiere of Morrison's *Oscar* with the Santa Fe Opera; Poppea (*Agrippina*) with New York City Opera; Morgana (*Alcina*) in Santiago, Chile; Aminta (*Il Re Pastore*) with Opera Theatre of St. Louis; and Leïla (*Les Pêcheurs de Perles*) at Opera Colorado. Recent and upcoming engagements include Oscar with the Metropolitan Opera; Gretel, Pamina, Ninette, and Adina with Deutsche Oper Berlin; Sandrina (*La Finta Giardiniera*) with the Santa Fe Opera; and Ada Levenson with Opera Philadelphia.



Lawrence Brownlee (Ernesto) Making his San Francisco Opera debut as Ernesto in *Don Pasquale*, tenor Lawrence Brownlee has sung with nearly every leading international opera house and festival, as well as major orchestra, including the Berlin Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Chicago Symphony, New York Philharmonic, Academia di Santa Cecilia, Boston Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, and the Bayerische Rundfunk Orchestra. In addition, Brownlee has appeared on the stages of the top opera companies around the globe, including the Metropolitan Opera, Teatro alla Scala, the Bavarian State Opera, Royal Opera Covent Garden, the Vienna State Opera, Opera National

de Paris, Opernhaus Zürich, the Berlin State Opera, Teatro Real Madrid, Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie, and the

festivals of Salzburg and Baden Baden. Recent performance highlights include *Carmina Burana* with the LA Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, the Berlioz Requiem at the Edinburgh Festival, *La Cenerentola* at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, *La Donna del Lago* at the Metropolitan Opera, and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* at the Paris Opéra. In addition to his acclaimed bel canto performances, Brownlee has also originated contemporary roles including Lorin Maazel's *1984* and, most recently, Opera Philadelphia's world premiere of *Yardbird*, based on the life story of iconic jazzman Charlie Parker.



Lucas Meachem (Dr. Malatesta) American baritone Lucas Meachem most recently appeared at San Francisco Opera as Figaro in 2015's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. A former Adler Fellow and Merola Opera Program alumnus, Meachem's other Company engagements include the title roles of *Don Giovanni* and *Eugene Onegin*, Fritz and Frank (*Die Tote Stadt*), Count Almaviva (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), and roles in *La Forza del Destino*, *Billy Budd*, *Doktor Faust*, and *The Magic Flute for Kids*. Highlights of his 2014–15 season include his debut with the Los Angeles Philharmonic as Silvio (*Pagliacci*) at the Hollywood Bowl with Maestro Gustavo Dudamel; Silvio in his return to the Metropolitan Opera for a new production of *Pagliacci*; a new production for his role debut as Corigliano's Figaro in *The Ghosts of Versailles* with Los Angeles Opera; the title role in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and Marcello (*La Bohème*) at London's Royal Opera House; and a European revival tour of Tchaikovsky's *Iolanta* with soprano Anna Netrebko. A frequent collaborator with Lyric Opera of Chicago, he has appeared as Oreste (*Iphigénie en Tauride*), Valentin (*Faust*), Demetrius (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) and Marcello. He made his Metropolitan Opera debut as General Rayevsky (*War & Peace*) and returned as Mercutio (*Roméo et Juliette*). A regular performer across Europe, Meachem has appeared with Vienna State Opera as the title role in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*; Opéra National de Paris as the title role in *Billy Budd*; Bayerische Staatsoper as Count Almaviva (*Le Nozze di Figaro*); Teatro Real de Madrid in the world premiere of *El Viaje a Simorgh* by José María Sánchez-Verdúand; Royal Opera House, Covent Garden as Aeneas (*Dido & Aeneas*), which was released on DVD on the Opus Arte label; the title role in *Eugene Onegin* with Opéra National de Montpellier; and the title role in *Don Giovanni* with the Glyndebourne Festival.



Edward Nelson (Dr. Malatesta) A second-year San Francisco Opera Adler Fellow, baritone Edward Nelson participated in the 2014 Merola Opera Program where he sang the title role of Don Giovanni. As part of the 2015-2016 Season, he performed the roles of the Second Priest in *The Magic Flute*, Hermann Ortel in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, L'Ami in Debussy's *La Chute de la Maison Usher*, and Moralès in *Carmen*. During that same season he created the role of Lieutenant John Buckley in the world premiere of Marco Tutino's *Two Women*. Recent engagements include the Ferryman (Britten's *Curlew River*) with the Mark Morris Dance Group/Tanglewood Music Festival, as well as the title role of Britten's *Owen Wingrave*, Dandini (*La Cenerentola*), and Le Podestat (Bizet's *Le Docteur Miracle*) with the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM), where he holds undergraduate and graduate degrees. On the concert stage, he has been a soloist with the American Choral Directors Association and the Reno Philharmonic. He is a national semifinalist in the 2013 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and the 2014 Naumburg International Voice Competition, First Prize winner of the 2014 Corbett Opera Competition at CCM, and a winner in the 2013 Opera Columbus and 2014 Mildred Miller International Voice Competition. After completing the Adler Fellowship, his 2017 engagements include the role of Steward in Jonathan Dove's *Flight* with Opera Omaha, Schaunard in *La Bohème* with Cincinnati Opera, and the title role in Thomas Ambrose's *Hamlet* with West Edge Opera