

## GIRLS OF THE GOLDEN WEST

### Cast Biographies



Making her San Francisco Opera debut as **Dame Shirley** in *Girls of the Golden West*, soprano Julia Bullock is a frequent collaborator with director Peter Sellars and composer John Adams. At the 2016 Ojai Music Festival, Bullock starred in Kaija Saariaho's *La Passion de Simone*, in a new staging by Sellars, as well as in the world premiere of *Josephine Baker: A Portrait*, composed and arranged by Tyshawn Sorey with accompanying poetry by Claudia Rankine. In addition, Bullock is known to San Francisco audiences for her striking 2014 concert performances of "Somewhere" in *West Side Story* with the San Francisco Symphony and Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas.

Engagements for the 2016–17 season include joining Marin Alsop and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra for Villa-Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5*, David Robertson and the Sydney Symphony for concert performances of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, the Los Angeles Philharmonic for John Adams' *El Niño*, and the BBC Symphony for a concert performance of Adams' *Doctor Atomic* under the baton of the composer, which also is to be recorded for future commercial release. Chamber music programs include songs of Maurice Ravel and Jonathan Berger with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and a theatrical exploration of the common ground between Franz Schubert and Samuel Beckett in collaboration with tenor Ian Bostridge and stage director Yuval Sharon under the auspices of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. In summer 2017, Bullock performs the role of Anne Truelove in a new production of Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* at the Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, staged by Simon McBurney and conducted by Daniel Harding.



Making his San Francisco Opera debut as **Ned Peters** in *Girls of the Golden West*, bass-baritone Davóne Tines is building an international career commanding a broad spectrum of opera and concert performance. Recent appearances include the Los Angeles Philharmonic for John Adams' *El Niño*, the 2016 Ojai Music Festival, and the Boston Pops in Symphony Hall and at Tanglewood, where he was a Tanglewood Music Center Fellow. Highlights of past seasons include his debut with the American Repertory Theater in the world premiere of Matthew Aucoin's opera *Crossing*,

performing the leading role of Freddie Stowers. He also recently made his debut at the Dutch National Opera in the premiere of Kaija Saariaho's *Only the Sound Remains*, directed by Peter Sellars. Future engagements feature the bass-baritone in artistic collaborations with the London Philharmonic Orchestra on a European tour and with the New York Philharmonic at Lincoln Center. Tines is a 2009 graduate of Harvard University and 2013 Master of Music graduate of the Juilliard School.



American mezzo-soprano J'Nai Bridges (**Josefa Segovia**) is quickly becoming one of the most sought-after talents of her generation. Her other performances in the 2016-17 season include her debuts at Bavarian State Opera as Bersi, at Los Angeles Opera as Nefertiti in *Akhnaten*, and at Vancouver Opera as Sister Helen Prejean in *Dead Man Walking*; as well as featured soloist appearances with the Marilyn Horne Song Celebration at Carnegie Hall, the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center in the "Farewell to Christoph Eschenbach" concert, and the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the NDR Symphony Orchestra in its inaugural week in the Elbphilharmonie. Bridges' recent performances include the roles of Carmen in the world premiere of *Bel Canto* with Lyric Opera of Chicago, Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly* with San Diego Opera, and the title role in *The Rape of Lucretia* with Wolf Trap

Opera; as well as concert engagements with Yo-Yo Ma and members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra; with the L.A. Philharmonic and Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela under the baton of Gustavo Dudamel; with the NDR Symphony Orchestra in her first performances of Ravel's *Shéhérazade*; and with the Oregon Symphony Bridges recently completed a three-year residency with the distinguished Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago. Highlights of her tenure there included Ines in *Il Trovatore*, Vlasta in Mieczysław Weinberg's *The Passenger*, Flora in *La Traviata*, and Rosina in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*.



Making his San Francisco Opera debut as **Clarence King** in *Girls of the Golden West*, baritone Ryan McKinny recently made his acclaimed Bayreuth Festival debut as Amfortas in a new production of *Parsifal*, as well as a return to the Metropolitan Opera as Biterolf in *Tannhäuser*. Last season he debuted at the Washington National Opera as Donner and Gunther in *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, and he returned to the Hamburg Opera for his first European performances of *Der Fliegende Holländer*, in the title role. Other recent engagements include the title role of *Rigoletto* at Houston Grand Opera, Jochanaan in *Salome* at Santa Fe Opera and New Orleans Opera, Stanley Kowalski to Renée Fleming's Blanche DuBois in André Previn's *A Streetcar Named Desire* at Los Angeles Opera, Nathanael in the world premiere of Andrea Lorenzo Scartazzini's *Der Sandmann* at Theater Basel, and

Melot in Peter Sellars' production of *Tristan und Isolde* at the Canadian Opera Company. In the 2016-2017 season, McKinny returns to Washington National Opera as Figaro in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Hawaii Opera Theater as Stanley Kowalski in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Houston Grand Opera as Gunther in *Götterdämmerung*, and the Bayreuth Festival as Amfortas in *Parsifal*. He will also sing Richard Nixon in John Adams' *Nixon in China* with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, conducted by the composer.



A winner of the 2009 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, tenor Paul Appleby (**Joe Cannon**) made his San Francisco Opera debut in 2015 as Tamino in *The Magic Flute*. A graduate of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Program, Appleby has performed frequently with that company including creating the role of Brian in Nico Muhly's *Two Boys*, Chevalier de la Force (*Dialogues des Carmélites*), Belmonte

(*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*), Hylas (*Les Troyens*), Demetrius (*The Enchanted Island*), Brighella (*Ariadne auf Naxos*), Tom Rakewell (*The Rake's Progress*), and David (*Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*). Other career highlights include Ferrando (*Così fan tutte*) with Frankfurt Opera, Toronto's Canadian Opera Company, and Boston Lyric Opera; Fritz (*La Grande-Duchesse de Gérolstein*) with Santa Fe Opera; Tom Rakewell with Frankfurt Opera; Agenore (*Il Re Pastore*) with Opera Theatre of St. Louis; Lysander (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*); and Gomatz (*Zaïde*) with Wolf Trap Opera. Appleby has appeared as a soloist with the New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Pittsburgh Symphony, San Diego Symphony, and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. For the 2016-17 season, Appleby's engagements include Don Ottavio (*Don Giovanni*) at the Metropolitan Opera, Belmonte at Dutch National Opera, and Britten's *Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings* with the Phoenix Symphony and New World Symphony.



Korean soprano Hye Jung Lee (**Ah Sing**) made her San Francisco Opera debut as Madame Mao in Michael Cavanagh's 2012 production of John Adams' *Nixon in China*. She returned to the Company the following year to sing Olympia in *Tales of Hoffmann*. In 2015, Lee joined the ensemble of Theater Kiel in Germany where she has performed Queen of the Night from *Die Zauberflöte*, Susanna from *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Ortlinde from *Die Walküre*, Amor from *Orphée et Eurydice*, and Woglinde from *Das Rheingold*, among other roles. Recent seasons have also taken her to New Zealand Opera for Madame Mao and Saarländisches Staatstheater in Saarbrücken for Queen of the Night. An alumna of the Merola Opera Program, Lee is a graduate of Indiana University, Seoul

National University, and the Mannes College of Music. In 2013, she was a national semifinalist in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.



A winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Canadian baritone Elliot Madore (**Ramón**) made his San Francisco Opera debut in 2015 as Anthony Hope in *Sweeney Todd*. His recent engagements include Mercutio (*Roméo et Juliette*) with Santa Fe Opera; Belcore (*L'Elisir d'Amore*) with Lyric Opera of Kansas City; Harlekin (*Ariadne auf Naxos*) in Zurich, Munich, and Paris; Figaro (*The Barber of Seville*) with the Metropolitan Opera; and Pelléas (*Pelléas et Mélisande*) with Munich's Bavarian State Opera and Croatian National Opera. As an ensemble member with Zurich Opera, his roles with that company have included Valentin (*Faust*), Guglielmo (*Così fan tutte*), Schaunard (*La Bohème*), Andrei (Peter Eötvös's *Three Sisters*), Silvio (*Pagliacci*), Silvano (*Un*

*Ballo in Maschera*), and Germano (*La Scala di Seta*). Other career highlights include the title role of *Don Giovanni* with Opera Philadelphia, the Glyndebourne Festival, and Opera Theatre of St. Louis; Lysander (*The Enchanted Island*) with the Metropolitan Opera; Ramiro (*L'Heure Espagnole*) and the Cat/Grandfather Clock (*L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*) at the Glyndebourne and Saito Kinen festivals; and Schaunard with Opera Colorado. During the 2016–17 season, Madore appears as Mercutio at the Metropolitan Opera and as Reinaldo Arenas in Jorge Martin's *Before Night Falls* at Florida Grand Opera.



Making her San Francisco Opera debut as **Lola Montez** in *Girls of the Golden West*, dancer Lorena Feijoo trained at Escuela Nacional de Ballet de Cuba. She danced with Ballet Nacional de Cuba, Ballet of Monterrey, Royal Ballet of Flanders, and the Joffrey Ballet before joining San Francisco Ballet as a principal dancer in 1999. Her major roles there include Giselle in Helgi Tomasson's *Giselle*; Grand Pas de Deux *Ballerina*, *Queen of the Snow*, and *Sugar Plum Fairy* in Tomasson's *Nutcracker*; *Aurora* in Tomasson's *The Sleeping Beauty*; *Juliet* in Tomasson's *Romeo & Juliet*; *Odette/Odile* in Tomasson's *Swan Lake*; *Kitri* in Tomasson/Possokhov's *Don Quixote*; *Bianca* in Lubovitch's *Othello*; and *Goddess Diana* in Morris' *Sylvia*. She created principal roles in Tomasson's *Blue*

*Rose* and *On Common Ground*; Caniparoli's Ibsen's *House and Tears*; Possokhov's *Diving into the Lilacs*, *Fusion*, *Reflections*, *Study in Motion*, *Swimmer*, and *Talk to Her* (*Hable con ella*); Ratmansky's *Le Carnaval des Animaux*; Scarlett's *Fearful Symmetries*; Wheeldon's *Quaternary* and *Number Nine*; and Zanella's *Underskin*.

As a guest artist, Feijoo has performed extensively, including Pas de Deux from *Don Quixote* at the Benois de la Danse Gala at the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow in 2011; Garcia's *Majismo* at the American Ballet Theatre gala honoring José Manuel Carreño in 2011; and in ACT's *The Tosca Project* in San Francisco in 2010. Feijoo was nominated for the Benois de la Danse Award in 2011 and received the Isadora Duncan Dance Award for Best Ensemble Performance in Tomasson/Possokhov's *Don Quixote* in 2003.