



Wolf Trap Opera 2017 Artist Roster, Productions and Casting

Wolf Trap Opera is a summer residency program of Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts. Each summer, some of the best young opera singers in America come to Wolf Trap to refine their craft. Rather than choosing singers based on casting requirements, Wolf Trap Opera identifies the most promising artists, and then selects repertoire that will best showcase their talents. This artist-centric, tailored approach to artist development makes Wolf Trap Opera one of the most respected artist training programs in the country, and provides audiences with a variety of intriguing operas that play to the strengths of each season's distinct mix of talent.

Through its unique performance-based training program, Wolf Trap Opera has contributed to the career development of nearly 700 emerging professional singers from across the country. WTO alumni can be found working in every top opera house in the U.S., Europe, and beyond. Offstage, WTO has also provided 300+ fellows and interns with the skills needed to achieve significant careers in production, design, and administration. Wolf Trap Opera artists go on to have long and healthy careers on stage, and many of the leading singers of our time started out as a Wolf Trap Opera artists. Distinguished alumni include: Stephanie Blythe, Lawrence Brownlee, Michelle DeYoung, Christine Goerke, Denyce Graves, Nathan Gunn, Alan Held, Dawn Upshaw, and Eric Owens.

FILENE YOUNG ARTISTS

All principal roles in Wolf Trap Opera productions are performed by singers selected as Filene Young Artists (FYAs). FYAs are at an interim point between academic training and full-time professional careers. They have recently finished graduate or professional programs and have often participated in year-long young artist programs or summer apprenticeships. Many have won prestigious awards and are on their way to significant careers.

Ben Edquist, *baritone*†
Mackenzie Gotcher, *tenor*
Jonas Hacker, *tenor*^
Summer Hassan, *soprano*^
Alasdair Kent, *tenor*^
Madison Leonard, *soprano*
Alexandra Loutsion, *soprano*^
Nicholas Nestorak, *tenor*

Richard Ollarsaba, *bass-baritone*^
Shea Owens, *baritone*^
Zoie Reams, *mezzo-soprano*
Annie Rosen, *mezzo-soprano*
Megan Mikailovna Samarin, *mezzo-soprano*†
Anthony Robin Schneider, *bass*
Kihun Yoon, *baritone*

^ returning artist † former Studio Artist

STUDIO ARTISTS

In 2017, the Studio Artist Program celebrates its 10th anniversary as a significant entry-point for emerging opera artists. Studio Artists are trained singers who have recently finished undergraduate or graduate programs. Studio Artists take on small or ensemble roles in what is typically their first professionally conducted, directed, coached and designed production.

Maria Brea, *soprano*[^]
Amanda Lynn Bottoms, *mezzo-soprano*
Jonathan Bryan, *baritone*[^]
Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen, *countertenor*
Lauren Feider, *soprano*
Matthew Adam Fleisher, *bass*
Ricardo Garcia, *tenor*
Andrew Gilstrap, *bass*
Sam Grosby, *tenor*

Cory Gross, *tenor*
Geoffrey Hahn, *baritone*[^]
Michael J. Hawk, *baritone*
Senhica Klee, *tenor*
Gretchen Krupp, *mezzo-soprano*
Ashley Milanese, *soprano*
Nicole Thomas, *mezzo-soprano*
Onadek Winan, *soprano*

FELLOWS

Coaching and Directing Fellows are emerging professionals who are mentored by WTO's artistic teams.

K. Annie Brooks, *coaching*
Lindsay Woodward, *coaching*
Mo Zhou, *directing*[^]

[^] returning artist † former Studio Artist

Giacomo Rossini

The Touchtone (La pietra del paragone)

New Production | Company Premiere

In Italian with English Supertitles

The Barns at Wolf Trap

Fri, June 23 at 7:30 p.m. | Sun, June 25 at 3 p.m. | Wed, June 28 at 7:30 p.m. | Sat, July 1 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets \$32-\$88

In an attempt to find real love, a marriageable count pretends to lose all his money in a test for true love and friends.

*Special thanks to Dan and Gayle D'Aniello, Wolf Trap 2017 Season Underwriters,
and Ed and Andy Smith, Performance Sponsors.*

CAST

Pacuvio	Shea Owens
Fabrizio	Anthony Robin Schneider
Baroness Aspasia	Megan Mikailovna Samarin
Donna Fulvia	Summer Hassan
Macrobio	Kihun Yoon
Giocondo	Alasdair Kent
Clarice	Zoie Reams
Count Asdrubale	Richard Ollarsaba
Guests & Servants	Wolf Trap Opera Studio

CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor	Antony Walker
Director	E. Loren Meeker
Scenic Designer	Erhard Rom
Costume Designer	Erik Teague
Lighting Designer	Robert H. Grimes
Wig & Makeup Designer	Anne Nesmith

Giacomo Puccini

Tosca

Wolf Trap Opera | National Symphony Orchestra | Washington Chorus | Children's Chorus of Washington

New Production | Company Premiere

In Italian with English Supertitles

The Filene Center at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts

Friday, July 14 at 8:15 p.m.

Tickets \$25-\$75

Caught up in a world of political intrigue and corruption, Puccini's fiery diva is trapped between her allegiance to her rebel lover and a treacherous police chief who will stop at nothing to possess her. The explosive conflict between these three unforgettable characters comes to a hair-raising conclusion in one of opera's most popular, suspenseful, and unforgettable dramas.

*Special thanks to Dan and Gayle D'Aniello, Wolf Trap 2017 Season Underwriters,
and Virginia McGehee Friend, Performance Sponsor.*

CAST

Angelotti	Richard Ollarsaba
Sacristan	Anthony Robin Schneider
Mario Cavaradossi	Mackenzie Gotcher
Floria Tosca	Alexandra Loutsion
Baron Scarpia	Kihun Yoon
Spoletta	Nicholas Nestorak
Sciarrone	Geoffrey Hahn*
Shepherd	Megan Mikailovna Samarin
Jailer	Matthew Adam Fleischer*

CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor	Grant Gershon
Director	Louisa Muller
Scenic Designer	Erhard Rom
Video & Projection Designer	S. Katy Tucker
Costume Designer	David Woolard
Lighting Designer	Mark Stanley
Wig & Makeup Designer	

**Studio Artists*

DOUBLE BILL

Philip Glass & Robert Moran

The Juniper Tree

John Musto

Bastianello

New Productions | Company Premieres

In English with English Supertitles

The Barns at Wolf Trap

Fri, Aug 11 at 7:30 p.m. | Sun, Aug 13 at 3 p.m. | Wed, Aug 16 at 7:30 p.m. | Sat, Aug 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets \$32-\$88

The Juniper Tree: This take on the famous Grimm fairy tale is “charming and chilling, a children’s opera for thinking children (also known as ‘adults’)” (*The New York Times*). It tells of a Wicked Stepmother who murders her stepson and serves him up in a stew to his unsuspecting father. The boy’s sister buries her brother’s bones under a Juniper Tree, and the child’s spirit returns as a singing bird who wreaks vengeance on the evil Stepmother before being restored to life in the bosom of his family.

Bastianello: This modern retelling of an Italian folktale tickles the funny bone and warms the heart. After a wedding debacle, a young husband sets out to find people who are greater fools than his own family.

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CASTS

CREATIVE TEAM

Bastianello

Bastianello	Jonas Hacker
Bastianello the Elder	Shea Owens
Ortensia	Summer Hassan
Luciano	Richard Ollarsaba
Amadora	Zoie Reams

Conductor	Lidiya Yankovskaya
Director	R.B. Schlather
Scenic/Costume Designer	Blake Palmer
Lighting Designer	Robert H. Grimes
Wig & Makeup Designer	Anne Nesmith

The Juniper Tree

Mother	Summer Hassan
Father	Ben Edquist
Son	Megan Mikailovna Samarin
Stepmother	Annie Rosen
Daughter	Madison Leonard
Goldsmith	Sam Grosby*
Cobbler	Michael J. Hawk*
Miller	Andrew Gilstrap*

**Studio Artists*

Philip Glass

The Fall of the House of Usher

Wolf Trap Opera & Halcyon Stage

New Production | Company Premiere | Part of *UNTRAPPED* series

In English

Dock 5 at Union Market, Washington D.C.

Saturday, June 17 at 8:30 p.m.

Tickets \$40

Roderick Usher, the reclusive heir to the Usher fortune, resides with his ill twin sister in their decaying ancestral home. When Roderick's old friend visits, relationships are tested and secrets are unearthed.

*Special thanks to Dan and Gayle D'Aniello, Wolf Trap 2017 Season Underwriters,
and Virginia McGehee Friend, UNTRAPPED Series Sponsor.*

CAST

William	Ben Edquist
Roderick	Jonas Hacker
Madeline	Madison Leonard
Physician	Nicholas Nestorak
Servant	TBD

CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor	Joseph Li
Director	Septime Webre

Listen, Wilhelmina!

New Production | Commissioned by Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts
Music by David Hanlon, Libretto by Kathleen Kelly
In English
Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods

Private performances in May by invitation | Public performances July 19 and July 20

Wilhelmina, Wallis, and Winston the Wombats are ready for their very first concert at Wolf Trap! The stage! The instruments! The maestro! But what is the audience supposed to *do*? With help from Ranger Nat, these three wombat friends learn how much fun music-making can be when they open their ears to listen. This interactive mini-musical is a perfect way to introduce children to the concert experience.

In partnership with Wolf Trap Education and Wolf Trap Opera, Wolf Trap Foundation commissions a brand new mini-opera for young fans. It will have its premiere in May 2017 as the featured performance of Wolf Trap Institute Field Trip Performance and will return on July 19 & 20 as part of the 2017 Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods series. *Listen, Wilhelmina!* will be double-cast with current and former Wolf Trap Opera Studio Artists to highlight the 10th anniversary of the Studio Artist program.

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and Virginia McGehee Friend, UNTRAPPED Series Sponsor.*

CAST

Private Performing Casting: 2017 Studio Artists

Wilhelmina	Onadek Winan
Wallis	Nichole Thomas
Winston	Cory Gross
Ranger Nat	Jonathan Bryan

CREATIVE TEAM

Conductor	David Hanlon
Director	Mo Zhou
Pianist/Coach	TBD
Production Stage Manager	Evelyn Rossow

Public Performance Casting: Studio Artist Alumni

Wilhelmina	Amy Owens
Wallis	Sarah Larsen
Winston	Josh Sanders
Ranger Nat	Brandon Bell