

Yale SCHOOL OF MUSIC

José García-León, Dean

YALE OPERA

Gerald Martin Moore, *Director*

WEILL & BRECHT

The Seven Deadly Sins

PUCCINI

Gianni Schicchi

Friday, May 3, 2024 | 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 4, 2024 | 7:30 p.m.

Morse Recital Hall in Sprague Memorial Hall

YALE OPERA PRESENTS

WEILL & BRECHT

The Seven Deadly Sins

PUCCINI

Gianni Schicchi

MAY 3 & 4, 2024

Morse Recital Hall in Sprague Memorial Hall

ALEJANDRO ROCA

music director

PAT DIAMOND

stage director

KAREN ROOT

scenic & properties designer

CURTIS SERAFIN

ANNA SMIGELSKAYA

music preparation

REBECCA L. WELLES

costume designer

ANDREW F. GRIFFIN

lighting designer

EIN KIM

projection designer

YALE OPERA

The Seven Deadly Sins

(Die sieben Todsünden)

A satirical *ballet chanté* in seven scenes

Music by Kurt Weill

Libretto by Bertolt Brecht

Performed in German with projected English translation

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Cast

Anna I

KARA MORGAN, *mezzo-soprano*

Anna II

AMALIA CREVANI*, *soprano*

Family

SEIYOUNG KIM*, *tenor I (Father)*

ETHAN BURCK, *tenor II (Brother)*

OLIVIER ZEROUALI, *baritone (Brother)*

FINN SAGAL, *bass-baritone (Mother)*

* *guest artist*

Instrumentalists

DANIEL FLETCHER, *flute*

JONATHAN LÓPEZ, *clarinet I*

NICKOLAS HAMBLIN, *clarinet II*

GRACE O'CONNELL, *trumpet*

JACOB LESHNOWER, *percussion*

JOE TOLLEFSEN, *banjo & guitar*

CURTIS SERAFIN, *piano*

INTERMISSION

Gianni Schicchi

A comic opera in one act

Music by Giacomo Puccini

Libretto by Giovacchino Forzano

Pianist: Anna Smigelskaya

Performed in Italian with projected English translation

Cast

Gianni Schicchi
PAUL JANG, *baritone*

Simone
JUSTICE YATES, *bass-baritone*

Lauretta
JILLIAN TATE, *soprano F*
LAURA MIAH, *soprano SA*

Marco
ALEX SMITH, *baritone*

Zita
ANA MORA, *mezzo-soprano*

La Ciesca
ALLISON FAHEY, *mezzo-soprano*

Rinuccio
GIORGI GULIASHVILI, *tenor F*
DANIEL ESPINAL, *tenor SA*

Spinellocchio
SEIYOUNG KIM*, *tenor*

Gherardo
ETHAN BURCK, *tenor*

Notary
FINN SAGAL, *bass-baritone*

Nella
EVA MARTINEZ, *soprano*

Buoso Donati
SEIYOUNG KIM*, *tenor*

Gherardino
JAE EUN SHIN, *soprano*

Pinellino
BOB SCROFANI*, *bass*

Betto
OLIVIER ZEROUALI, *baritone*

Guccio
BOBBY HILL*, *tenor*

F = Friday SA = Saturday

* guest artist

SYNOPSIS

The Seven Deadly Sins

U.S.A., 1930s. Anna I/Anna II is sent by her austere, religious family in Louisiana to earn enough money for them to build a house. Conflicted by the desperate need to make money and yet live by her morals, Anna I/Anna II has a split personality—sometimes sisters, sometimes alter egos. Her work takes her to seven different cities over seven years, experiencing a different deadly sin in each. Sloth overcomes her at the outset. In Memphis, where she works in a seedy cabaret, she experiences Pride. Arriving in Los Angeles where she is a dancing extra in a show, she experiences Anger at being unjustly arrested. She goes to Philadelphia where her cabaret contract has her on a strict diet, despite her family's Gluttony. Next, she arrives in Boston, where her Lust for a secret lover becomes her downfall in a lucrative arrangement. The sugar daddy shoots himself, as does a successive lover of Anna II, who has taken them for all they are worth. Moving to Baltimore, Anna I and the father try to convince her to hide her Avarice. The exhausted Anna II experiences Envy of younger, freer women in San Francisco before returning, spent, to Louisiana.

Gianni Schicchi

Florence, Italy, 1930. The greedy relatives of the wealthy, freshly deceased Buoso Donati discover that he has left his fortune to the church. Young Rinuccio suggests that Gianni Schicchi, a shrewd, self-made man (and the father of Rinuccio's girlfriend, Lauretta), can help them. Schicchi arrives with his daughter. Disgusted by the family's hypocrisy, Lauretta appeals to her father, proclaiming her desire to marry Rinuccio. Reading the will, Schicchi devises a plan to impersonate Buoso and rewrite the will. The relatives send for the notary and Schicchi, wearing Buoso's clothes, dictates a new will from his sickbed. He leaves the greater part of the estate, including the house they are in, to his "dear friend Gianni Schicchi." The furious relatives try to steal what they can from the house as they are chased out by Schicchi, who remains behind with Lauretta and Rinuccio.

Gerald Martin Moore*director of Yale Opera*

Gerald Martin Moore is an internationally renowned singing teacher and vocal consultant. He has worked in such houses as Covent Garden, La Scala, the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco, and Opera de Bastille in Paris as well as the Aix-en-Provence, Edinburgh, and Glyndebourne Festivals.

Since moving to NYC in 2008 he has been on the teaching faculty of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann program and Curtis Institute of Music. He regularly gives master classes at Glyndebourne, Merola, and Washington National Opera, and is on the regular teaching faculty at Music Academy of the West, Lyric Opera of Chicago's Ryan Opera Center, and Ravinia Steans.

A frequent recitalist, most notably with Renée Fleming, he has performed before such dignitaries as President Obama, President Clinton and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, HRH King Charles, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. Moore was recently featured accompanying Renée Fleming in the soundtrack for the movie *Bel Canto* and also coached Julianne Moore, who plays the role of Roxanne.

Moore may currently be heard as a regular host of the Metropolitan Opera Quiz, and is a frequent judge for prestigious vocal competitions, including the Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions.

Alejandro Roca*music director*

Opera coach and conductor Alejandro Roca's recent engagements include performances of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* at Liceu Conservatory in Barcelona, new productions with the Bogotá Philharmonic Orchestra of Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* and Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, performances with the Medellín Philharmonic Orchestra of Falla's *Master Peter's Puppet Show*, and debuts with the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra and the Orchestra of the Cláudio Santoro National Theater in Brasília, Brazil. Roca has collaborated with such renowned conductors as Rinaldo Alessandrini, Gustavo Dudamel, Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Josep Caballé Domenech, Patrick Fournillier, Hilary Griffiths, Gérard Korsten, and Miguel Roa. He has appeared in recital with vocalists around the world and has recorded music by several Latin American composers. Since 2006, Roca has served as a conductor and pianist at the Opera of Colombia, in Bogotá, and his repertoire includes more than 70 fully prepared operas and zarzuelas.

Roca serves as Lecturer in Music and Opera Coach at the Yale School of Music. He previously served as Opera Coach and Director of the Opera Workshop at Central University in Bogotá and at Scuola Italia's summer program for young opera singers in Sant'Angelo in Vado, Italy. He has also been a member of the faculty at the University of Antioquia, in Medellín, and at Pontifical Xavierian University in Bogotá, and has served as Director of the Cartagena International Music Festival's academic program. Roca's pedagogical experience includes the presentation of master classes at Indiana University and the University of Michigan in the United States, Nayang Academy of Fine

Arts in Singapore, Capela di Santa Maria in Curitiba, Brazil, and the University of Valle and the University of the North in Colombia, among other institutions.

Pat Diamond

stage director

Stage director Pat Diamond works on both plays and operas, ranging from established repertoire to new works. Productions include pieces by Shakespeare, Britten, Calderón, Mozart, Puccini, Janáček, Mayakovsky, Weill, and Verdi. He directed the American revivals of Moniuszko's *Halka* and Wolf-Ferrari's *Le donne curiose*. Diamond has developed pieces with playwrights A. Rey Pamatmat, Eric Sanders, and Kathryn Walat. He is co-creator of a devised Music Theatre piece derived from the poetry of Nobel Laureate Tomas Tranströmer, with composer Ellen Lindquist. He produced and directed *The Dido Project*, a site-specific performance of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* with Sybarite 5, at the Samsung Experience in New York. Companies include Wolf Trap, Aspen Music Festival, West Edge Opera, 2G, Working Man's Clothes, Trondheim Sinfonietta, Västmanlandsmusiken, and Prague Summer Nights (at the Estates Theater in Prague). He has led devising with music workshops in Sweden and Norway. Diamond is also the Executive Producer of *Unequal Temperament*, a podcast series of frank, open conversations with musical artists of color hosted by frequent collaborator Timothy Long. Diamond and Long lead the Opera department at Eastman School of Music where Diamond is an associate professor.

Karen Root

scenic & properties designer

Karen Root returns to Yale Opera, where she previously worked on *The Rake's Progress*, Fall Opera Scenes, *The Rape of Lucretia*, *Le comte Ory*, and *L'elisir d'amore*. Theater set design credits include *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Tempest*, and *Taste of Fear* (Elm Shakespeare), *Gallathea* (Southern Connecticut State University), *All About Image/We Are the Elite* (NY International Fringe Festival), *Great Catherine* (Helen Gardiner Phalen Playhouse), and *Like Mamma Made You* (Factory Theatre). Other theater credits include *The Comedy of Errors* and Elm Shakespeare Youth Festival (Elm Shakespeare), *La Ronde* (Soulpepper Theatre Company), *The Seagull* (Stratford Festival), and *Pericles, Prince of Tyre* (Helen Gardiner Phalen Playhouse). Root has been a guest designer and adjunct professor at Southern Connecticut State University. She is an Emmy-nominated and Parent's Choice Award-winning production designer. She holds an Honors B.A. from the University of Toronto.

» karenrootdesign.com

Curtis Serafin

music preparation

Curtis Serafin is currently a second-year collaborative piano fellow with Yale Opera; this engagement followed his fourth season as a member of the music staff at Sarasota Opera, where he played productions of *Tosca*, *Attila*, *La scala di seta*, and *Dido & Aeneas*. Last month, Serafin made his Merkin Hall debut in *The Reef* by Anthony Davis with Berkshire Opera Festival. Recent summer seasons have included professional fellowships at the Tanglewood Institute, Stephanie Blythe's Fall Island Vocal Arts Seminar, Manchester Music

Festival, and Hawaii Performing Arts Festival. Curtis Serafin is a graduate of Warren Jones's studio at the Manhattan School of Music; this was preceded by the completion of his undergraduate studies in piano performance at Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music.

Anna Smigelskaya

music preparation

Following her second season as a member of the music staff with the Santa Fe Opera, Anna Smigelskaya joins the faculty as Lecturer at the Yale School of Music. During her recent season in Santa Fe, Smigelskaya was selected as the organist for *Tosca*, while also preparing performances of scenes from *La bohème* and *Boris Godunov* as part of the Apprentice Scenes program. Additionally, Smigelskaya served as the company's primary Russian diction coach. Prior to her two-year fellowship with Yale Opera, other engagements included the Merola Opera Program, Music Academy of the West, and Renée Fleming's SongStudio. Smigelskaya has formerly held music staff positions at both the Manhattan School of Music and the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston. She began her collegiate education in her native city of St. Petersburg at the Rimsky-Korsakov Music College, subsequently earning solo piano degrees from Sam Houston State University (B.M.) and the University of Houston (M.M.). As a student at the Manhattan School of Music, Smigelskaya completed her second M.M. under the tutelage of Warren Jones.

Rebecca L. Welles

costume design

Rebecca L. Welles '12DGSD has been designing for Yale Opera since 2013, where her credits include *The Rape of Lucretia*, *L'elisir d'amore*, *Florencia en el Amazonas*, *Eugene Onegin*, *The Magic Flute*, *Hansel and Gretel*, 2017–2020 Fall Opera Scenes, *Le pauvre matelot*, *The Bear*, *Don Quichotte*, *La Cenerentola*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Gianni Schicci*, *Riders to the Sea*, *Bon Appétit!*, and *Iolanta*. Welles is also an adjunct professor of performing arts at Eastern Connecticut State University and the costume shop manager at the Mystic Seaport Museum. Other design credits include *The Tempest* and *Comedy of Errors* (Elm Shakespeare); *Million Dollar Quartet* and *Tenderly: The Rosemary Clooney Story* (Ivoryton Playhouse); *La Cenerentola*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *The Trial*, *Magic Flute*, and *La Bohème* (Salt Marsh Opera); *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Aspen Opera Center); *Cavalleria rusticana*, *I Pagliacci*, and *La Bohème* (Opera New Jersey).

Andrew F. Griffin

lighting designer

Andrew F. Griffin returns to Yale Opera, where he was associate lighting designer for *The Rake's Progress*. In New Haven he has designed *The Moors* at the Yale Repertory Theatre (CT Critics Circle Award nomination) as well as numerous productions for the David Geffen School of Drama at Yale, Yale Cabaret, and Yale Summer Cabaret. Regional credits include Skylight Music Theatre, The Huntington, Two River Theater, Folger Theatre, Delaware Theatre Company, Woolly Mammoth, Olney Theatre Center, Theater J, Signature Theatre, Synetic Theater, Riverside Theater, Studio

Theatre, Tri-Cities Opera, UrbanArias, GALA Hispanic Theatre, Imagination Stage, and Everyman Theatre. As an educator and guest artist, Griffin has worked with students at Yale University, Gallaudet University, Connecticut College, and Catholic University. He is a two-time recipient of the Helen Hayes Award for his work on *Henry V* at the Folger Theatre and *King Lear* at Synetic Theater, and a two-time recipient of New Orleans Big Easy award for his design of *Once on this Island* and *A Christmas Carol* at Le Petit Theatre. He is a graduate of the David Geffen School of Drama at Yale.

Ein Kim

projection designer

Ein Kim is a video artist and projection designer deeply fascinated by the dynamic interplay of light, color, and narrative. Hailing from South Korea, she earned her B.F.A. in film from the Korea National University of Arts. Presently, Kim is delving into the realm of visual storytelling and emotional expression within live performance environments at the David Geffen School of Drama at Yale. Her artistic journey is dedicated to unraveling the universal language of visuals, transcending geographical and linguistic boundaries. Recent works include *Measure for Measure* at Iseman Theatre, *Moving Sculpture: Streams* at Schwarzman Center, *You See What You See* art installation at Kondolean Studio, and scenes from *Dialogues des Carmélites* for Yale Opera.

Ethan Burk *tenor*

Hometown: Aurora, IL;
M.M. Curtis Institute of Music;
B.M. Baldwin Wallace Conservatory;
Young Artist Programs: Santa Fe Opera,
Music Academy of the West

Amalia Crevani *soprano*

Hometown: Milford, NJ;
M.M. Yale School of Music;
B.M. DePauw University;
Young Artist Program: Aspen Opera*

Daniel Espinal *tenor*

Hometown: Sarasota, FL;
B.M. Manhattan School of Music;
Young Artist Programs: Merola Opera, Ryan
Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago*

Allison Fahey *mezzo-soprano*

Hometown: Sebastian, FL;
M.M. Yale School of Music;
B.M. Stetson University;
Young Artist Programs: Seagle Festival,
Chautauqua Opera Conservatory, Des
Moines Metro Opera, Lakes Area Music
Festival*, SongFest*

Giorgi Guliashvili *tenor*

Hometown: Tbilisi, Georgia;
M.M. Tbilisi State Conservatory;
Young Artist Programs: Music Academy of
the West, Teatro di San Carlo,
Merola Opera*

Paul Jang *baritone*

Hometown: Seoul, South Korea;
B.M. Hanyang University College of Music;
Young Artist Program: Music Academy of
the West*

SINGER PROFILES

Seiyoung Kim *tenor*

Hometown: Seoul, South Korea;
M.M.A. Yale School of Music;
M.M. New England Conservatory;
B.M. The Juilliard School;
Young Artist Programs: Santa Fe Opera,
Wolf Trap Opera, Houston Grand Opera
Young Artist Vocal Academy, Boston
Lyric Opera, Glimmerglass Opera*,
Volksoper Wien*

Eva Martinez *soprano*

Hometown: Doylestown, PA;
B.M. Manhattan School of Music;
Young Artist Programs: Houston Grand
Opera Young Artist Vocal Academy,
Tanglewood Music Center, Ravinia Steans
Music Institute*

Laura Miah *soprano*

Hometown: San Juan, Puerto Rico;
B.M. Conservatory of Music, Puerto Rico;
Young Artist Programs: Houston Grand
Opera Young Artist Vocal Academy,
Ravinia Steans Music Institute*

Ana Mora *mezzo-soprano*

Hometown: Maracaibo, Venezuela;
M.M. & G.D. New England Conservatory;
B.M. Pontificia Universidad Javeriana;
Young Artist Programs: Santa Fe Opera,
Ravinia Steans Music Institute

Kara Morgan *mezzo-soprano*

Hometown: Andover, MN;
M.M. New England Conservatory;
B.M. Drake University;
Young Artist Programs: Santa Fe Opera,
Sarasota Opera, Merola Opera*,
Minnesota Opera*

Finn Sagal *bass-baritone*

Hometown: La Cañada, CA;
B.M. University of California, Los Angeles;
Young Artist Programs: Aspen Music Festival,
Curtis Summerfest, Merola Opera, Ryan
Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago*

Jaecun Shin *soprano*

Hometown: Seoul, South Korea;
M.M. & G.D. New England Conservatory;
B.M. Korea National University of Arts

Alex Smith *baritone*

Hometown: Kalamazoo, MI;
B.M. Oberlin Conservatory of Music;
Young Artist Programs: SongFest, Oberlin in
Italy, Glimmerglass Festival

Jillian Tate *soprano*

Hometown: Fairfax, VA;
B.M. University of Maryland, College Park;
Young Artist Program: Music Academy of
the West

Justice Yates *bass-baritone*

Hometown: Leesburg, FL;
B.M. Stetson University;
Young Artist Programs: American Institute of
Musical Studies Program in Graz (Austria),
SongFest, Houston Grand Opera Young
Artist Vocal Academy, Merola Opera*

Olivier Zerouali *baritone*

Hometown: Middletown, DE;
B.M. SUNY Purchase;
Young Artist Programs: Berlin Opera
Academy, Houston Grand Opera Young
Artist Vocal Academy, Glimmerglass
Festival, Merola Opera*

* *Upcoming*

Yale Opera Production Staff

PAT DIAMOND
stage director

ERIKA NIEMI
manager

JULIANA MORALES
assistant director

REGINA CARSON
production coordinator

ANDREW GRIFFIN
lighting designer

EMILY SMITH
stage manager

KATHERINE BROWN
master electrician

AMBER GEBERT-GOLDSMITH
assistant stage manager

REBECCA L. WELLES
costume designer

KAREN ROOT
properties designer & manager

LORRY POLIZZI
costume assistant

EIN KIM & KE XU
projection programmers & operators

RAE MAINULI
wardrobe assistant

CURTIS SERAFIN & ALEX SMITH
surttitle operators

Special Thanks

Rich Burkam
Liz Diamond
Mark Dionne
Christopher Melillo

JJ Penna
Adriana Zabala
David Geffen School of Drama at Yale

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