



Shawnette Sulker, Soprano



Aléxa Anderson, Soprano



Lila Khazoum, Soprano



Richard Alexandre Rittelmann, Baritone



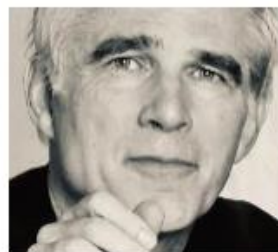
Joe Meyers, Tenor



Claudio Santome, Tenor



Lori Willis, Mezzo-Soprano



Jerry Kuderna, Pianist



Sara Usher, Violinist

# OPERA IN THE AMPHITHEATER

2PM-5PM | SEPTEMBER 9, 2023



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## Thank You To Our Sponsors and Donors



## Sopranos and Mezzo

**Aléxa Anderson**, née Sessler, is a **soprano** with a voice described by Joshua Kosman (San Francisco Chronicle) as a "magical gift," and "glorious," based in the San Francisco Bay Area.

**Lila Khazoum**, hailed as "an artist of impressive talent" with "soaring high notes" (Piedmont Post), Lila Khazoum is an emerging coloratura **soprano** based in the San Francisco Bay Area. In July, 2021 she performed Un Raggio di Speme – A Ray of Hope with pianist Alexander Katsman as part of Festival Opera's Artist Recital Series.

**Shawnette Sulker** has been described as a singer "...displaying a bright, superbly controlled **soprano** with perfectly placed coloratura."

**Lori Willis** made her opera debut in 2006 as Malcolm X's half-sister Ella in the "Life & Times Of Malcolm X" in Oakland Opera. She now participates as a **mezzo-soprano** in San Francisco Opera; following "The Trojans" in June, and she will be performing in "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg" in November.

## Baritone and Tenors

**Richard Alexandre Rittelmann**, **baritone**, belongs to the new promising generation of opera singers, laureate of many international competitions, from Paris, France.

**Joseph Raymond Meyers**, a.k.a. "Joe" is a highly sought after West Coast **tenor** with projects ranging from Verdi to Weill with many other stops along the way.

**Claudio Santome**, **tenor**, born in Mar del Plata, Argentina, specializes in Belcanto repertoire singing from Mozart, Bellini, Donizetti, Verdi, to Puccini.

## Instrumentalists

**Jerry Kuderna**, accomplished **pianist and music director**, performs widely in the Bay Area and is a favorite soloist with the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra (BSO).

**Sara Usher**, **violinist**, is a successful performer, chamber musician and teacher since 1977. She has played with Marin Symphony, SF Ballet, SF Symphony, SF Opera, Philharmonia Baroque and New Century Chamber Orchestras, Concert Master for the Vallejo Symphony, the Santa Cruz Symphony, the Tassajara Symphony, and Principal Second for the SF Chamber and Oakland East Bay Symphonies.

**Adrian Wong**, San Francisco Bay Area leading sound technician.

*Neopolitan Song: "O sole mio" ... E. di Capua & A. Mazzucchi*  
*Il barbiere di Siviglia* ..... Gioachino Rossini  
*Figaro's Aria: "Largo al factotum"* ..... Richard Rittelmann

*La Bohème* ..... Giacomo Puccini  
*Aria: "Che gelida manina"*.. Joseph R Meyers / Rodolfo - a Poet  
*Aria: "Si, mi chiamano mimi"* ..... Aléxa Anderson / Mimi  
*Duet: "O soave fanciulla" (O sweet girl) .. discovering their love*  
*"Quando m'en vo" (Musetta's Waltz)* ..... Lila Khazoum

*Cavalleria Rusticana* ..... Pietro Antonio Stefano Mascagni  
*Aria: "Voi lo sapete"* ..... Lori Willis / Santuzza  
*Duet:.....Santuzza / Aléxa Anderson, Alfio / Richard Rittelmann*

*Carmen* ..... Georges Bizet  
*Toreador Song: "Votre Toast "*.....Richard Rittelmann  
*"La Fleur que tu m'avais jette" (Flower Aria) .. Claudio Santome*

*Pearl Fishers: "Les pêcheurs de perles"* ..... Georges Bizet  
*Duet: "Au fond du temple saint"*  
*(Two friends, Nadir and Zurga, who vow to never let the love of a woman come between the two friends.)*  
..... Richard Rittelmann / Zurga and Joseph R Meyers / Nadir

*Phantom of the Opera*..... Andrew Lloyd Webber  
*Aria: "Music of the night"* ..... Richard Rittelmann / Erik  
*Duet: "All I ask of you".... Richard Rittelmann, Shawnette Sulker*

*Turandot* ..... Giacomo Puccini  
*Aria: "Nessun Dorma"* ..... Joseph R Meyers / Calaf  
*(Let no one sleep. Calaf has a sure-fire strategy to get the cold arted princess to marry him!)*

## INTERMISSION - 20 MINUTES

*La Traviata*..... Giuseppe Verdi  
*Libiamo ne Lieti Calici: The Drinking Song, Act I, The Ball Scene*  
*Lila Khazoum/Violetta Valery, Claudio Santome/Alfredo Germont*  
*(Let's drink!)*

*Rigoletto* ..... Giuseppe Verdi  
*Aria: Caro Nome* ..... Shawnette Sulker / Gilda

*Quartet: "Bella figlia dell'amore"*  
..... Shawnette Sulker / Gilda, Richard Rittelmann / Rigoletto  
... Lori Willis / Maddalena, Joseph R. Meyers / Duke of Mantua

*Das Land des Lächelns (The Land of Smiles)* ..... Franz Lehár  
*(A 1929 romantic operetta)*  
*"Dein ist mein Ganzes Herz"* ..... Richard Rittelmann and Tutti Ellen Khan

PART I

PART II