

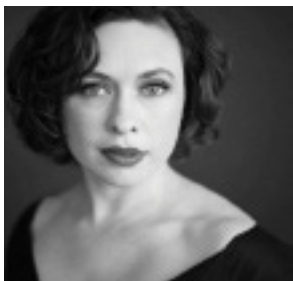


Pianist & Soloists



Anna Khaydarova has served as Viva la Musica's collaborative pianist since 2005. Ms. Khaydarova received her bachelor's degree with honors from Tashkent University, Uzbekistan, and her master's degree from Notre Dame de Namur University, California. She has been a prizewinner in the Bartok-Prokofiev-Kabalevsky International Competition in Redford, Virginia, and in the NDNU Concert Competition, soloing with the Redwood

Symphony. She is music director at Island United Church in Foster City and teaches in San Mateo. Ms. Khaydarova was featured as soloist in Beethoven's Choral Fantasy with Viva la Musica in December 2013.



Teresa Byrne-Foss, coloratura soprano, was seen in 2014 in Lyric Theater San Jose's *Utopia Limited* (Princess Zara), and Indra's Net Theatre's *Delicate Particle Logic* (Lise Meitner) in Berkeley. She has performed lead and title roles for 42nd Street Moon, Willows Theatre, Verismo Opera, West Bay Opera, Berkeley Rep, Cabrillo, and sung with Jarvis Institute, I Fratelli Tenori and the Franzen Studio Concerts (San Jose). She has also performed in Los Angeles, Central Coast, San Diego, Rochester NY, Phoenix

AZ and overseas, in venues from 99-seat black box to the 17,000-seat Hollywood Bowl. Visit TeresaByrne.com and watch YouTube.com/TeresaByrne. This is Ms. Byrne-Foss's third solo appearance with Viva.



Valerie Miller, soprano and actress, has appeared in opera, musical theater, film, concert, the dramatic stage, television, radio and recordings. Miller's lead opera roles include *La Traviata*, *Così Fan Tutte*, *Don Carlo*, and *Amahl And The Night Visitors*. Miller won 3 Best Actress Awards from Woodminster Amphitheatre for starring roles in *Evita*, *The Sound of Music*, and *The Music Man*. Her solo soprano performances include: San Francisco Symphony, Bellflower Symphony, Golden West

Opera, NAC/USA concert Art Songs. Recordings: *Album Valerie*, aria for Tom Cruise's *All The Right Moves*, radio single *Angels*. Miller teaches voice and acting. NACUSA, AGMA, Actors Equity, SAG/AFTRA. See: valeriejmiller.com.



Michael Mendelsohn, a character tenor, has performed with Opera San Jose, Festival Opera, and Opera Idaho. Recent roles include Spinellochio in *Gianni Schicchi*, Blint in *Die Fledermaus*, the Tanzmeister in *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Goro in *Madama Butterfly*, Monsieur Triquet in *Eugene Onegin*, Arturo and Nomanno in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Sellem in *The Rake's Progress* and Spoletta in *Tosca*. Mr. Mendelsohn's solo oratorio repertoire includes Monteverdi *Vespers*, Mozart

Requiem, Mendelssohn *Elijah*, Rossini *Petite Messe Solonelle*, Beethoven *Mass in C Major*, Bach *Magnificat*, Haydn *Creation*, Nelson-Messe and *Harmoniemesse* and, with the San Francisco Symphony Chorus, Carl Orff *Carmina Burana* and Respighi *Laud to the Nativity*. Mr. Mendelsohn is heard as Edison the Lightning Bug and The Father in the Frog Family and on the Leap into Learning Series. This is Mr. Mendelsohn's second Viva solo appearance.



José Mendiola, bass baritone, is a San Jose State University vocal student, and a member of Opera San Jose. He is currently appearing in the chorus for Rossini's *Italian Girl In Algiers*, now playing at the California Theater. Mr. Mendiola also sings with Men Harmonics, The Chamber Singers of San Jose State, and The Symphony Silicon Valley Singers. A voice and brass teacher through the San Jose Youth Symphony, Mr. Mendiola will shortly open a studio for voice

instruction in Los Gatos. This is his second solo appearance with Viva.



Choristers

Jennie Brown—I sang in school choir in England; also madrigal choir, Gilbert and Sullivan chorus, symphony chorus, and church and community choruses. A founding Vivan, I love the camaraderie.

Terri Cook—Who knew that my first song as a child, “How Dry I Am” would lead to a love of choral music?

Jerica Crisostomo—Viva la Musica, my first choir, has been a wonderful experience. I am a student at the College of San Mateo, studying Electronic Music and Audio Production.

Evelyn Eaton—Like a great artist who lets inspiration shape his creation, so, every season, Viva sculpts a musical masterpiece by our shared dedication. I am a founding Vivan.

Roxanne Fornells—I started singing before I was born: My mother was an opera singer and my godfather sang for the Metropolitan Opera. I was recently Roz in Redwood City Community Theater production of *9 to 5 the Musical*. Happy to be a part of Viva!

Elliot Franks—I sing, a lot, in many different places, venues and registers! Other than that, I spend time with my 17 year-old cat, Pizzicato.

Julio Garcia—I enjoy opera: Placido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti are my favorites. I studied music at San Mateo College and San Francisco Conservatory of Music. I also have a passion for wine and food.

Jane Gould-Caulfield—A retired speech and language pathologist, I love to sing. At age three, I stood up at a wedding and sang “Little Brown Jug”! Alas, that was my only solo, but Viva has rekindled my singing joy.

Gordon Holcombe—I appreciate the moments of transcendence I experience singing with Viva and being part of this blend of voices.

Amey Jervis—Viva is an amazing source of renewal and learning, as well as an eternal challenge. A founding Vivan, I have been singing with Shulamit for 15 years.

Jean Kan—Listening to Viva lifts the spirits; singing with Viva is soul-enriching.

Sergei Katukhov—I came from Russia to the U.S. just to sing in Viva la Musica! This is my second season. I hope you enjoy our performance!



Barbara Kelsey—By day my passion is saving the planet with the Sierra Club. In my free time my passion is making beautiful music with Viva. I'm a founding Vivan and singing energizes me!

Elena Kozak—Music is a thing of the spirit. I joined Viva with my son Robert and we feel privileged to be part of the choir. When not singing, we like to hike together. I am a medical interpreter into Spanish.

Robert Kozak—I love singing and the “dynamics” of rehearsal. Music is good for the mind and develops my capacity to multitask.

Odette Ledesma—I'm a founding Vivan. Singing concerts with Viva gives me a lift. I am also a plant care-giver, especially of orchids.

Sara McNinch—I'm a busy wife and mother of three and a teacher of 20+ kindergarteners. Singing with Viva keeps my brain working and makes my spirit soar.

Carol Meyer—Barbra Streisand and European travel are two of my favorite things. Three ensembles, Viva and two church choirs, keep me on my singing toes!

Kyle Miller—A senior at the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts, I am double majoring in classical music and musical theatre. I love to play Frisbee, sing barbershop, cook creme brûlée, and sing with Viva.

Pamela Nissley—I am a bookkeeper by trade with a degree in French who has studied voice and theater since second grade.

Forrest Nolan—A senior at the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts, I am glad to be a singing with Viva la Musica for my second season!

Dave Peters—I've been indulging in choral singing since high school, with occasional diversions into barbershop and operatic chorus. As a semi-new Vivan, I'm grateful for the generous reception.

Robyn Peters—I grew up in a musical family, but I didn't start singing in choirs until college. For 15 years, I taught music to babies at the public library; now I accompany middle school choruses.

Matthew Reeve—Occasionally, I emerge from the fifth dimension to fight Evil... and to sing with Viva!

Lisa Reiche—A founding Vivan, I've been in Viva since my oldest child, now old enough to drive ME to rehearsals, was still in diapers! My little guy is waiting for the day when Viva performs the *Star Wars* theme!



Howard Roberts—I come from a musical family, but veered off into technology after college. I'm very glad to have discovered Viva, and to have been given the opportunity to "join the chorus."

Rebecca Snedigar—Music is one of my greatest joys. Viva and MoGlo, my church choir, and teaching piano make my heart sing. There's also the grandkids and hiking in beautiful places, preferably near falling water.

Lynda Silva—My musical talent is a gift that can bring others enjoyment and spiritual growth. When I focus on my Creator, my performing in choruses, small groups and as a soloist is a great fulfillment.

Shawna Spiteri—Singing with Viva is a tremendous pleasure. I also sing with and direct Bella Donna Historic Performers, carol with The Mistletoe Singers, and am a third of the Triskela Harp Trio.

Catherine Tse—I love singing, playing cello, and cats. I sang in University Chorus at UCLA. Currently a music student at College of San Mateo studying vocal performance, I am proud to be a Vivan!

Pat Velarde—What the corporate world sucks out of me, singing with Viva restores! I love Viva la Musica and our director, Shulamit.

Ian Ward—Many years ago my musical journey began as a boy soprano and I have worked my way down, in pitch, to baritone. Viva is the perfect vehicle to carry me forward on that journey.

Tom Weaver—As a physicist and a yogi, I enjoy doing research, playing with my grandkids, and hiking in the mountains. There is something about singing that points beyond what I think I know!

Alex Wilkas—In my day job, I am a realtor in partnership with my wife Lenore. I enjoy cooking, wine tasting and singing when not practicing Real Estate.

Lenore Wilkas—They say music touches the soul—that's why I sing and why I love Viva! By day, I'm a realtor in partnership with my husband; by night I'm a mom of 3, grammy of 2, and singing the praises of Viva!

Janet Wilson—Singing with Viva nourishes my soul. At zero calories and no trans fat, it's a pretty good deal!

Joyce Wright—If you like to sing, learn, and laugh, join Viva! I can't wait to get to rehearsal every week to express myself in glorious music with people who are supportive, funny, and talented. Ten years a Vivan!



Orchestra Members

Thomas Alexander—Bachelors in music from UCSD and Masters in Computer Science from USF. Has played as concertmaster for community orchestras throughout the Bay Area for over 13 years. Founded “impromptuSF” in 2012. 2011 Viva Prague/Dresden tour.

Lucinda Breed Lenicheck—Principal cello, Opera San Jose, Lucinda teaches cello and chamber music in Palo Alto studio. BA and MA, Stanford University. Formerly taught at Mills College, Stanford University, Santa Clara University, San Jose State University, and Notre Dame de Namur University.

Debbie Busch—Oboe, oboe d’amour and English horn with Ensemble Monterey Chamber Orchestra and Monterey Pops Orchestra, Debbie studied oboe with Philadelphia Orchestra English hornist Lou Rosenblatt and attended Lawrence University, Wisconsin. With a Ph.D. in applied linguistics Ms. Busch works in the language policy office of the California Department of Education.

Pierre Dazin—Graduate of the New England Conservatory, Pierre is active in the Bay Area, freelance performing and teaching.

David Dufour—David is a Software Engineer at Dreamworks Animation by day and an avid musician by night. He is co-principal horn in the Redwood Symphony and Peninsula Symphony. In his spare time, he enjoys photography and woodworking.

Marie Elaine Laskin—Introduced to the bass by her mother, also a classical bassist, Marie has a Bachelor of Music from Juilliard and a Master of Music from Yale. Performs with Symphony Silicon Valley, Opera San Jose, San Francisco Opera, Fremont Symphony, and Santa Cruz County Symphony where she was Principal Bass, and with Viva.

Peter Lemberg—Principal oboist in the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra, Merola Opera Orchestra, West Bay Opera and Ensemble Monterey Chamber Orchestra. Peter also plays as an extra with the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and with ensembles in the San Francisco and Monterey Bay areas, including many seasons with Viva.

Rob Lenicheck—Trumpet, is a founding member of the Oxford Street Brass and has played with many Bay Area professional groups. Rob studied with William Adam at Indiana University and with Frederick Mills and Ronald Romm of the Canadian Brass.



Cathie Lowmiller—Violist, with a Master's degree in music performance, she teaches violin and viola at Veksler Academy of Music and Dance. When not performing with Maestra Hoffmann (one of her favorite people) she is concertmaster of San Jose's Lyric Theater orchestra and a member of Fiume di Musica and the California Pops. 2011 Viva Prague/Dresden tour.

Janet Lynch—Teacher in Palo Alto Unified School District. Principal violist with Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, Kansas City Philharmonic, Chamber Orchestra of New England, West Bay Opera, Petter Britt and Bear Valley Music Festivals, and violist with the San Antonio, Seattle, and Cincinnati Symphonies. Has performed at Aspen, Blossom, Music Academy of the West, and Banff Summer Festivals. Participated on a panel at the 2014 William Primrose International Viola Competition. Ten years with Viva la Musica.

Be'eri Moalem—Violist, violinist, writer, teacher and composer. Originally from Israel, he now lives in Palo Alto. 2011 Viva Prague/Dresden tour. Visit his website: beer.org.

Charles Moehnke—Bassoon, performs with the Avenue Winds, a woodwind quintet, and has performed with the orchestras of Marin, Berkeley, Santa Cruz, Vallejo, Napa Valley and Symphony Silicon Valley. An M.M. Degree from the San Francisco Conservatory and B.M. Degree with distinction from Indiana University.

Rachel Magnus Hartman—Violinist and violist, San Jose Symphony, Symphony Silicon Valley, Santa Cruz Symphony, California Pops Orchestra, Viva la Musica and Ensemble Monterey. Rachel has appeared with the Moody Blues, Henry Mancini, Kenny G, Smokey Robinson, Moein and Pavarotti. Software day job at Adobe Systems and enjoys dressage with horses. 2011 Viva Prague/Dresden tour.

Anthony Raffanti—Percussionist, studying music education at College of San Mateo and University of San Francisco. Anthony is involved with the music programs at his alum, Mills High, and Capuchino High. He thanks one of his favorite professors, Shulamit Hoffman, for the opportunity to perform with Viva.

Ginger Rombach-Adams—A graduate of Stanford University with a B.A. in Music, Ginger studied flute with Frances Blaisdell. She was a member of the Fremont Symphony. Ginger enjoys performing solo recitals with pianist Steve Lightburn. She lives with her husband and son in Mountain View, and is an avid cook and gardener.



Virginia Smedberg—Master of Music (Manhattan School of Music). Formerly Associate Concertmaster of the San Jose Symphony and Midsummer Mozart, and member of Sinfonia San Francisco and San Jose Chamber Orchestra. Currently with Opera San Jose, West Bay Opera, Viva, and other groups. Teaches violin and viola in Palo Alto studio. 2011 Viva Prague/Dresden tour.

Karen Sremac—Principal clarinetist of Santa Cruz Symphony since 1990. Also San Francisco Ballet and Opera, San Jose Symphony, Symphony Silicon Valley, San Jose Ballet, Carmel Bach Festival, Midsummer Mozart, Heidelberg Germany Festival and West Bay Opera. Has performed under the batons of Michael Tilson Thomas, Leonard Bernstein, Eric Leindsdorf, and Herbert Bloomstedt. Karen teaches in Palo Alto, beginning through advanced students.

Michael Veizades—A music major at College of San Mateo, Michael has been a percussionist for ten years. He hopes to transfer to a four year school and get a music degree with an emphasis in music education. He has attended many Viva performances (his aunt is a Vivan) and he is pleased to be performing with Viva for the first time.

Ken Walter—Studied trumpet with Robert Nagel at Yale University and Mark Gould of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. A past member of the San Jose Symphony and Opera San Jose, Ken presently performs with the Ohlone Wind Orchestra, the Mission Peak Brass Band, and the Oxford Street Brass.

Lisa Zadek—An active violinist in the Bay Area, Lisa performs regularly with the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra and many choral groups including Viva la Musica. 2011 Viva Prague/Dresden tour. Lisa's day job is working at the San Francisco Symphony. She plays on an 1879 French violin made by Gand and Bernadel.

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