



Viva la Musica! Choir



SOPRANO I

SARA MCNINCH
JULIA ORAZEM
LYNDA SILVA
PAT VELARDE
LENORE WILKAS
ANGELIQUE ZULUAGA

SOPRANO II

JENNIFER ASHWORTH
EVELYN EATON
ROCHELLE GOLDMAN
AMY JERVIS
ODETTE LEDESMA
PAMELA NISSLEY
SHAWNA SPITERI

ALTO I

ELLIOT FRANKS
BARBARA GEHRELS
JEAN KAN
JANE LINTOTT
CAROL MEYER
LISA REICHE
CATHERINE TSE

ALTO II

JENNIE BROWN
JERICA CRISTOSTOMO
BETSY DALY-CAFFELL
SONIA GARIAEFF
JANE GOOLD-CAULFIELD
ROBYN PETERS
BECKY SNEDIGAR
JANET WILSON
JOYCE WRIGHT

TENOR I

GORDON HOLCOMBE
DAVE LINTOTT
FORREST NOLAN
MICHAEL MENDELSON
DAVID SILBER

TENOR II

WILL BETTS
TIM GETZ
KARL STANCZAK

BASS I

MIKE DRINNAN
SERGEI KATUKHOV
KYLE MILLER
MATTHEW REEVE
HOWARD ROBERTS
IAN WARD

BASS II

JOSE MENDIOLA
DAVE PETERS
TOM WEAVER
ALEX WILKAS



Viva la Musica! Orchestra

VIOLIN I

VIRGINIA SMEDBERG, CONCERTMASTER
RACHEL MAGNUS HARTMAN
SEBASTIAN VERA
PIERRE DAZIN

VIOLIN II

ANDREI BOSTAN, PRINCIPAL
LISA ZADEK
HÉLÈNE WICKETT

VIOLA

JANET LYNCH-GILLESPIE
CASEY MULLIN

CELLO

LUCINDA BREED LENICHECK
JENNIFER MATHERS

DOUBLE BASS

MARIE ELAINE LASKIN

FLUTE

GINGER ROMBACH ADAMS

OBOE

PETER LEMBERG

FRENCH HORN

DAVID DUFOUR

ORGAN

ANGELA KRAFT CROSS

HARP

ANNA MARIA MENDIETA

PERCUSSION

CHRISTIAN FOSTER HOWES

KEYBOARD

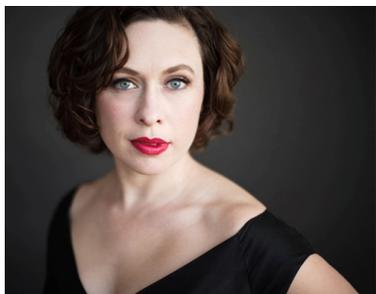
ANNA KHAYDAROVA

PIANO

ANNA KHAYDAROVA



Soloists



Teresa Byrne-Foss, coloratura soprano, is based in Northern-California and has been seen recently around the Bay Area in *Zorba* (The Widow) and *Little Me* (Older Belle) at SF's 42nd Street Moon, and in the title roles of Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Bellini's *Norma* and Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* for Verismo Opera in Berkeley and Vallejo, CA. Numerous stage

and concert appearances include Berkeley Rep, Reprise Los Angeles, Hollywood Bowl, Willows Theatre, Lambs Players, GeVa Theatre, West Bay Opera, Napa's Jarvis Institute, I Fratelli Tenori and the Ensemble di Teatro Massimo di Palermo. As a professional actor, her films have screened at festivals across the U.S. and internationally. Awards: Best Actress, Eerie Film Festival (Mira, "Bottles"). Nominations: Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle (Oh, Kay! (Kay), 42nd Street Moon), AriZoni (The Light in the Piazza (Franca), Phoenix Theatre) and BackstageWest Garland (Phantom (Christine Daae), Fullerton Civic Light Opera). Member of AEA, SAG/AFTRA and AGMA. Visit TeresaByrne.com and watch YouTube.com/TeresaByrne.



Michael Mendelsohn, a character tenor in the San Francisco Bay Area, has performed with Opera San Jose, Festival Opera, Opera Idaho and many other companies. Recent roles include Spinellocchio 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 include performances of Monteverdi's *Vespers*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Mendelsohn's *Elijah*, Rossini's *Petite Messe*

Solonelle, Beethoven's *Mass in C Major*, Bach's *Magnificat*, Haydn's *Creation*, *Nelson-Messe* and *Missa Solemnis in B Flat* ("*Harmoniemesse*") and, with the San Francisco Symphony & Chorus, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, and Respighi's *Laud to the Nativity*.



Anna Khaydarova, pianist, has served as Viva la Musica's accompanist 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. She teaches

in San Mateo. Viva la Musica was delighted to feature Ms. Khaydarova as soloist in Beethoven's Choral Fantasy in the December 2013 program.



Janet Lynch, violist, teacher in the Palo Alto Unified School District, and seasoned performer in Bay Area orchestras, including ten years with Viva la Musica! Ms. Lynch will participate with Don McInnes (recently retired USC viola professor) and Ethan Filner (Cypress Quartet), as part of a three person panel at the next William Primrose International

Viola Competition at the Colburn School in June. Her topic is about the benefits of teaching in the public schools while maintaining a professional viola career.

Ms. Lynch has performed as principal violist with the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, Kansas City Philharmonic, Chamber Orchestra of New England, West Bay Opera, Petter Britt and Bear Valley Music Festivals, and as violist with the San Antonio, Seattle, and Cincinnati Symphonies. She has served on the Music Faculty of the Banff School and has performed at Aspen, Blossom, Music Academy of the West, and Banff Summer Festivals.



Choir

Jennifer Ashworth—I have been singing in the Bay Area ever since I came to attend UC Berkeley in 1992. I've performed with choral, orchestral and opera companies. I co-founded Presto! Interactive Opera in 2009, and I've been the director of the MAD Band, an elementary-school instrumental program since 1998.

William Betts—With a bachelor's degree in Music Management (University of the Pacific), I sing with San Francisco Renaissance Voices, Pacific Boychoir Academy, and Viva la Musica, and I play trombone, euphonium, and tuba.

Jennie Brown—In England, I sang with a school choir, a madrigal choir, and a Gilbert and Sullivan chorus; in Tennessee, with a symphony chorus; and in California with church and community choruses. A founding member of Viva, I love the challenge of learning in different musical genres and the camaraderie of making music with dedicated and talented people.

Jerica Crisostomo—I am currently a student at the College of San Mateo, studying Electronic Music and Audio Production. Viva la Musica! has been a wonderful new experience, the first choir I have ever been a part of. Music will always be my biggest passion that I hope to share with others.

Betsy Daly-Caffell—As girls, my sister and I wanted to be singers on the stage... but we knew only the two words to the song *Sunrise, Sunset*. We didn't become professionals, but choir became next best thing! I have been singing with Schola Seraphica for the last four years and I'm new this season to Viva. I love to sing!

Mike Drinnan—I have had a lifelong love of music and am happy to be a part of the Viva family. I have been singing with Viva for three years.

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

Elliot Franks—I sing, a lot, in many different places, venues and registers! Other than that, I spend time with my 16 year-old cats, Pizzicato and Magnificat.



Sonia Gariaeff—I received my MM from San Francisco Conservatory in 2000. I was a three-time Metropolitan Opera Regional finalist and I perform as a soloist and chorister throughout the United States. My next opera performance will be the role of Ottone in Pocket Opera's production of *Agrippina* by Handel.

Barbara (Babz) Gehrels—Singing with Viva la Musica brings a necessary fulfillment to my music loving life.

Tim Getz—I am Director of Music and Organist at Grace Lutheran Church in Palo Alto. I enjoy keeping my singing chops in shape by singing with Viva whenever I can!

Rochelle Goldman—I've been a choral singer most of my adult life, having sung in community, church and synagogue, opera and symphony choruses as an unpaid and as a professional chorister. Viva is a new adventure for me and it is my pleasure to sing with this dedicated conductor, accompanist and group of singers.

Jane Goid-Caulfield—I am a retired speech and language pathologist who has always loved to sing. Participating in Viva has rekindled that joy for me. Family lore has it that I stood up at a wedding and sang "Little Brown Jug" when I was only three! Alas, that was my last (and only) solo...

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

Amy Jervis—I find Viva an amazing source of renewal and learning, as well as an eternal challenge. I have been singing with Shulamit for 15 years.

Jean Kan—Listening to the Vivans is a spirit-uplifting event; singing with the Vivans is a soul-immersing experience. I love it.

Sergei Katukhov—I came from Russia to the U.S. just to sing in a choir called "Viva la Musica!" I hope you enjoy it as much as I do!

Dave Lintott—I began on stage at the age of 12 with the Sea Scouts on the Isle of Wight, and a performance in the Albert Hall, London before coming to the United States! As a founding Vivan I have enjoyed 13 years of singing and traveling with Viva to Vermont, Salzburg and Vienna.



Jane Lintott—I played a Dutch wife in a 4th-grade show, then went on to Gilbert & Sullivan chorus parts as a sister, cousin or aunt, a gypsy, and a Japanese school girl! I am a founding member of Viva and a steadfast alto.

Odetta Ledesma—I'm a founding member of Viva. Being able to sing in concerts with this group gives me the lift I need. I am also a plant care-giver, especially of orchids.

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

Michael Mendelsohn—I came to the Bay Area in 1991. I look forward to the next 23 years.

Carol Meyer—Streisand and European travel are two of my favorite things. Singing in three groups keeps me young!

José Mendiola—A San Jose State University alumnus, I am currently appearing in Opera San Jose's production of *Don Giovanni*. I teach voice and brass through the San Jose Youth Symphony program, Music Matters, and am about to embark on the SJSU Choraliers 2014 European Tour. I appeared as soloist with Viva la Musica in December 2013.

Kyle Miller—An 11th grader attending the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts, I am double-majoring in both classical and musical theatre voice. In my free time, I love to play frisbee and cook creme brûlée.

Pamela Nissley—Much like good wine, singing with Viva is the blending of many flavors to create a feast for one's auditory palate.

Forrest Nolan—A junior at the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts, this is my first time singing with Viva la Musica! I am glad to be a part of the group!

Julia Orazem—Singer/pianist/director/instructor. Vocal Performance major Northwestern U and BM (NDNU). I met my husband in a theatrical production and all three of our sons were very nearly born in a theater as well! Thank you to my fellow Vivans for all their support and for the music-making we do together.



Dave Peters—I've been indulging in choral singing since high school, with occasional diversions into barbershop and operatic chorus. As a 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, and now I accompany middle school choruses.

Matthew Reeve—Occasionally, I emerge from the 5th dimension to fight Evil... and to sing with Viva!

Lisa Reiche—A founding member of Viva, I've been singing in Viva since my oldest child was still in diapers! Now she is old enough to drive ME to rehearsals. And my little guy is waiting for the day when Viva performs the theme from *Star Wars*!

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.' I do wonder how many other Vivans were asked to set up risers as part of their audition?

David Silber—I've sung with Viva every year since 2002 and loved every minute of it! Unfortunately, we are moving out of the immediate area so this will have to be my last season. But I look forward to being back in the audience at future concerts! Viva la Musica!

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

Lynda Silva—When I finally came to understand that my musical talent is a gift that needs to be given back by bringing others enjoyment and spiritual growth, it became easier to perform in choruses, small groups and as a soloist—as long as I continue to focus on my Creator!

Shawna Spiteri—Singing with Viva is a tremendous pleasure indeed. I also sing with and help direct an Italian renaissance troupe, Bella Donna Historic Performers, carol with The Mistletoe Singers, and am one third of the Triskela Harp Trio. Who needs sleep when there is sweet music to be made?



Karl Stanczak—I’ve sung the star Spangled Banner to 40,00 fans at AT&T Park, “kicking off” the San Francisco Opera at the Ballpark Simulcast. Singing with Viva is just as much of a “kick.”

Catherine Tse—I love singing, cello playing, and cats. I sang at 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 so much! By day, I’m a realtor in partnership with my husband; by night I’m a mom of 3, grammy of 2, and singing praises of Viva!

Janet Wilson—I’m a little Water Mittyish on the whole, but, when I sing with Viva, my entire being is there: no other thoughts, no mind wandering. It enriches my soul, and I am thankful to have Viva in my life.

Joyce Wright—If you like to sing, learn, and laugh, join Viva! Every week I can’t wait to get to rehearsal because I get to express myself in glorious music with wonderful people who are supportive, funny, and talented. I’ve been with Viva for ten years now, and it just keeps getting better!

Angelique Zuluaga—I have performed opera, oratorio, early and contemporary music throughout the U.S. and South America. I hold a *Licenciatura En Musica* from the Universidad del Valle (Cali, Colombia) and two M.M.s in early music and voice from Indiana University Bloomington.



Orchestra

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

Andrei Bostan—Diploma in Violin Performance and Pedagogy (George Dima Conservatory of Music, Romania). Viva la Musica, Monterey County Symphony, Santa Cruz Symphony, West Bay Opera, Oregon Music Festival, Monterey Bay Orchestra, Teatro Zinzanni and the State Opera in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. 2011 Viva Prague/Dresden tour.

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

David Dufour—Co-principle horn of the Redwood Symphony and Peninsula Symphony, David also plays in the pit for occasional community theater shows. A Quality Assurance Engineer at Dreamworks Animation by day and an avid musician by night, David also enjoys astronomy, photography, woodworking and model trains.

Angela Kraft Cross—Organist, pianist and composer. Bachelor's degrees in Physics and Organ Performance (Oberlin College and Conservatory of Music); Doctor of Medicine (Loma Linda University), residency was in ophthalmology. Master of Music degree in Piano Performance (NDNU). Over four hundred piano or organ concerts across the United States and in Canada, England, Holland, France, and Hungary. Has released seven CDs on organ and piano, of which three have received critical acclaim in *The American Organist* magazine. Featured recitalist in the 2011 Region IX AGO Convention in San Francisco. Staff organist at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco and has served as organist of the Congregational Church of San Mateo since 1993 and currently their Artist in Residence. Retired after 22 years as an ophthalmic surgeon at Kaiser Permanente and now practices with Peninsula Ophthalmology Group.

Christian Foster Howes—Christian has degrees in percussion performance and computer engineering. He works by day to make singing stars with the StarMakerKaraoke app. After helping millions of users sing their hearts out, Christian goes and plays his heart out on the percussion toys!



Marie Elaine Laskin—Bachelor of Music (Juilliard) and Master of Music (Yale). Symphony Silicon Valley, Opera San Jose, San Francisco Opera, Fremont Symphony and Santa Cruz County Symphony (Principal). Marie is in the Master of Science in Accountancy program at San Jose State.

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 a extra with the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and with many ensembles in the San Francisco and Monterey Bay areas.

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.

Jennifer Mathers—Masters in Environmental Management (Yale). Studied environmental sciences and music at Northwestern University. Performs with Bay Area orchestras. A member of the Subito Quartet, for weddings and special events. www.bayareastrings.com.

Anna Maria Mendieta—Harpist and creator of Tango del Cielo (Tango of Heaven), Ms. Mendieta enjoys a busy career as a soloist, orchestral musician, and recording artist. Principal harpist with the Sacramento Philharmonic and has played with orchestras and chamber music groups across the country. Recognized internationally as a pioneer in performing Argentine tango music on the harp, and praised by the American Symphony Orchestra League as an “exceptional and charismatic soloist.” Has performed with celebrities, including Barry Manilow, who calls her his “favorite harpist.” National touring concert-show “Tango del Cielo,” the subject of a documentary film, features music, art, film, tango and flamenco dance. When she’s not pulling strings, Ms Mendieta is out on the dance floor as a part of the show! Albums at www.AnnaMariaMendieta.com.

Casey Mullin—Holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Western Washington University. Casey currently performs with the Peninsula Symphony and Mission Chamber Orchestra of San Jose. Equally active as a pianist, Casey is a founding member of the Grace Note Chamber Players.



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—Bachelor and 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, and Manzanita Piano Quartet. 2011 Viva Prague/Dresden tour.

Sebastian Vera—Violinist, composer, associate organist at the Cathedral of the Annunciation and a Diplomate instructor of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, London.

Hélène Wickett—An extensive career as piano soloist with major orchestras and in solo recital throughout Europe and the Americas, from Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center to live broadcasts for the BBC in London. A string midlife crisis has led to a delightful closet career as a freelance violinist and violist thanks to patient childhood instruction from Stuart Canin, Jacob Krachmalnick and Henryk Szeryng. She also teaches piano, violin and viola, works as a vocal/choral accompanist, diction coach, assists opera productions from the keyboard and as supertitle operator and is a frequent competition adjudicator.

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