



New England  
Conservatory

# Concert Program

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# Welcome to NEC!

I am thrilled to share New England Conservatory's 2023-24 concert season—a celebration of the power of music to connect and inspire one another.

Whether you are seated in one of our concert halls or watching online, we hope you are uplifted by the performances of our students, faculty, and guest artists.

Above all, we thank you for your support of our students as they cultivate their artistry and contribute to the world through music.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Kalyn".

Andrea Kalyn  
President

New England Conservatory  
Opera Studies Department  
*presents*

# *La Calisto*

by

Francesco Cavalli

Libretto by Giovanni Faustini

Conductor	Robert Tweten
Stage Director	Brenna Corner
Scenic Designer	James Rotondo
Lighting Designer	Jeff Adelberg
Costume Designer	Gail Buckley
Projection Designer	Seághan McKay
Props Designer	Julia Wonkka
Stage Manager	Em Bonnici
Assistant Stage Manager	Lidia Pina
Music Preparation	Ji Yung Lee
	Brian Moll
	Sujin Choi

*There will be an intermission of fifteen minutes between Act I and Act II.*

Thursday-Saturday, November 16-18, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 19, 2023 at 3:00 p.m..

Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre

## CAST

### *Thursday, Saturday*

Ruoxi Peng  
Shiyu Zhuo  
Alexandra Wiebe  
Megan Hull  
Alesandra Collins  
Olivia Sheehy  
Hyungjin Son  
Minsun Im  
Anneke Stern  
Olga Melendez Valdes  
Dongyang Li  
Zhengying Yan  
Jie Lee

DIANA  
CALISTO  
GIUNONE  
LINFEA  
ENDIMIONE  
SATIRINO  
GIOVE  
MERCURIO  
NATURA  
ETERNITA  
DESTINO  
FURY 1  
FURY 2

### *Friday, Sunday*

Yeonjae Cho  
Mara Riley  
Xijin Chen  
Sara Cox  
Hua Chien Harper Yin  
Margaret Stone  
Hengzuo Yan  
Dong Eun Yoon  
Maklyn Baley  
Zhengyin Yan  
Jie Lee  
Olga Melendez Valdes  
Dongyang Li

## NEC Philharmonia

Robert Tweten, conductor

*Violin 1* Darwin Chang, Thompson Wang  
*Violin 2* Martin Liao, Shiyu Wang  
*Cello* Jonathan Fuller, continuo; Sophia Knappe

*Harpsichord* Sujin Choi (Thursday/Saturday)  
Ji Yung Lee (Friday/Sunday)  
*Theorbo* Douglas Freundlich

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

High school is a hard time for so many people. Not only do we grow and mature, we are also learning how to get along with others in society. It can be a world of extremes, just as the world of the Greek gods is. We instantly recognize the pressures and situations that high school can put us in. For this reason, we have set this production in a high school, allowing the archetypes associated with the Greek gods to find their homes in the athletic stars, class presidents, and social media-fed drama of any high school. This production will explore these ancient myths through the experiences of a modern teenager.

The stories of the Greek gods and mythological heroes have a vital place in the

history of opera. Over the centuries, our understanding and connection to these stories have changed, of course. Stories of Diana and Apollo are less familiar to many of us than the exploits of the Kardashians are. However, what has not changed is human nature, including the ways we treat, and mistreat, one another. We continue to perform these stories of gods and heroes because of their universal themes, brought to life with beautiful music.

At its core, *La Calisto* is a story of betrayal, ego, and the willingness to misrepresent oneself in order to abuse another. Such experiences are not restricted to the ancient past but are still very much present in our everyday lives. To this end, the emotional relevance of this story is highlighted and juxtaposed against the stunning music of Cavalli.

## SYNOPSIS

### Act I

In a high school (home of the Bears), teachers, guidance counsellor, and the principal prepare for school assembly to remember a student who has recently passed away, the freshman Calisto. The students enter still reeling from the traumatic news.

As the scene shifts we return to three weeks earlier. The quarterback Giove and his right-hand man Mercurio rule the school and celebrate their destruction of the other team at the football game last night when Calisto, a new freshman transfer student, arrives. She is also a passionate environmentalist and secretly in love with Diana, Giove's cousin and student president hopeful. Giove is instantly taken with her and tries to pick her up with Mercurio's help. However, Giove and Calisto's brother had history, so she is not interested in him. Insulted by her refusal, Giove recruits Mercurio to help get her. Mercurio decides they should steal Diana's phone and use it to trick Calisto into falling for Giove.

Meanwhile Endimione, the school poet, writes poems about his secret love for Diana, while she and her bestie Linfea campaign for her upcoming election. Unbeknownst to him, Diana is also secretly in love with him but can't possibly be with him as it would be bad for her campaign. Endimione tries to speak to her but is scared away by Linfea. As everyone leaves for class, Linfea admits her secret desire to find a boyfriend for herself. Satirino, another student, overhears Linfea's secret, and offers himself as a lover. He is too much of a loser for her, and she rejects him.

Later on, equipped with Diana's stolen phone, Giove texts Calisto. Disguised as Diana, Giove uses the technology to convince Calisto to meet him. Calisto is thrilled and runs to find Diana. When she confesses her love to Diana, and tells her how special their love is, Diana is confused and appalled. Calisto calls Diana a liar, claiming she doesn't love anyone, and runs off.

A tired Endimione decides to sleep between classes. At the same time, Calisto receives a text from Diana (actually Giove), asking her to meet him. Diana then enters and finds Endimione asleep and, overcome by her love for him, accidentally wakes him up. As he awakens to Diana's face, he uncovers her hidden love. They agree that, while they can't be together at the moment, their love is real. Satirino, incensed by the rejection of Linfea, targets her and decides to take what he wants. At the same moment, Calisto arrives to meet Diana, only to realize it is a trick played by Giove, who has something very specific in mind.

## Act II

A few days later Calisto, covered in bruises from the assault, is still at school. Giunone, Giove's girlfriend and headgirl at the local girl's school, has arrived. She has heard that Giove has been unfaithful and has come to uncover which girl led him astray. The broken and traumatized Calisto is struggling to continue functioning after what has happened her. Giunone pretends to get close to her to uncover what exactly is going on. Calisto, realizing who she is, decides she must find out the truth of the assault and tells Giunone about Diana.

Giove arrives with Mercurio, re-telling him about the great time he had with Calisto. He then uses Diana's phone to try to lure Calisto to him again. However, Giunone is there and reads all of his messages over Calisto's shoulder, discovering his deceit and Calisto's participation. Calisto runs off to meet Diana, while Giunone texts Diana to try and uncover what is happening, and realizes that Giove is using Diana's phone. She leaves, planning her revenge. Shortly after that, Endimione sends a text to Diana, which Giove receives on Diana's phone, telling her how much he loves her.

Full of jealous rage, Giunone and her girls track down Calisto. They call her names and accuse her of causing Giove's infidelity. They bully her, degrade her, and hold her down as they force her into the team mascot. Left alone, Giunone reflects on a world where men can behave so badly yet girls are punished. Sickened by the world she is a part of, she returns home.

Later on, Diana decides to commit to Endimione, despite his lower status at the school, and they confess their love for each other in front of Diana's bestie Linfea.

Calisto, having been chased and bullied online and all over the school, is rescued from Giunone's girls by Mercurio and Giove. Giove tries to convince Calisto that the assault wasn't a big deal, and she needs to just "get over it." Calisto retreats into her own world and contemplates how to continue on, dealing with what has happened to her. To end the pain, Calisto decides to end her own life.

Three weeks later, the school memorial service continues to celebrate Calisto's life as



the students deal with their grief and the roles they played in her death.

– Brenna Corner

## ARTISTIC TEAM (in alphabetical order)

### JEFF ADELBERG – Lighting Designer

Jeff Adelberg has been the lighting designer for NEC productions of *Dido and Aeneas*, *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, *The American Dream*, *Svadba*, *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, and *L'arbore di Diana*. His other recent work includes: *Il Matrimonio Segreto* (Florida Grand Opera), *Heroes of the Fourth Turning* and *People Places and Things* (Speakeasy); *L'Etoile* and *Albert Herring* (The Boston Conservatory at Berklee); *Topdog/Underdog* and *Describe the Night* (Gamm Theatre); *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Central Square Theatre); and Boston's *Christmas Revels* since 2010. Jeff attended the University of Connecticut and teaches at Harvard and Boston College. Member USA-829. [www.JeffAdelberg.com](http://www.JeffAdelberg.com) / [instagram @jadelberg](https://www.instagram.com/jadelberg).

### EM BONNICI – Stage Manager

Em Bonnici is thrilled to be back at NEC after working this past spring on *L'abore di Diana* as a technician. Notable stage management work includes: Albany Berkshire Ballet's *Nutcracker*, Providence Fringe Festivals' *Three Exits*, and Clark University's Playfest '17 *Us*. Other work includes but is not limited to: Moobox's *Sweeney Todd* {Technician}, White Snakes' *Monkey: A Kung Fu Puppet Parable* {Technician}, Boston Early Music Festival {Technician}, Clark University's Playfest '22 {Production Assistant}, Clark V&PA's *Beowulf* {Ensemble / Production Assistant}, CUPS *Macbeth* {Lady Macduff, Porter / Scenic Designer}, Clark V&PA's *Comedy of Errors* {Dromio of Ephesus}, and last but not least Offie Award Winning Chickenshed UK's pantomime of *Snow White* {Props / Production Intern}.

### GAIL BUCKLEY – Costume Designer

Gail Astrid-Buckley previously designed costumes for *Steel Magnolias* (Stoneham Theatre); *The Farm* (Boston Playwrights' Theatre); *Living Together* and *Most Happy Fella* (Gloucester Stage Company); *9 Circles* (Publick Theatre); *Reasons to Be Pretty, In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play)*, and *The Adding Machine* (SpeakEasy Stage Company); *Silver Spoon*, *Hysteria*, and *Moon for the Misbegotten* (Nora Theatre); *A Christmas Carol* (Hanover Theatre), and many more. She is the recipient of the 2002 Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Costume Design and the 2010 Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Design for *The Adding Machine* (SpeakEasy Stage Company); the 2002 Independent Reviewers of New England Award for Best Costumes in *Twelfth Night* (Commonwealth Shakespeare Company); and the 2006 Independent Reviewers of New England Award for Best Costumes on both *Caroline, or Change* and *The Women* (SpeakEasy Stage Company). Buckley is a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829 and a board member of StageSource.

### SUJIN CHOI – Musical Preparation

A collaborative pianist Sujin Choi served as a pianist in Martín y Soler's *L'arbore di Diana*, Jack Perla's *An American Dream*, and Cavalli's *La Calisto* with New England Conservatory. She has also had the privilege of serving as an opera coach fellow, contributing to productions such as Mozart's *Don Giovanni* at Aspen Music Festival and Puccini's *La Bohème* at Music Academy of the West. Looking forward to the 2023-2024 season, Sujin takes on the roles of both pianist and opera coach in productions of Puccini's *La Bohème* with New England Conservatory. Additionally, she has recently joined the staff as a pianist at Boston Conservatory starting in September 2023. Sujin earned a Graduate Diploma in Collaborative Piano from New England Conservatory under the tutelage of Cameron Stowe and Jonathan Feldman, with full scholarships supporting her studies. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Piano Performance and a master's degree in Collaborative Piano from Yonsei University.

### BRENNA CORNER – Stage Director

Brenna Corner is an opera director who has worked across Canada, the United States and Europe. Select directing projects include: *Il trovatore* (Washington National Opera), *Don Giovanni* (Seattle Opera); *Sweeney Todd* (New Orleans Opera); *Tenor Overboard* (Glimmerglass Opera); *Der fliegende Holländer* (Cincinnati Opera & Houston Grand Opera); *L'Elisir d'amore* (Vancouver Opera); *Dead Man Walking* (The Israeli Opera); and *Carmen* (The Atlanta Opera). Upcoming productions include *Lucia di Lammermoor* (New Orleans Opera) and *Pagliacci* (The Glimmerglass Festival). Ms. Corner is the Artistic director of Pacific Opera Victoria and has a degree in music from The University of Manitoba, and theatre diplomas from Grant MacEwan College and The British American Drama Academy.

### DOUGLAS FREUNDLICH – Theorbo

Douglas Freundlich launched his lute career in the 1970s with the Greenwood Consort. He has performed and recorded with many leading ensembles over the years, including the Boston Symphony, Emmanuel Music, Boston Baroque, and the Venere Lute Quartet. Doug has taught at the Longy School of Music since 1979. Other teaching includes Lute Society of America Seminars, Amherst Early Music, Boston Early Music Festival Outreach, and the Harvard University Core Curriculum. For many years, Doug served as Associate Keeper of Harvard's Isham Library, a repository of rare musical source materials. On the side, Doug "cross-trains" as a violone player and jazz bassist.

### Ji YUNG LEE – Musical Preparation

Hailed by *Gramophone* for her "beautiful playing" and "intimate internal dialogues," pianist and vocal coach Ji Yung Lee is an active performer and has made appearances at renowned venues collaborating with internationally-acclaimed singers and instrumentalists. Captivating audiences via numerous radio broadcasts on WQXR, MPR, and WFMT, she also received the second prize and a special award at the Salieri-



Zinetti International Chamber Music Competition in Italy. Recent highlights include concerts at Rockport Chamber Music Festival, Ashmont Hill Chamber Music, Dame Myra Hess Concert Series, and Harriman-Jewell Series; conducting *La Traviata* in eight different cities in Slovenia with Pehlivanian Opera Academy; and a virtual performance with cellist Laurence Lesser for Tonebase. She holds a master's degree with academic honors from New England Conservatory and a Graduate Diploma from The Juilliard School. She is currently a faculty member as an opera coach at New England Conservatory and a pianist and coach at Boston Lyric Opera.

#### SEÁGHAN MCKAY – Projection Designer

Seághan McKay is a Boston-based projection designer whose work has been showcased in many of the historic city's greatest performance venues. Highlights include The Boston Baroque *Les Elemens* and *Music for the Royal Fireworks*; The Boston Ballet *Swan Lake*; The Boston Lyric Opera *La Bohème* and *The Flying Dutchman*; The Boston Pops *Gershwin Spectacular: Promenade*; Guy Mendilow Ensemble *The Forgotten Kingdom* (world premiere); Hogfish *CarmXn*; The Lyric Stage *Murder on the Orient Express*, *Sondheim on Sondheim*, *On The Town*, and *Big River*; SpeakEasy Stage Company *Big Fish*, *Carrie: the Musical*, Kurt Vonnegut's *Make Up Your Mind*, *Next To Normal*, *Nine*, *Striking 12*, [title of show], and *Jerry Springer: The Opera*; Florida Rep *Best of Enemies*; TheatreSquared *All The Way*; Merrimack Repertory Theater *The Heath*, *Little Orphan Danny*, and *Memory House*. Seághan received the 2017 IRNE Award for Best Projection Design for the Lyric Stage production of *Sondheim on Sondheim* and the 2018 IRNE Award for the New Repertory Theatre production of *Golda's Balcony*. He is also a member of United Scenic Artists IATSE Local USA 829. For more information: [www.seaghanmckay.com](http://www.seaghanmckay.com)

#### BRIAN MOLL – Musical Preparation

Brian Moll is a member of the NEC Opera Department's coaching staff for the Fall Semester of 2023. In previous years, he has been an instructor of French, German and English song repertoire and is also on the faculty of the Longy School of Music of Bard College and at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee.

He has presented master classes in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Bulgaria, France, Mexico and throughout the United States, and has been on the faculties of the Lied Austria Program near Graz, Austria, and has been Director of the Lieder Program of the Dramatic Voices Program in Berlin since 2019.

Brian Moll has worked with Emmanuel Music, Boston Baroque, and the Handel & Haydn Chorus and Orchestra. He has also served as Assistant Conductor for productions by Boston Lyric Opera, Opera North and Boston Midsummer Opera.

Brian Moll has appeared with singers Barbara Kilduff, Sheri Greenawald, Jesse Blumberg, Wolfgang Brendel, Sir Thomas Allen, Kevin Deas, Yeghishe Manuchar-ryan, Chelsea Basler, Kelly Kaduce, Mara Bonde, and Sandra Piques Eddy. A magna cum laude graduate of Hamilton College, Brian Moll earned further degrees from the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna, Austria and the University of Michigan School of

Music, where he studied with Martin Katz.

#### JAMES ROTONDO – Scenic Designer

James Rotondo (he/him) is a set designer for opera and theatre based in the greater Boston area. His background as a former dancer and studio artist influence the relationships between performer, audience and scenery that he creates for the stage. He is particularly interested in exploring conventional spaces in unconventional ways and bringing stories beyond "traditional" in both expectation and location. James and his team of collaborators were selected as finalists for the 2022 Tobin Director-Designer Prize and presented their design for *Fellow Travelers* at the 2023 Opera America Conference. Recent productions include *The Rip Van Winkles* (Glimmerglass Festival), *The Knock* (Cincinnati Opera), *Rigoletto* (Intermountain Opera Bozeman), *Don Pasquale* (Lakes Area Music Festival), *The Addams Family* (Wheelock Family Theatre), and *Bandstand* (Playhouse on Park). Upcoming productions include *Songbird* at Washington National Opera and *Pagliacci* at the Glimmerglass Festival.  
[www.jamesrotondo.design](http://www.jamesrotondo.design)

#### ROBERT TWETEN – Musical Director and Conductor

Robert Tweten has performed extensively as both a pianist and conductor throughout the USA and his native Canada, and currently holds the positions of Head of Music Staff for The Santa Fe Opera, and Music Director of Graduate Opera Studies for New England Conservatory.

In 2017, Tweten joined the New England Conservatory's opera faculty, where he provides musical guidance for the Graduate Opera Studies Program. During his tenure Robert has conducted eleven productions of repertoire spanning over three hundred and fifty years, and is thrilled to be collaborating with everyone at NEC on Cavalli's *La Calisto*.

The position, Head of Music Staff, was created by The Santa Fe Opera for Robert in 2000. He has been on the podium for a number of productions during his tenure at Santa Fe, most recently conducting performances of *Falstaff* during the 2022 season. Tweten has enjoyed a long relationship with Utah Opera/Symphony where he has conducted eighteen productions since his debut in 2005, and other companies he has collaborated with include the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Calgary Opera, Vancouver Opera, Florentine Opera, Opera San Antonio, Kentucky Opera, Edmonton Opera, Dayton Opera, Austin Lyric Opera, Tulsa Opera and Sarasota Opera.

Equally at home as a pianist, Robert has performed throughout the world with many of the industry's most prominent singers, and presently is Music Director for the Sag Harbor Song Festival, and Performance Santa Fe's Festival of Song.

Tweten's most recent projects have included orchestral concerts with the Santa Fe Pro Musica Orchestra, as well as leading *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs* and *La Bohème* for Utah Opera, and the North American premiere of Roberto Scarcella Perino's *Furiosus* at Merkin Hall in New York.

## ABOUT THE CAST (in alphabetical order)

### MAKLYN BALEY – Natura

Maklyn Baley, mezzo-soprano, is a second year master's student studying with Lisa Saffer. She most recently sang the role of Grandma in the NEC Community Engagement Program's production of *Little Red Riding Hood* and Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*.

### XIJIN CHEN – Giunone

Xijin Chen, soprano, is a second year graduate student studying with Carole Haber. She recently sang the role of Susanna in *Le nozze di Figaro*. Later this spring she will perform the role of Lily in NEC's production of *Sarah in the Theatre*.

### YEONJAE CHO – Diana

Yeonjae Cho, soprano, is pursuing an Artist Diploma at NEC, studying with Bradley Williams. Her recent roles include Eurydice in *Orphée aux Enfers*, Diana in *L'arbore di Diana*, Königin der Nacht in *Die Zauberflöte*, and Setsuko in *An American Dream*. She will be performing the role of Adele in NEC's production of *Die Fledermaus* this spring.

### ALESANDRA COLLINS – Endimione

Alesandra Collins, mezzo-soprano, is in her second year of the master's program at NEC, studying with Carole Haber. She most recently performed as the Mother and the Witch in the NEC Community Engagement Program's production of *Hansel and Gretel* and Giulio Cesare in *Giulio Cesare in Egitto*. Later this spring she will sing the role of Orlofsky in NEC's production of *Die Fledermaus*.

### SARA COX – Linfea

Sara Cox, soprano, is a second year graduate student studying with Jane Eaglen. Her recent roles include First Lady in *The Magic Flute*, Esprit in *Cendrillon*, and Barbarina in *Le nozze di Figaro*.

### MEGAN HULL – Linfea

Megan Hull, soprano, is a second year master's student studying with Carole Haber. She recently performed as Ilia in *Idomeneo*, Ariel in *The Enchanted Island*, and Musetta in *La Bohème*. This spring she will be singing Adele in NEC's production of *Die Fledermaus*.

### MINSUN IM – Mercurio

MinSun Im, tenor, is a second year master's student studying with Carole Haber. Later this spring, he will perform the role of Rodolfo in NEC's production of *La Bohème* and Eisenstein in NEC's production of *Die Fledermaus*.

#### JIE LEE – Fury 2, Destino

Jie Lee, soprano, is a second year master's student studying with Bradley Williams. She recently sang the soprano solo in Mark Hayes' *Gloria*, and the roles of Juliette in *Roméo et Juliette* and Blanche in *Dialogues des Carmélites* in a scenes program. She also completed her graduate recital this fall.

#### DONGYANG LI – Destino, Fury 2

Dongyang Li, soprano, is a first year master's student studying with MaryAnn McCormick. She most recently sang the role of Donna Elvira in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*.

#### RUOXI PENG – Diana

Ruoxi Peng is a soprano studying with MaryAnn McCormick at NEC, where she is pursuing a Graduate Diploma. Last April, Ruoxi played Britomarte in NEC's Spring Main Stage production of Soler's *L'arbore di Diana*, and in May she made her role debut as Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte* with Mass Opera. This was followed in July by her performance of Despina in *Così fan tutte* with Utah Vocal Arts Academy. Later this spring she will sing the role of Musetta in NEC's production of *La Bohème*.

#### MARA RILEY – Calisto

Mara Riley, soprano, is in her second year of the master's program at NEC studying with Lisa Saffer. Her recent roles include Philistine Woman in Handel's *Samson*, Belinda in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, and Mary Bailey in Heggie's *It's a Wonderful Life*. Her upcoming performances include NEC's Liederabend series, a soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with the Boulder Bach Festival, and a soloist in Colorado Bach Ensemble's performance of Bach's Cantata 10: *Meine Seel erhebt den Herren*.

#### OLIVIA SHEEHY – Satirino

Olivia Sheehy, mezzo-soprano, is in her second year of the master's program at NEC studying with MaryAnn McCormick. Her recent roles include Idamante in *Idomeneo*, and Fidalma in *Il Matrimonio Segreto*. She will be performing the role of Prince Orlofsky in NEC's production of *Die Fledermaus* later this spring.

#### HYUNGJIN SON – Giove

Hyungjin Son, baritone, is pursuing a master's degree at NEC studying with Bradley Williams. He recently made his debut as Uncle Bonze in *Madama Butterfly* with Detroit Opera and Boston Lyric Opera. He will be performing the role of Falke in NEC's production of *Die Fledermaus* later this spring.

#### ANNEKE STERN – Natura

Anneke Stern, mezzo-soprano, is a second year master's student studying with Jane Eaglen. She most recently sang the role of Grandma in the NEC Community

Engagement Program's production of *Little Red Riding Hood*, and Orpheus in *Orphée aux Enfers*.

#### MARGARET STONE – Satirino

Maggie Stone, soprano, is a second year graduate student studying under Carole Haber. She is from Carolina Beach, North Carolina. Last summer she performed as Adele in *Die Fledermaus* in Austin, Texas. Catch her next semester as Ida in *Die Fledermaus* at NEC.

#### OLGA MELENDEZ VALDES – Eternita, Fury 1

Olga Valdes, soprano, is a second year master's student studying with Jane Eaglen. She recently sang Fiordiligi from *Così fan tutte* in an NEC scenes production. Her upcoming performances include NEC's Liederabend series and the roles of Sumiko and Imelda in *Sarah in the Drawer* later this spring.

#### ALEXANDRA WIEBE – Giunone

Alexandra Wiebe, soprano, is a second year graduate student studying with Bradley Williams. Her recent roles/performances include Elle in *La voix humaine*, Mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*, and a soloist in The Cleveland Opera's Gala. Her upcoming performances include Vera Tyrell in NEC's production of *Sarah in the Theatre* and Rosalinda in NEC's production of *Die Fledermaus*.

#### HENGZUO YAN – Giove

Hengzuo Yan, baritone, is a first year graduate student studying with Jane Eaglen. Giove is his NEC debut. This spring, he will be performing the role of Falke in NEC's production of *Die Fledermaus*.

#### ZHENGYING YAN – Fury 1, Eternita

Zhengying Yan, soprano, is currently a second year master's student studying with MaryAnn McCormick. Her recent performances include Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet* and Sister Constance from *Dialogues of Carmelites*. This spring she will appear as Ida in NEC's production of *Die Fledermaus*.

#### HUA CHIEN HARPER YIN – Endimione

Hua Harper Yin, mezzo-soprano, is a second year master's student at NEC studying with Michael Meraw. Her recent roles include Ms. Page in *Merry Wives of Windsor*, Idamante in *Idomeneo* and Maddalena in *Rigoletto*.

#### DONG EUN YOON – Mercurio

Dong Eun Yoon, tenor, is a second year graduate student at NEC studying with

Carole Haber.

SHIYU ZHUO – Calisto

Shiyu Zhuo, soprano, is a second year master’s student studying with Carole Haber. She recently made her debut at The Wiener Musikverein as Gretel in *Hänsel und Gretel*. Her upcoming performances include NEC’s Liederabend series, soloist in Mozart’s *Great Mass in C Minor*, and Musetta in *La Bohème*.

NEC OPERA STUDIES

Chair of Opera Studies	Joshua Major
Music Director	Robert Tweten
Acting Instructor	Steven Goldstein
Stage Movement Instructor	DeAnna Pellecchia
Stage Combat	Sarah Flanagan
Vocal Coaching & Musical Preparation	Joel Ayau, Brett Hodgdon, Ji Yung Lee, Brian Moll, JJ Penna, Timothy Steele

TECHNICAL TEAM

Master Electrician & Production Manager	Kyle Kurkjian
Technical Director & Assistant Production Manager	Crispin Trubiano
Master Carpenter & Assistant Technical Director	Em McGrory
Assistant Lighting Designer	Amanda Fallon
Light Board Operator	Isaac Roussak
Wig Designer	Rachel Shufelt
Wig Assistant	Seth Bodie
Wardrobe Supervisor	Jill Costello
Wardrobe Assistant & Dresser	Kennedy VanCleve
Hair & Make-up Supervisor	Jennifer DeMarco-Gregory
Projections Operator	Suowei Wu
Surtitles	Brenna Corner
Surtitle Operator	Melissa Pereya
Carpenters	Bryer Beller, Emily Hanson, Julia Wonkka
Electricians	Shelby Marsh, Em McGrory, Emma Currier-Dougherty, Dillon Brooks, Emily Hanson, Riahna Graciani
Audio Engineer	David Shane



## NEC VOICE FACULTY

Jane Eaglen	Carole Haber
MaryAnn McCormick	Michael Meraw
Lisa Saffer	Bradley Williams–Chair

## NEC ORCHESTRA DEPARTMENT

Stanford and Norma Jean Calderwood	Hugh Wolff
Director of Orchestras	
Director of Large Ensemble Admin.	Marjorie Apfelbaum
Associate Director of Orchestras	David Loebel
Artistic Director of Chamber Orchestra	Donald Palma
Performance Librarian	Andrés Almirall
Student Librarian	Jordan Chun Kwan Lau

*Funding for this performance is provided by the  
Pratt Early Music Performance and Residency Series for Early Music.*

The **Pratt Early Music Performance and Residency Series for Early Music**, established by Harold I. and Frances G. Pratt at NEC in 2019, seeks to invite and engage the NEC community with performers and scholars in the Historically Informed Performance field. Masterclasses, symposia, and performances by nationally and internationally recognized scholars and performers are funded through this endowment. In addition, the Performance and Residency and Series aims to provide NEC students with the opportunity to study early music and historically-informed performance with experts in the field, as well as to expand the historical instrument collection at NEC.

*Special thanks to:*

United Staging and Rigging, scenic supplier  
Port Lighting  
High Output, projection supplier  
Talamas Digital Cinema, communication equipment supplier  
Costume Works  
Sally Millar  
Sydney Pexton

## **Upcoming Opera Performances – Fall, 2023**

**UNDERGRADUATE OPERA STUDIO:** Opera Scenes, Michael Meraw, director  
Opera scenes performed by the members of the Undergraduate Opera Studio  
*Friday & Saturday, December 1 & 2, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.,  
Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre*

**HANDEL ARIAS & SHAKESPEARE MONOLOGUES**  
Performances by first-year graduate students in the NEC Opera Department  
*Tuesday & Thursday, December 5 & 7, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.,  
Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre*

## **Other Upcoming Concerts at NEC**

Visit [necmusic.edu](http://necmusic.edu) for complete and updated concert and ticketing information

**NEC PERCUSSION GROUP,** Will Hudgins, director  
*Monday, November 20, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**KIM KASHKASHIAN STUDIO RECITAL**  
*Monday, November 20, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

**GUNTHER SCHULLER LEGACY CONCERT**  
Music, remarks, and memories performances by students, alumni, and members of  
NEC Wind Ensemble  
*Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**NEC SAXOPHONE ENSEMBLE,** Kenneth Radnofsky, director  
*Monday, November 27, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**FACULTY RECITAL: BORROMEO STRING QUARTET**  
Bartók *String Quartets*  
*Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**NEC SYMPHONIC WINDS,** William Drury, conductor  
Nielsen *Symphony for Brass and Organ*; Huling *Into the Forest of Strange Beasts*; Nieske  
*Like Dancing* (world premiere)  
*Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

## **Other Upcoming Concerts at NEC**

*—continued*

**LIEDERABEND LXVIII**, Cameron Stowe and Tanya Blauch, directors  
Poulenc Songs

*Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

**NEC WIND ENSEMBLE**, Robert Spittal, guest conductor  
Harbison *Three City Blocks*; Spittal *Concerto for Wind Ensemble* (2023)  
Gabrieli *Canzone septimi toni* No. 2 and *Sonata pian' e forte*

*Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**“CONNECTIONS” CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES** - Max Levinson, director  
Live Triangle? Music by the Schumanns and Brahms

*Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall*

**FIRST MONDAY IN JORDAN HALL**, Laurence Lesser, artistic director - 39<sup>th</sup> season  
Mozart *Quintet in C Minor*, K. 406; Shostakovich *Symphony* No. 15  
(transcr. for sextet)

*Monday, December 4, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**[NEC]SHIVAREE**, Stephen Drury, director  
*Monday, December 4, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

### **TUESDAY NIGHT NEW MUSIC**

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers

*Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall*

### **LIEDERABEND LXIX & SONG AND VERSE**

*Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

### **CHAMBER MUSIC GALA**

*Wednesday, December 6, 2022 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**NEC JAZZ ORCHESTRA**: “Music of Ken Schaphorst”

Ken Schaphorst, conductor

*Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **WIND ENSEMBLE STUDENT CONDUCTORS**

*Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall*

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