

Regency Series

Regency Voices

Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 8pm
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Pacific Lutheran University
School of Arts and Communication / Department of Music presents

Regency Series

Regency Voices

presents

*A Celebration and Welcome Concert
for Dr. Cassio Vianna, Director of Jazz Studies*

Marlette Buchanan, *soprano*

Jessica Milanese, *soprano*

Jim Brown, *tenor*

Barry Johnson, *baritone*

Cassio Vianna, *piano*

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Welcome to Lagerquist Concert Hall.
Please disable the audible signal on all watches and cellular phones for the duration of the concert.
Use of cameras, recording equipment and all digital devices is not permitted in the concert hall.

PROGRAM

He Loves, She Loves George Gershwin (1898-1937)
Foggy Day
Our love is here to stay

Jim Brown, *tenor*

Someone to Watch Over Me George Gershwin
Do Do Do George Gershwin
In the Still of the Night Cole Porter (1891-1964)

Jessica Milanese, *soprano*

I get a kick out of you Cole Porter
It's De-Lovely
Night and Day

Barry Johnson, *baritone*

Fine and Mellow Billie Holiday (1915-1959)
Can this be love? Kay Swift (1897-1993)
God Bless the Child..... Billie Holiday

Marlette Buchanan, *soprano*

Triste Cassio Vianna (b. 1976)

Marlette Buchanan, Jessica Milanese, Jim Brown, & Barry Johnson, *vocals*
Cassio Vianna, *piano*

About the Performers

Marlette Buchanan is an accomplished performer of opera, musical theatre and other genres of music and has been noted by reviewers as a “soprano of extended range, flexibility, warmth, color...and beauty.” Ms. Buchanan’s operatic roles include Fiordiligi and Despina in *Così fan Tutte*, Euridice in *Orfeo ed Euridice*, Marenka in *The Bartered Bride*, Antonia in *The Tales of Hoffman*, Blanche in *Dialogue of the Carmelites*, as well as roles in *Porgy and Bess*. Her musical theatre credits include roles in *Showboat*, *Ain’t Misbehavin’*, *Once on this Island*, and *Ragtime*. Marlette is a graduate of Boston University with a Master of Music degree. She attended Fisk University for a Bachelor of Arts degree where she toured nationally and recorded as the lead soloist with the Jubilee Singers. A regional finalist at the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, Ms. Buchanan also was a finalist in the national MacAllister Awards and the Eleanor Lieber Awards. Her concert performances include Orff’s *Carmina Burana*, Fanshawe’s *African Sanctus*, Spohr’s *Sechs Deutsches Lieder*, and Carter’s *Spiritual Cantata*. Ms. Buchanan has recorded with a broad range of recording artists extending her versatility in vocal performance. Additionally, she can be heard as the soloist in the film documentary entitled *The Freedom Riders*.

Award-winning soprano **Jessica Robins Milanese**’s recent performances include the world premiere of the song cycle, *Turns of a Girl*, a work composed for Ms. Milanese by Northwest composer, Huntley Beyer. This piece debuted in Seattle with Orchestra Seattle under the baton of George Shangrow. Other recent performances include Mozart’s *Exsultate, Jubilate* with the Northwest Sinfonietta, Orff’s *Carmina Burana* and Handel’s *Messiah* with the Tacoma Symphony, Bach’s *B Minor Mass* with the Kirkland Choral Society, Bach’s *St. Matthew Passion* with Orchestra Seattle, as well as the opportunity to revisit one of her favorite characters, Susanna, (*Le Nozze Di Figaro*) with Tacoma Opera. She has performed this role with Tacoma Opera, Washington East Opera, Skagit Opera and Opera Pacific. In 2008, Ms. Milanese made her debut singing the role of Rosina (*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*) with Tacoma Opera, where she also performed the role of Héro (*Béatrice et Bénédicte*) and Blonde (*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*), in a collaborated production with the Northwest Sinfonietta. Other roles performed include Norina (*Don Pasquale*), Marie (*Daughter of the Regiment*), Pamina (*The Magic Flute*), Lucy (*The Telephone*), Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*), Gretel (*Hansel and Gretel*), and Papagena (*The Magic Flute*). During her apprenticeship with the Seattle Opera Young Artist’s Program in 2004, Ms. Milanese performed the role of Pamina in the Young Artist’s production of *The Magic Flute* and returned as a guest artist the following season to sing the role of Barbarina in their production of *Le Nozze di Figaro*. On the concert stage, Ms. Milanese has performed as a soloist with the Tacoma Symphony, Northwest Sinfonietta, Bremerton Symphony, Orchestra Seattle, the Yakima Symphony, the Olympia Chamber Orchestra and the Kirkland Chorale Society. Her latest concert repertoire includes Mozart’s *Exsultate, Jubilate*, Orff’s *Carmina Burana*, praised as “meltingly lovely” by *The Kitsap Sun*, Handel’s *Messiah*, Haydn’s *The Creation*, Bach’s *St. Matthew Passion*, *B Minor Mass* and *Coffee Cantata*, Respighi’s *Laud to the Nativity*, as well as the world premiere of composer Huntley Beyer’s, *Songs of Illumination*. Ms. Milanese grew up in Missoula, Montana, received her Bachelor of Music from the University of Colorado, and studied voice with William Eddy of Tacoma, Washington. She has been a member of the voice faculty at PLU since 2009.

James L. Brown maintains an eclectic career as a tenor, conductor and stage director. Dr. Brown is the Chair of Vocal Studies at PLU, where he oversees a large and diverse voice program. As the director of that school’s Opera Workshop, he has been the recipient of several grants including a Regency Scholarship Grant and a Production Grant from the Kurt Weill Foundation for Music in New York, NY. His students have gone on to study at schools such as Arizona State University, Indiana University, The Juilliard School, University of Michigan, Northern Arizona University, and Yale University’s Institute of Sacred Music. Brown’s singing has been praised by Opera News and Early Music America. He has sung with such opera companies and presenters as New York City Opera, New Orleans Opera, Opera Company of Philadelphia, Bronx Opera, Rogue Opera (Oregon), Chautauqua Opera, Seattle Early Music Guild, Pacific MusicWorks, Skylight Opera Theatre (Milwaukee), Aspen Opera Theater and The Spoleto Festival in Spoleto, Italy. He has sung roles under the baton of such well-known conductors as James Conlon, John DeMain, Richard Hickox, Julius Rudel, and Robert Spano, and early music directors Rinaldo Alessandrini, Arthur Haas, Andrew Lawrence King and Stephen Stubbs. Dr. Brown has introduced many world premieres in the last several years, including Russian composer, Vladimir Ryabav’s *The Border Between Light and Darkness*, Sheila Silver’s *The Thief of Love* (released on DVD), Jack Beeson’s *The Equilibrists*, Riccardo Zohn-Muldoon’s *Comala* at the international Cervantino Festival in Guanajuato, Mexico, and Scott McAllister’s *Mercury on the Moon* in Reno, Nevada, with the Pacific Lutheran University Wind Ensemble.

As a concert soloist, James has appeared at Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall, Seattle’s Town Hall, Harris Concert Hall at the Aspen Festival, The Ravinia Festival in Chicago and the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California. Other solo concert appearances include Central Washington University, Pacific MusicWorks and Tacoma Symphony.

Brown holds degrees in voice from Loyola University/New Orleans, The Juilliard School, and the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Baritone **Barry Johnson** is enjoying a successful career as an opera singer, stage director, concert performer, and voice teacher. He has sung roles in more than twenty productions at Seattle Opera, and performed as a guest artist with companies throughout the west, including Tacoma Opera, Opera Colorado, Anchorage Opera, Portland Opera, Vashon Opera, Stockton Opera, Central City Opera, and Las Vegas Opera. Notable roles in his repertoire include the title role in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet*, Marcello in *La Boheme*, Dancairo in *Carmen*, Sharpless in *Madame Butterfly*, Masetto in *Don Giovanni*, Prince Ottokar in *Der Freischutz*, Angelotti in *Tosca*, Papageno in *The Magic Flute*, Don Alfonso in *Così fan tutte*, Fleville in *Andrea Chenier*, Frank in *Die Fledermaus*, Jupiter in *Orpheus in the Underworld*, and the Pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance*. On the concert stage, Mr. Johnson has been a soloist with the Seattle Symphony, American Sinfonietta, Symphony Tacoma, Yakima Symphony, Northwest Sinfonietta, Orchestra Seattle, and the Pacific Lutheran University Symphony. Concert engagements have included Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Handel's *Messiah*, Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, Rachmaninoff's *The Bells*, Haydn's *Creation*, Vaughan Williams' *Five Tudor Portraits*, Frahm's *War Cantata*, Bach's *Magnificat*, Mozart's *Requiem*, and Faure's *Requiem*. Mr. Johnson's professional stage directing credits include Puccini's *La Boheme*, Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, Lehar's *The Merry Widow*, Puccini's *Tosca*, Menotti's *The Telephone*, and Pasatieri's *La Divina*, with Tacoma Opera, Bellevue City Opera Ballet, and Pacific Northwest Opera. As Co-Director of the Opera Workshop at Pacific Lutheran University, Mr. Johnson's fully staged productions have included Lehar's *The Merry Widow*, Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, Sondheim's *Into the Woods*, Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, Strauss' *Die Fledermaus*, Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance*, and Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and *Suor Angelica*.

Cassio Vianna is the Director of Jazz Studies and Assistant Professor of Music at PLU, where he is responsible for the University Jazz Ensemble and jazz music courses. Born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Dr. Vianna is a composer, pianist, arranger, and educator whose work reflects the broad range of musical and cultural influences he has received during his years of training. He earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Universidade Federal do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, a Master of Music degree from Western Oregon University, and a Doctor of Arts degree in Jazz Studies from the University of Northern Colorado, where he studied jazz composition with David Caffey. Dr. Vianna has been featured as a performer and/or clinician at festivals and conferences in Brazil, Paraguay, China, and in the U.S. In 2016, he traveled to China to perform and to teach a two week program at the Guangxi Arts Institute (Nanning Province). In 2017 and 2018, he was featured as a presenter and clinician at the Jazz Education Network Annual Conferences. Before his appointment at PLU, Dr. Vianna was on the faculties at Umpqua Community College and Western Oregon University. In recent years, Dr. Vianna's compositions for jazz ensemble have received national recognition, including awards from the National Band Association, Ithaca College, Jazz Education Network, and the International Society of Jazz Arrangers and Composers (ISJAC). Dr. Vianna's works have been performed by artists such as Martha Reeves, Chris Potter, Tony Kadleck, Danny Gottlieb, Armando Marçal, Chuck Owen's Jazz Surge Band, Clay Jenkins, David Caffey Jazz Orchestra, and the United States Army Field Band (Jazz Ambassadors), among others. His most recent CD, the album *Infância* (2017, Teal Creek Music) features his original compositions for jazz orchestra, which are published by UNC Jazz Press. When not teaching or composing, Dr. Vianna enjoys scoping out the best coffee and exploring the outdoors with his family.