

**Rehearsal Schedule for the Miami Classical Music Festival July 2022 production of
*Das Rheingold***

March 23-26, 2022

Arts Club of Washington, 2022 I Street NW, Washington DC

Rehearsals are open to members of the Wagner Society of Washington, DC and the Arts Club of Washington

- Wednesday, March 23 11 am: Solo coaching for Wotan with Parr & DeVol, Role Study
Noon: Solo coaching for Alberich with Parr & DeVol, Role Study
1-2 pm: Break
2-3 pm: Solo coaching for Loge with Parr & DeVol, Role Study
4-6 pm: Ensemble coaching for Wotan, Loge, Alberich, Scene 3, Parr & DeVol
- Thursday, March 24: 9-10:30 am: Ensemble coaching for Wotan, Loge, Alberich, Scene 3-4, Parr & DeVol
10:30-11:30 am: Solo coaching for Wotan, Role Study with Parr & DeVol
11:30-1:00 pm: Break
1-4 pm: Ensemble coaching for Rheintöchter, Scenes 1 and 4, Parr & DeVol
- Friday, March 25: 11 am-12:30 pm: Ensemble coaching for Rheintöchter, Scenes 1 and 4, Parr & DeVol
12:30 pm-1:00 pm: Break
1-4 pm: Ensemble coaching for Rheintöchter and Alberich, Scene 1, Parr & DeVol
- Saturday, March 26: 9-10:30 am: Ensemble coaching for Rheintöchter and Alberich, Scene 1, Parr & DeVol
10:30 am: Q&A Session for members of the Wagner Society of Washington DC

Cast Members

Alberich: Geoffrey di Giorgio (AWP singer)
Wotan: Eugene (Trey) Richards (AWP singer)
Loge: Jon Janacek (AWP singer)
Woglinde: TBD
Wellgunde: Nicole Woodward
Flosshilde: Taryn Holback

Coaches

John Parr, Head Coach, Deutsche Oper Berlin
Luana DeVol, Executive Director, American Wagner Project

The Miami Classical Music Festival and the American Wagner Project thank the John J. Pohanka Family Foundation for its generosity in sponsoring these collaborative rehearsals.

Cast Members and Coaches

Geoffrey di Giorgio



Baritone Geoffrey Di Giorgio, a New Jersey native, is quickly becoming a favorite amongst audiences across the United States. He began his 2018-19 season with his debut in the German dramatic repertoire, singing the role of Kurwenal in Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde* with the Claude Heater Foundation at The War Memorial Performing Arts Center (Herbst Theater) in San Francisco. His performance was described as "robust" (San Francisco Chronicle) and "rafter-shaking" (San Francisco Classical Voice). 2018 also saw him in the demanding role of Giacomo in Verdi's *Giovanna D'Arco* with the Berkeley Chamber Opera. For his recent performances in Verdi's *Luisa Miller* with the Berkeley Chamber Opera, The Berkeley Daily Planet stated "In the role of Miller, Luisa's father, was baritone Geoffrey Di Giorgio, a stocky barrel of a man equipped with a stentorian voice that rang out loud and clear. In his portrayal of Miller, an old soldier with a soft spot for his daughter, Di Giorgio was ever watchful over his daughter's happiness. His aria "*Sacra la scelta*" was an invocation of Miller's honor as a former soldier, and it was robustly delivered by Di Giorgio. Likewise, Di Giorgio's singing in Miller's duet with his daughter Luisa, in which he dissuades Luisa from suicide, was immensely tender." The 2016-17 season also included performances of the *Sacristan*, *Sciarrone*, and *The Carceriere* in *Tosca* with Knoxville Opera. For the 2014-15 season Geoffrey was an apprentice artist with The Sarasota Opera where he sang the role of *Un Contadino* in *Pagliacci* and also performed Mr. Ford in *Falstaff* and Don Carlo in *Ernani* for their outreach program. This past summer 2019, he was heard as a soloist with the

Reno Philharmonic Orchestra for their "Opera Showcase with the Reno Phil". He is quickly establishing himself as a baritone with "glorious singing" (Knoxville Sentinel), "an impressive rich voice" (Mercury News) and "beautiful, compelling, and dreamlike vocalism" (Brooklyn Daily Eagle).

He has appeared recently with Opera Libera as Marcello in Puccini's *La Boheme*, and as Talpa in Puccini's *Il Tabarro* with The Lyric Orchestra. Recent performances also included Abner in Handel's *Athalia* (Musica Raritana), the roles of Henry Davis in *Street Scene*, and Vicomte Cascada in *The Merry Widow* (Opera at Rutgers), and Bob in *The Old Maid and the Thief* (Saint Joseph's Opera) A skilled singer of major works, Mr. Di Giorgio has been heard as a soloist performing the masterworks of Mozart's *Mass in C minor* and Mozart's *Coronation Mass* with the Kirkpatrick Choir and Orchestra, Mozart's *Requiem* with Saint Joseph's University Orchestra, and Britten's *Rejoice in The Lamb* with the Rutgers University Choir and Symphony Orchestra. In 2018 he was chosen as the Baritone soloist for San Francisco Chamber Orchestra's *Mozart and Friend's Gala*. Geoffrey has garnered prizes from many prestigious vocal competitions including: The Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, The Giulio Gari IVC, The Jensen Foundation, and The Palm Springs Opera Guild. Geoffrey was an Emerging Professional with Dolora Zajick's Institute for Young Dramatic Voices from the summers of 2014-2019 and is currently a student with the Potomac Vocal Institute's Professional Development Program

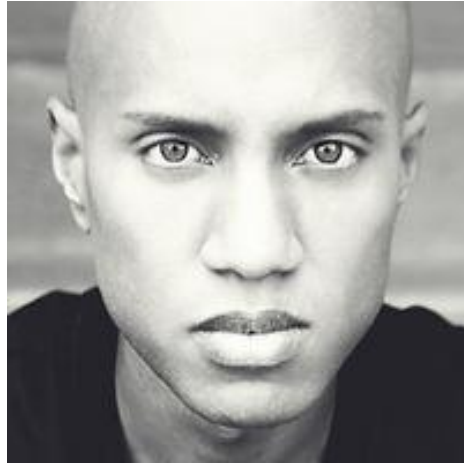
Jon Janacek



Tenor Jon Janacek has a Bachelors degree of Music in Vocal Performance from Baylor University where he performed as one of the Armed Guards in *The Magic Flute*, Simone in *Gianni Schicchi*, and Olin Blicht in Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah*. Other roles include Peter in *Hansel and Gretel* with the Waco Lyric Opera and the Temple College Opera, Alfio in *Cavallaria Rusticana*, Canio in *I Pagliacci*, Rodolfo in *La Boheme*, and Bacchus in *Ariadne auf Naxos* all with Kingwood Summer Opera and sang the role of the Official Registrar in HGO's 2015 production of *Madame Butterfly*. He has been a regional winner of the graduate men's division of the Texoma NATS Vocal Competition and a regional finalist and Encouragement Award Winner of the Met Opera National Council Auditions. An experienced concert artist, he has been a featured soloist in performances of Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy*, Faure's *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, Mozart's *Missa Brevis*, Vivaldi's and Pergolesi's *Magnificats*, Polenc's *Gloria*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Bach's *Cantata For Unto Us a Child is Born*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Dvorak's *Te Deum* and Saint-Saëns *Christmas Oratorio*. He has appeared with

the Baylor Symphony and Choral Union, the Central Texas Choral Society, members of the Waco Symphony Orchestra and the Kingwood Chorale and Chamber Orchestra.

Eugene Richards



Dramatic baritone Eugene Richards made his professional opera debut in 2014 as the Sergeant in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* with Opera Las Vegas. He returned in 2015 as Bonzo/ *Madama Butterfly*, in 2016 as Morales/ *Carmen*, and in 2017 as Monterone/ *Rigoletto*.

In 2018 Eugene Richards sang König Heinrich/ *Lohengrin* and covered Wotan/ *Die Walküre* at the Miami Music Festival. Soon after he performed the title role of *Der fliegende Holländer* in Vegas City Opera's production. In concert he has sung the role of Escamillo/ *Carmen*. His first European engagement took place in 2019 as an understudy for Wanderer/ Siegfried at Staatstheater Kassel. Eugene will make his return to the Miami Music Festival as Wotan in their 2022 production of *Das Rheingold*.

Born in South Carolina, Eugene Richards was raised in southern California. He attended the University of Hawaii and played for the school's baseball team. Working as a fashion model in Las Vegas and Los Angeles, he began studying voice with Luana DeVol and Dolora Zajick in

2013. He continues his studies at Dolora Zajick's Institute for Young Dramatic Voices in the American Wagner Project division. He has received coaching from Thom Christoph, John Parr and Beatrice Benzi.

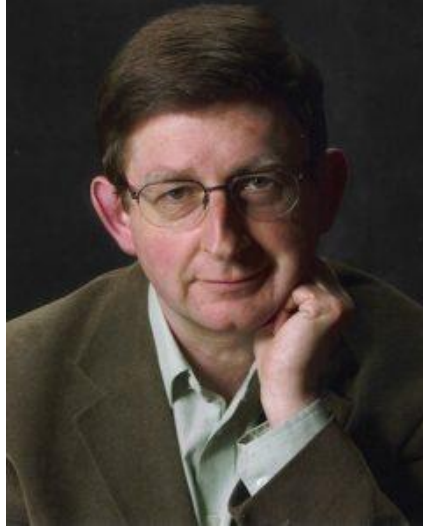
Eugene reached the finals at the Lauritz Melchior International Competition 2017 in Denmark. He has been a grant recipient of the Wagner Society of Washington DC from 2015-2019.

Luana DeVol



Luana DeVol, Executive Director of the American Wagner Project, is one of the world's most successful dramatic sopranos, having sung major roles in the world's major houses, including La Scala, Milan, Teatro de Liceu, Barcelona, the Wagner Festspiel Bayreuth, Vienna Staatsoper, Bayerische Staatsoper, Munich, Metropolitan Opera, and New York among many others. She was twice named Opernwelt's "Singer of the Year." Since retiring from the stage, she gives Master Classes, maintains a private voice studio, and serves on the Panel of Experts for the New York-based "Career Bridges" for aspiring singers. She has been appointed to lead the American Wagner Project, a program which is part of the Institute for Young Dramatic Voices founded by mezzo Dolora Zajick, and works with the Richard Wagner Society of Washington D.C. in presenting Master Classes and concerts. She is an adjudicator/judge of voice competitions both in the US and abroad, most recently as Chairwoman of the Klaudia Taev International Voice Competition in Estonia. As General Director of Opera Las Vegas she produced *IL Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Carmen*, and *Rigoletto*.

John Parr



John Parr is currently Head Coach at the Deutsche Oper, Berlin, Germany, where in addition to his work preparing singers and assisting conductors in preparing the productions he is also musical director of a series of song and poetry recitals, 'Lieder und Dichter' (Songs and Poets). From 2000-2011 he was San Francisco Opera's Head of Music Staff. He was a Master Coach for the Merola Opera Program and works frequently with San Francisco Opera Adler Fellows as a guest teacher. Since the summer of 2018 he has been Master Coach at the American Wagner Project in Reno, Nevada, led by Luana DeVol, a division of the Institute for Young Dramatic Voices (IYDV)

A native of Birmingham, UK, Parr studied piano at the Royal Northern College of Music with Sulamita Aronovsky and musicology at Manchester University. He worked for the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden from 1985–88, touring with the company to Japan and Korea in 1986. He was engaged at Scottish Opera from 1988-90. In 1991 he joined the Lower Saxony State Opera in Hannover, Germany, where he was Head of Music Staff and Musical Assistant to Music directors George Alexander Albrecht, Christof Perick and Andreas Delfs, specializing in the Wagner and Strauss operas. During this time he developed an extensive series of Lieder Recitals and Chamber Music programs for the Opera, and also broadcast on SFB Radio Berlin and on NDR Television. With San Francisco Opera, Parr has developed and performed in numerous recital programs. He promoted his own series of recitals entitled 'Basically British' at Old First Concerts, and appeared many times with San Francisco Performances and other promoters in the Bay Area as a song accompanist and chamber musician. He has performed over 10 years for the Lieder Alive! recital series in San Francisco.

From 2002-2005 he worked as a coach at the Wagner Festival in Bayreuth, and has also given recitals in the Wagner Museum. From 2011 to 2014 he was Casting Director and Musical Assistant to the Music Director at the Badisches Staatstheater, Karlsruhe, Germany, where he also promoted and performed song and chamber music programs.