

## **Artist Bios**

### **Lauren Florek**

Filipino-American Soprano, Lauren Florek brings honesty and authenticity to everything she performs. Lauren has performed in a wide variety of styles. Lauren performed the role of Carrie Mae in *The Silver Fox*, the Watch Duet from *Die Fledermaus* with Longy's Orchestra Flex, was a soloist in the contemporary musical *35mm* and performed with Voices of Zion, a new ensemble that specializes in African American Spirituals. Last fall, Lauren was accepted into Boston Opera Collaborative's Young Artist Training Program and understudied the role of the First Witch in the Boston Camerata's production of *Dido and Aeneas*. During quarantine Lauren performed in a virtual fundraising concert benefiting the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and the Covid-19 African American relief fund, which featured music by Black composers from various styles. She also performed in a virtual fundraising concert for Envision Artist Company, a Black and Latinx founded Theater company in New York City. Lauren has also begun to study Kundiman, a genre of traditional Filipino love songs and performed virtually in *Kababayan: A Celebration of Filipino Identity*. Lauren spent the summers of 2018 and 2019 in Urbino Italy with Musica nelle Marche studying Italian language and receiving musical and dramatic coaching. Lauren studied the roles of Lauretta from Gianni Schicchi and Mimi from *La Boheme* and performed scenes in several concerts throughout the Marche Region.

Lauren is also an experienced chorister and has performed in several churches throughout the Chicago Area. She served as a section leader at St. Vincent DePaul Parish for the 2020-2021 season. She is currently a chorister at Trinity Parish of Newton Centre.

Lauren was a semifinalist in the 2021 Perfect Day Music Competition. She was also the second-place winner of the 2019 Kleinman Competition. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Vocal Performance from DePaul University and a Masters Degree in Vocal Performance from the Longy School of Music.

### **Matt Savage**

Jazz pianist/composer Matt Savage, age 30, has toured and recorded professionally since childhood. He has thirteen recordings under his belt so far, and currently leads the Matt Savage Quartet and the Matt Savage Groove Experiment. The Wall Street Journal has praised Savage as a "phenomenally talented pianist and composer who demands to be taken seriously on purely musical terms." And he has played with some of the biggest names in jazz, including Chick Corea, Chaka Khan, Wynton Marsalis, Bobby Watson, Clark Terry, Jerry Bergonzi, and Jimmy Heath. He has also opened for rock legends Bruce Springsteen, Neil Young and Stephen Stills at major benefit concerts for autism advocacy. Matt Savage also did the score for a jazz documentary film called *Sound of Redemption: The Frank Morgan Story*. He is currently teaching at the Longy School of Music of Bard College, Bunker Hill Community College, and Saint Anselm College.

### **Carlo Miguel C. Bunyi**

Filipino baritone Carlo Miguel C. Bunyi is a Boston based soloist and teacher whose dedication to his craft and stylistic versatility has led him to explore a diversified range of musical activities both domestically and internationally. Carlo is a founding member of Filipino vocal ensemble PASIPO with whom he performed as a featured soloist in the Philippine premiere of J.S. Bach's Cantata BWV 131, *Aus der tiefen ruf ich Herr zu dir*.

A versatile artist, Carlo has essayed the role of Baron de Pictordu in Viardot's *Cendrillon*, Simone in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, sung in the chorus of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* and Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. He was also featured in the Philippine Opera Company's Young Artist Series. He took part in

the first reading of Niloufar Nourbakhsh's new opera "We the Innumerable" held at Opera America and he also performed at the Shalin Liu Performance Center in Rockport, Massachusetts as part of the Longy Student Showcase.

Carlo finished his Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance and Music Education at the Longy School of Music under the tutelage of Metropolitan Opera artist Jeff Mattsey.

Carlo is a member-artist of the Lyric Opera of the Philippines and currently serves as a cantor at Divine Mercy Parish in Quincy, Massachusetts.