

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS

Music by Kurt Weill
Libretto by Bertolt Brecht

A New Production

Co-produced by Wolf Trap Opera and Halcyon's By The People
Featuring dancers from Hong Kong Ballet and Terra Firma Dance

Saturday, June 23 at 8 pm
Sunday, June 24 at 1 pm

Dock 5 at Union Market

The Seven Deadly Sins is part of Wolf Trap Opera's **UNTRAPPED** initiative, taking vocal music to new places and unexpected spaces.

Dan and Gloria Logan, 2018 *UNTRAPPED* Series Sponsors.

The Seven Deadly Sins is part of Halcyon's **By the People**, an international arts and dialogue festival taking place across DC from June 21-24, 2018.

America: the Beautiful, the Blended, the Bared

Directed by Susan Stone Li
Musical Direction by Joseph Li

Joe Connell, *percussion*
Christopher Koelzer, *piano*

Zoie Reams, *mezzo-soprano*
Piotr Buszewski, *tenor*
Nicholas Nestorak, *tenor*
Johnathan McCullough, *baritone*
Anthony Reed, *bass*

Terra Firma Dance Company
Members of the Hong Kong Ballet

Featuring artwork by David Rauschenberg

Nature, the Gentlest Mother.....Music by Aaron Copland
Performed by Piotr Buszewski Poem by Emily Dickinson
Choreography by Stuart Loungway
Featuring Terra Firma Dance

America.....by Paul Simon
Performed by Johnathan McCullough and Nicholas Nestorak

The Old Woman's Courtship.....Traditional Appalachian Folk Song
Performed by Anthony Reed and Nicholas Nestorak

Blackbird + Wild Honey Pie.....by Paul McCartney
Performed by Wolf Trap Opera
Choreography by Trey McIntyre
Featuring Hong Kong Ballet

Silhouette.....Music by John Musto
Performed by Nicholas Nestorak Poem by Langston Hughes

I Too Sing America.....Music by Margaret Bonds
Performed by Zoie Reams Poem by Langston Hughes

Shenandoah.....Traditional American Folk Song
Arranged by Marcus DeLoach
Performed by Johnathan McCullough, Nicholas Nestorak, and Anthony Reed

Strange Fruit.....by Abel Meeropol
Performed by Zoie Reams

Hallelujah.....by Leonard Cohen
Performed by Johnathan McCullough and Nicholas Nestorak
Choreography by Stuart Loungway
Featuring Terra Firma Dance

Litany.....Music by John Musto
Performed by Anthony Reed Poem by Langston Hughes

INTERMISSION

The Seven Deadly Sins

Prologue

Sloth

Pride

Anger

Gluttony

Lust

Covetousness

Envy

Epilogue

CAST

Anna I, *mezzo-soprano*

Anna II, *dancer*

Brother, *tenor*

Dad, *tenor*

Brother, *baritone*

Mom, *bass*

Brother, *dancer*

Brother, *dancer*

Dad, *dancer*

Mom, *dancer*

Annie Rosen

Ye Feifei

Nicholas Nestorak

Piotr Buszewski

Johnathan McCullough

Anthony Reed

Jonathan Spigner

Kyle Lin

Li Jaibo

Xia Jun

CREATIVE TEAM

Stage Director & Choreographer

Music Director & Conductor

Costume Designer

Lighting Designer

Wig & Make Up Designer

Featured Artist

Septime Webre

Joseph Li

Kristen Ahern

Alyssandra Docherty

Emma Tremmel

Michael Craig-Martin

MUSIC & PRODUCTION STAFF

Executive Producer

Coach / Pianist

Percussionist

Associate Director

Production Stage Manager

Assistant Stage Manager

Production Assistant

Morgan Brophy

Christopher Koelzer

Joe Connell

Susan Stone Li

Nathan Erwin Brauner

Kira Robbins

Savannah Valigura

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

A stunning new production from the wildly successful creators of 2017's *The Fall of the House of Usher*, this theatrical event observes and comments on the American experience through a myriad of musical lenses.

The first half of the program - ***America: the Beautiful, the Blended, the Bared*** - explores the terrain of our nation's east coast and deep south through a cross-genre program of American and American-influenced music. Arrangements of familiar songs will feature dancers from the Hong Kong Ballet and Terra Firma Dance Company, alongside members of Wolf Trap Opera, visually accompanied by a backdrop of American photos that come from you - our audience!

In the second half we are taken on a virtual and musical travelogue through the United States with ***The Seven Deadly Sins*** by Kurt Weill and his collaborator Bertholt Brecht where cabaret, jazz and popular American music of the twenties comes alive. Sisters, the practical Anna I (a singer) and the impulsive Anna II (a dancer), set out across America to seek their fortune and create a new home. During their seven-year journey they are tempted by each of the biblical deadly sins. Disillusioned, they eventually give up their dreams and ideals return to their family

THE COLLABORATORS

WOLF TRAP OPERA

Each fall, Wolf Trap Opera (WTO) travels to 8 cities to hold auditions for the upcoming summer season. From an initial pool of 1,000 applicants, about 500 are invited to audition—35 to 40 are accepted.

Because of its reputation and track record, WTO gets the best of the best emerging singers. Those bound for professional success. Those in the category of 'exceptional.' Those with as much to offer us as we have to offer them.

Wolf Trap Opera also fosters the next generation of artistic, administrative, and production leaders through fellowships and internships. Without the contributions of these talented fellows and interns, the company could not present exceptional performances at 2 different venues in just a 3-month period each summer.

HALCYON'S BY THE PEOPLE

We believe that we are more alike than different, stronger together than apart, and more connected than it may seem. We believe in the power of human creativity and compassion. By The People is a new, inclusive, international arts and innovation festival that facilitates connection and celebrates creativity.

From June 21 - 24, we invite you to enjoy fun and free arts installations, performances, talks and programs about life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Don't miss the Smithsonian's extended evening hours on June 23, and the augmented reality art at each of the festival sites!

HONG KONG BALLET

One of the premier classical ballet companies in Asia, Hong Kong Ballet (HKB) is internationally recognised as a top institution that represents Hong Kong's unique character. Since its inception in 1979, HKB has evolved into a vibrant performing arts organisation with a strong repertoire composed of a range of artistic and technically challenging productions, showcasing our exceptional dancers. Mr Septime Webre, former Artistic Director of The Washington Ballet, joined HKB as its new Artistic Director in July 2017. With nearly 50 dancers from Hong Kong, Mainland China, Europe and the US as

well as other parts of Asia, the Company has won recognition in recent years both regionally and internationally.

TERRA FIRMA DANCE

Terra Firma Dance (TFD), under the guidance of artistic director, Stuart Loungway, is a bold new contemporary ballet company based in Washington, DC. TFD's work focuses on movement as the primary language of basic human interaction and communication. As vanguard caretakers of the art form of ballet, TFD aims to connect with new audiences, heightening their awareness and willingness to move away from traditional dance models via site specific projects and collaborations with other art forms. With a responsible eye to the future of ballet, TFD works to provide a progressive and contemporary experience, understanding that ballet will not look as it once has. With this notion in mind, TFD presents a new, viable model that preserves ballet as a current and relevant art form, carrying forth the potential to provide a deep and long lasting impact upon its audience members.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Kristen P Ahern, Costume Designer

Kristen P Ahern is excited to be returning to Wolf Trap Opera after working last season as a design assistant. She most recently designed *Judy Moody and Stink* at ATMTC and *The Princess and the Pauper* at Imagination Stage. Ahern is an MFA candidate at the University of Maryland where designs include: *Love and Information* and *The Amish Project*. She is a transplant from Chicago where her work included time with Paramount Theatre, Silk Road Rising, Collaboraction and Boho Theatre Ensemble. She spent summers at Hope Summer Repertory Theatre where designs included *The Fantasticks*, *Hairspray* and *Les Miserables*. Ahern is passionate about minimizing the impact of her storytelling on the planet and was delighted to source many of the costumes for *The Seven Deadly Sins* from vintage and second-hand sources. www.kristenp.com.

Ellie Bernstein, Dance Artist, Terra Firma Dance

Ellie trained at the New Jersey School. At 17, she headed to Indiana University, continuing her study of classical ballet with Violette Verdy. While at IUBT, Ellie was fortunate to work with Julie Kent, John Clifford, Susan Jaffe, and Suzy Pilarre, dancing both original work by Verdy and Clifford as well as many classics. Since moving to DC, Ellie has worked with several local choreographers and had the opportunity to perform at the Kennedy Center with Company E. Additionally, Ellie is an E-RYT 500 yoga instructor.

Piotr Buszewski, tenor, Wolf Trap Opera

Polish tenor Piotr Buszewski's 2018 Wolf Trap Opera season includes his debut as the Duke of Mantua in *Rigoletto* and a recital with Steven Blier. He is a resident artist at the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia where he recently sang Loge in *Das Rheingold*. 2017-2018 engagements included his debuts with the Memphis Symphony (Berlioz's *Te Deum*) and New York City Opera (Donizetti's *Il Pigmaliione*.) Roles include Ernesto in *Don Pasquale*, Edgardo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Nemorino in *L'elisir d'amore* and Rinuccio in *Gianni Schicchi*. In 2017 Buszewski received first prize at the Mario Lanza Vocal Competition.

Joseph Connell, *percussionist*

Joseph Connell plays regularly with the National Symphony Orchestra. He appears on their Grammy winning recording of John Corigliano's 'Symphony No. 1' as well as playing drum set and percussion on the NSO's most recent recording, "Remembering JFK 50th Anniversary Concert". In addition to performing with the NSO, he has played several musicals at the Kennedy Center including "Showboat", "Wicked", "Titanic", Andrew Lloyd Weber's "By Jeeves" and Stephen Sondheim's "Bounce" (Mr. Connell plays drum set, timpani and percussion on the Original Cast recording). In 2011, Mr. Connell performed with Marvin Hamlisch, Idina Menzel and the Royal Philharmonic at the Royal Albert Hall. Recent engagements have been with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Colorado Symphony and the Philadelphia Orchestra. Equally at home in rock and jazz fields, Joseph has performed with music artist as diverse as Patti Labelle, country music's Charlie Daniels, the Prog-rock group Yes, Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga. He has been on an adjunct professor of percussion and drum set at The George Washington University since 1988. Connell's drum set transcriptions have appeared in Modern Drummer Magazine.

Breanne Coughlin, *Dance Artist, Terra Firma Dance*

Breanne trained at The Washington School of Ballet. During her time at the school, she was awarded both the Mary Day Scholarship and the Rebecca Wright Scholarship, placed 3rd as a classical soloist at Youth American Grand Prix semi-finals in 2012, and was a member of the 1st place ensemble piece at the Youth American Grand Prix finals in New York City. After her training, she then joined Ballet Arizona.

Alyssandra Docherty, *Lighting Designer*

Alyssandra Docherty is a Philadelphia based lighting designer hailing from Vernon, NJ. After graduating with honors and a BA in Theatre from DeSales University, she continued her training at Goodspeed Musicals in Connecticut. She spent five seasons as the Lighting Supervisor at Philadelphia Theatre Company, and has been touring as the Associate Lighting Designer with Koresh Dance Company since 2013 and with BalletX since 2017. Recently, Docherty's designs have been seen in Brian Sanders' JUNK's *Dancing Dead IPX*, Azuka Theatre's *Mrs. Harrison*, Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers' *Faith Project/The Door*, and Theatre Horizon's *2.5 Minute Ride*. She has also designed for the Philadelphia Women's Theatre Festival, Simpatico Theatre Company, DeSales University, and Drexel University, among others. www.alyssandradocherty.com.

Greg Dobashian, *Principal Guest Artist, Terra Firma Dance*

Gregory was born and raised in NYC, and made his professional stage debut at the age of eight with the Glimmerglass Opera Company. Soon after, he was cast in the Philip Glass/Robert Wilson world tour of *Einstein on the Beach*. Gregory received his dance training at the Alvin Ailey School on a fellowship scholarship and then graduated cum laude from SUNY Purchase dance conservatory. He has gone on to dance and choreograph with a variety of artists, performing with Patrick Corbin, Nelly van Bommel, and Sylvain Emard. Dobashian is a recipient of The Bessie Schoenberg Residency at The Yard, winner of The Pretty Creatives Competition for Northwest Dance Project, and of The Hubbard Street 2 International Choreographic Competition. He placed second in Ballet Austin's New American Talent competition; received commissions from Atlanta Ballet, TU Dance in Minnesota, CityDance Ensemble in D.C. He has created school commissions at SUNY Purchase, University of Minnesota, The Hartt School and the Juilliard School. He debuted his own company, The DASH Ensemble, in December 2009 at JOYCE SoHo. The company has gone on to present works at the Skirball Center, DTW, The Gershwin Hotel, Riverside Theater, Summer Stage, and The

JOYCE Theater. The DASH received the audience award at NYC's DanceNOW challenge at Joe's Pub. The company also participated in ABT Principal Daniil Simkin's INTENSIO, collaborating on a work with Gregory Dolbashian for members of ABT set to premiere at Jacob's Pillow 2015. In addition to his choreography, Gregory, alongside Loni Landon, is the co-founder of The Playground, a choreographic initiative that was voted 25 to Watch in 2013 by Dance Magazine.

Christopher Koelzer, pianist, *Wolf Trap Opera*

A native of Sunnyvale, California, pianist/coach Christopher Koelzer began working professionally as an opera pianist at age 13 with Mission City Opera and the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of San Jose. He studied Piano Performance with Dr. Irene Peery-Fox at Brigham Young University and was involved as a pianist, harpsichordist, and coach with six fully-staged operas. Koelzer attended Aspen Music Festival and School from 2011 to 2012, and returned as a Vocal Fellow in 2014. He was awarded the Outstanding Collaborative Pianist Award and Grand Prize Art Song in the Metropolitan International Music Festival Competition in New York in 2016. He has performed staged readings of new musicals in New York City (*Shards, Boston/Nebraska*), as well as world premieres of several new operas in Washington, D.C., and South Carolina. He holds a master's degree in Collaborative Piano from the University of Maryland, College Park, and has coached and performed with UMD's Maryland Opera Studio since 2013. Koelzer is currently a Doctoral Candidate at the University of Maryland, studying with Professor Rita Sloan. He is a current member of Washington National Opera's Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program, of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. He returns to WNO for his second season in the fall of 2018, where he will be Assistant Conductor for *La traviata*. In WNO's 2017–2018 season, he was Assistant Conductor for *The Barber of Seville*.

Sara Hart, Dance Artist, *Terra Firma Dance*

Sara Hart studied at City Dance Conservatory, spending summers at such programs as Ellison Ballet, Kaatsbaan Ballet, the Kirov Academy, and the Joffrey Ballet School. Sara has trained with Stuart Lounghway for the past year, and she is very excited to continue her work with him this season.

Li Jiabo, Principal Dancer, *Hong Kong Ballet*

Born in Shanghai, China, Li Jiabo trained at Shanghai Far East Ballet School and The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. He joined Hong Kong Ballet as a member of the Corps de Ballet in 2005, was named Soloist in 2012 and became Principal Dancer in 2014. With Hong Kong Ballet, Li has danced principal and featured roles including Prince Siegfried in John Meehan's *Swan Lake*, Prince Désiré and Blue Bird in Cynthia Harvey's *The Sleeping Beauty*, Basilio in Nina Ananiashvili's *Don Quixote*, Prince in both Stephen Jefferies' and Terence Kohler's *The Nutcracker*, Geppetto in Pär Isberg's *Pinocchio*, Prince in David Allan's *Cinderella*, Romeo in Rudi van Dantzig's *Romeo and Juliet*, Camille in Ronald Hynd's *The Merry Widow*, Pao Yu in Wang Xin Peng's *The Dream of the Red Chamber*, and Prince Calaf in Natalie Weir's *Turandot*. He has also been featured in George Balanchine's *Serenade*, Jiří Kylián's *Petite Mort*, Nacho Duato's *Castrati*, Christian Spuck's *Le Grand Pas de Deux*, William Forsythe's *Steptext*, Jorma Elo's *Shape of Glow*, Fei Bo's *A Room of Her Own* and Edwaard Liang's *Sacred Thread*. Li's international guest appearances include Ballett Dortmund in Germany, the Bolshoi Theatre in Russia, The International Dance Gala in Weisbaden, Germany, and the 4th International Ballet Festival Gala in Cali, Colombia.

Joseph Li, music director & conductor, Wolf Trap Opera

An alumnus of the Houston Grand Opera Studio, Joseph Li made his conducting debut leading new works commissioned for Houston Grand Opera by Jack Perla and Franghiz Ali-Zadeh. Mr. Li has served as principal coach for world premieres including André Previn's *Brief Encounter* at Houston Grand Opera and John Musto's *The Inspector*, commissioned by the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts. He has performed in recital with Jamie Barton, Tamara Wilson, and Ryan McKinny, and has served as a guest coach for Houston Grand Opera, Wolf Trap Opera, Minnesota Opera, The Shepherd School of Music at Rice University, Opera Lyra Ottawa, Arizona Opera, Opera Birmingham, and the Aspen Opera Theater Center. Li was conductor for summer 2017's *The Fall of the House of Usher*, a previous collaboration with Septime Webre and Halcyon.

Lin Chang-yuan Kyle, Corps de Ballet, Hong Kong Ballet

Born in Taichung, Taiwan, Lin Chang-yuan Kyle trained at Taipei National University of the Arts and graduated on full scholarship from The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. He joined Hong Kong Ballet as a member of the Corps de Ballet in 2017.

Stuart Loungway, Artistic Director and Principal Choreographer, Terra Firma Dance

Loungway's training began with Tania Lichine, before receiving a full scholarship to the prestigious School of American Ballet. As a member of Houston Ballet, San Francisco Ballet Company and Joffrey Ballet Company, he performed in works by George Balanchine, William Forsythe, Mark Morris, Helgi Tomasson, Ben Stevenson and many others. As a Principal Dancer at American Repertory Ballet, under Septime Webre, he danced a variety of Principal and Soloist roles. Loungway maintains an active schedule as a master teacher, choreographer, performer, and served on the dance faculty at Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University; The Washington Ballet School and The Joffrey Ballet School. He received the Individual Fellowship in Choreography, awarded by the NEA, via the New Jersey State Council for the Arts; is the recipient of the Kaatsbaan Choreographic Residency Award; had his work selected to be performed at Jacob's Pillow; received the Choreographic Fellowship Award from Dance Metro DC, and many other distinctions. He has served as the Company Teacher for The Washington Ballet, Ballet Hispanico, and most recently Hong Kong Ballet.

Tiffany Mangulabnan, Dance Artist, Terra Firma Dance

Tiffany Mangulabnan is from Manila, Philippines, where she trained as a classical and contemporary ballet dancer. She was a principal dancer with the Philippine Ballet Theatre from 2010-2012, dancing the lead roles in full-length ballets like 'Swan Lake', and also dancing briefly with Ballet Philippines, before she moved to New York City. She performed with companies such as Emery LeCrone DANCE, Claudia Schreier and Company, Pigeonwing Dance, Gleich Dances, Terra Firma Dance Theatre, Appalachian Ballet Company, and BalletNext, at venues such as The Joyce Theater, BAM, New York Live Arts, The Lensic Performing Arts Center, and others. She also co-directs and dances for konverjdans, the New York City-based contemporary ballet company she co-founded with Jordan Miller and Amy Saunder in 2016.

Johnathan McCullough, baritone, Wolf Trap Opera

Johnathan McCullough appears with Wolf Trap Opera in *Rigoletto* (Marullo) and was featured in recital with Steven Blier. As an Emerging Artist at Opera Philadelphia, he sang Mr. Greatorex in *Elizabeth Cree* and Moralès in *Carmen*. Performances at the Komische Oper Berlin include *Die Gezeichneten* (Fieschi) and *Zoroastre* (Oromasès).

Recent roles include J. Robert Oppenheimer (*Doctor Atomic*), Il Conte (*Le nozze di Figaro*), Tarquinius (*The Rape of Lucretia*), Papageno (*Die Zauberflöte*), and Belcore (*L'elisir d'amore*). Upcoming engagements include Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Opera Philadelphia and Harlekin in *Ariadne auf Naxos* with Opéra de Lausanne.

Nicholas Nestorak, tenor, Wolf Trap Opera

Nicholas Nestorak will be featured as Matteo Borsa in *Rigoletto* with Wolf Trap Opera in August 2018. Previous Wolf Trap roles include The Physician in *The Fall of the House of Usher* and Spoletta in *Tosca*. Other recent engagements include Pang in *Turandot* with Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre, Gastone in *La traviata* with Austin Lyric Opera, and Trin in *La fanciulla del West* at Opera Carolina. He has also sung with Skylight Music Theatre (Ali in *Zémire et Azor*), The Glimmerglass Festival (Tobias Ragg in *Sweeney Todd*), and Toledo Opera (Basilio in *Le nozze di Figaro*).

Zoie Reams, mezzo-soprano, Wolf Trap Opera

Zoie Reams made her Wolf Trap Opera debut as Clarice in the 2017 production of *La pietra del paragone*, and she returns this summer for Bernstein's *Songfest*, Maddalena in *Rigoletto* and a recital with Steven Blier. A recent alumna of the Houston Grand Opera Studio, she was featured at HGO as Flora in *La traviata*, Zweite Magd in *Elektra*, Rosalia in *West Side Story*, Third Secretary in *Nixon in China*, and Winged Angel in the world premiere of Heggie's *A Wonderful Life*. She has also sung with the Glimmerglass Festival (Tituba in *The Crucible*), Opera Louisiane (Sandmännchen in *Hänsel und Gretel*), and the Houston Symphony Orchestra (Bruckner's *Te Deum*.)

Anthony Reed, bass, Wolf Trap Opera

Anthony Reed returns to Wolf Trap Opera to sing Frère Laurent in *Roméo et Juliette* after having performed with the company as a Studio Artist in 2012. A recent graduate of the prestigious Adler Fellowship with the San Francisco Opera, his SFO performances included Count Ceprano (*Rigoletto*), Tutor of Orest (*Elektra*), Doctor Grenville (*La traviata*), and Il Re (*Aida*). Other roles include Sarastro (*Die Zauberflöte*), Truffaldin (*Ariadne auf Naxos*), Don Magnifico (*La Cenerentola*), Don Basilio (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*), and Dulcamara (*L'elisir d'amore*). He has also performed with Fort Worth Opera, Nashville Symphony, Berkeley Symphony, and Philharmonia Baroque.

Annie Rosen, mezzo-soprano, Wolf Trap Opera

Annie Rosen appears as Stephano in Wolf Trap Opera's new production of *Roméo et Juliette*, returning for a second season after her 2017 WTO performances as the Stepmother in *The Juniper Tree*. She is a graduate of the Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago, and she returned to LOC this season as Siébel in *Faust*. She recently recorded Susie in *A Quiet Place* with Orchestra Symphonique de Montréal and created the role of Eve in *Rev 23* with White Snake Projects. Previous engagements include roles at the Santa Fe Opera, Central City Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin, and Teatro Regio di Torino.

Jonathan Spigner, Coryphée / Pilates Instructor, Hong Kong Ballet

Born in South Carolina, US, Jonathan Spigner trained at the South Carolina Governor's School of Arts and Humanities and at Académie Princesse Grace in Monte Carlo. He joined Hong Kong Ballet as a member of the Corps de Ballet in 2010 and was named Coryphée in 2014. He assumed the additional role of Pilates Instructor for the Company in 2017. With Hong Kong Ballet, Spigner has danced featured roles including Fritz and Spanish Doll in Terence Kohler's *The Nutcracker*, Puss in Boots in Cynthia Harvey's

The Sleeping Beauty, Gamache in Nina Ananiashvili's *Don Quixote*, St Gaudins in Val Caniparoli's *Lady of the Camellias*, Executed Prince in Natalie Weir's *Turandot*, Young Uncle Tak in Yuri Ng's *Firecracker* and Factory Boss in Yuh Egami and Hu Song Wei Ricky's *Carmen*. He has also performed in John Meehan's *Swan Lake*, Ronald Hynd's *Coppélia*, George Balanchine's *Serenade*, Jiří Kylián's *Petite Mort*, Nacho Duato's *Castrati*, Jorma Elo's *Shape of Glow*, Fei Bo's *Shenren Chang* and Edwaard Liang's *Sacred Thread*. Spigner received awards from Youth America Grand Prix regional competitions in 2004, 2008 and 2009.

Emma Tremmel, Wig & Makeup Designer

Emma Tremmel is excited to be working with the brilliant cast and crew of *The Seven Deadly Sins*. This is her third production with Wolf Trap Opera, where she previously worked on *Madama Butterfly* and *The Ghosts of Versailles*. She's been fortunate to work as a wig, makeup, and costume artisan in other theatres surrounding the D.C. area: The Shakespeare Theatre Company, Signature Theatre, and Theatre J. Tremmel previously spent three seasons as the Wig and Makeup supervisor at Hartford Stage, where she worked on such productions as: the world premiere of *Anastasia*, *Rear Window* starring Kevin Bacon, and Steve Martin's *The Underpants*. She currently spends the college term teaching Makeup and Wig Design at the University of Iowa.

Septime Webre, stage director & choreographer, Halcyon, Hong Kong Ballet

Septime Webre is an internationally recognized ballet director, choreographer, educator and advocate. He recently joined Hong Kong Ballet as its Artistic Director after 17 years as Artistic Director of The Washington Ballet in Washington DC, US from 1999-2016. Previously he served as Artistic Director of the American Repertory Ballet, based in Princeton, New Jersey, US from 1993-1999. In addition, Webre serves as the Artistic Director of Halcyon, a Washington DC-based foundation, launching an annual international Festival for Creativity in Washington DC in June 2018. As a choreographer, Webre's works appear in the repertoires of ballet companies throughout North America, including Pacific Northwest Ballet, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, Colorado Ballet, Ballet West, Atlanta Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Ballet Austin, Ballet Memphis, Milwaukee Ballet, Kansas City Ballet, Ballet Concierto de Puerto Rico, and many others, and he has worked frequently in theatre as well as opera. As a dancer, Webre was featured in solo and principal roles from the classical repertoire as well as in contemporary works by choreographers such as Twyla Tharp, Paul Taylor and Merce Cunningham. He holds a degree in History/Pre-Law from the University of Texas at Austin, and is the seventh son in a large, boisterous Cuban-American family.

Xia Jun, Coryphée, Hong Kong Ballet

Born in Shanghai, China, Xia Jun graduated from the Shanghai Dance School in 2012 and was awarded a full scholarship to the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School of Ballet the same year. He joined American Ballet Theatre Studio Company in New York in 2012 and Hong Kong Ballet as a member of the Corps de Ballet in 2013. He was named Coryphée in 2016 and for the 2018-19 season he will be promoted to Soloist. With Hong Kong Ballet, Xia has danced featured roles including Fritz and Italian Doll in Terence Kohler's *The Nutcracker*, Mercutio in Rudi van Dantzig's *Romeo and Juliet*, Jewels in Cynthia Harvey's *The Sleeping Beauty*, and Executed Prince in Natalie Weir's *Turandot*. He has also performed in John Meehan's *Swan Lake*, Pär Isberg's *Pinocchio*, George Balanchine's *Serenade*, Jiří Kylián's *Petite Mort* and *Sechs Tänze*, Nacho Duato's *Castrati*, Jorma Elo's *Shape of Glow*, Krzysztof Pastor's *In Light and Shadow*, Fei Bo's *Shenren Chang* and Edwaard Liang's *Sacred Thread*. Xia was a finalist at the Prix de Lausanne competition in Switzerland in 2012 and won third place

at the Taoli Cup Dance Competition the same year. He won “Outstanding Performance by a Male Dancer” for his role as Lankendem in *Le Corsaire* at the Hong Kong Dance Awards in 2018.

Ye Feifei, Principal Dancer, Hong Kong Ballet

Born in Liaoning, China, Ye Feifei started at the Xun Yan Ballet School in Shenyang and furthered her training at Goh Ballet Academy in Canada. She joined Hong Kong Ballet as a member of Corps de Ballet in 2006, was named Coryphée in 2009 and became Soloist in 2010. She returned as a Principal Dancer in 2016 and has danced principal and featured roles including Odette/Odile in John Meehan’s *Swan Lake*, Princess Aurora in Cynthia Harvey’s *The Sleeping Beauty*, Ballerina in Terence Kohler’s *The Nutcracker*, Juliet in Rudi van Dantzig’s *Romeo and Juliet*, Queen of the Wills in John Meehan and Lin Mei-fang’s *Giselle*, Hanna Glawari in Ronald Hynd’s *The Merry Widow*, Turandot in Natalie Weir’s *Turandot* and Carmen in Yuh Egami and Hu Song Wei Ricky’s *Carmen*. She has received various awards including a silver medal at the Genée International Ballet Competition and a bronze medal at the Varna International Ballet Competition in 2006.