

presents...

LAWRENCE BROWNLEE | Tenor
KEVIN MILLER | Piano

Thursday, February 29, 2024 | 7:30pm
Herbst Theatre

RISING

JOSEPH MARX *Nocturne*
 Selige Nacht
 Die Elfe
 Christbaum
 Hat dich die Liebe berührt

JASMINE BARNES *Peace*

BRANDON SPENCER *I Know My Soul*

CARLOS SIMON *Vocalise III*

DAMIEN SNEED *Beauty that is never old; The Gift to Sing*

SHAWN *Romance*
OKPEBHOLO

JOEL THOMPSON *My People*

INTERMISSION

VERDI *Ad una stella*
 Aria from Rigoletto: La donna mobile

DONIZETTI *Me voglio fa'na casa*
 Aria from Rita: Allegro io son

ROSSINI *La lontanaza*
 Aria from L'occasione fa il ladro: D'ogni piu sacro impegno

BELLINI *La ricordanza*
 Aria from Il pirata: Nel furor delle tempeste

This program is made possible in part by the generous support of the Five Arts Foundation.

Lawrence Brownlee and Kevin Miller appears by arrangement with IMG Artists
7 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 imgartists.com

Steinway Model D, Pro Piano, San Francisco

For Tickets and More: sfperformances.org | 415.392.2545



ARTIST PROFILES

San Francisco Performances presents Lawrence Brownlee for the third time. He first appeared in March 2018.

Kevin Miller makes his SF Performances debut with tonight's recital.

Lawrence Brownlee is a leading figure in opera, both as a singer on the world's top stages, and as a voice for activism and diversity in the industry. He has been hailed as "an international star in the bel canto operatic repertory" (*The New York Times*), "one of the world's leading bel canto stars" (*The Guardian*), and "one of the most in-demand opera singers in the world today" (*NPR*).

Brownlee's 2023–24 season includes Opera Rara's Donizetti Song Project, where he joined pianist Carlos Rizzi at Wigmore Hall for a recital and recording of Donizetti's rarely-performed repertoire, in addition to a gala concert at the 2023 George Enescu International Festival and duo recital with Levy Sekgapane at Grand Théâtre Genève. Brownlee also travels to Wiener Staatsoper to perform as Count Almaviva in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* ahead of his role as Tonio in the Lyric Opera of Chicago's *La Fille Du Regiment* in November. In December, Brownlee joins the Wiener Konzerthaus for their 2023 Christmas in Vienna Gala before reuniting with Michael Spyres for the Game of Tenors concert in Bratislava. Brownlee kicks off 2024 with recital engagements at the Dallas Opera and the La Jolla Music Society, before

bringing his acclaimed *Rising* program to San Francisco Performances in February 2024 and the Concertgebouw in June 2024. Brownlee will also return to Teatro alla Scala as Ernesto in *Don Pasquale* before ending his season as Don Ramiro in Rossini's *La Cenerentola* at the Bayerische Staatsoper.



American pianist and collaborator **Kevin J. Miller** is acclaimed for his dynamically artful performances. Recent

collaborations include recitals with international tenor Lawrence Brownlee at Carnegie Hall and Houston Grand Opera, countertenor John Holiday at the Kennedy Center and The Barbican in London, Joseph Calleja and Nadine Sierra at the Supreme Court of the United States, as well as an appearance with Mr. Calleja on NPR's *Tiny Desk Concert* series. Mr. Miller prepared soprano Jessye Norman for performances of Laura Karpman's production of *Ask Your Mama*, which was performed at Carnegie Hall. He also collaborated with the acclaimed countertenor, David Daniels, in a recital at the Glimmerglass Festival. He can be heard on piano on the recording *Been in da Storm So Long*, which features baritone Kenneth Overton.

This New York native has been on the fast track to success since his days as a student at the Boys Choir of Harlem. Beginning his musical studies at the age of eight, Mr. Miller was a featured soprano soloist—most notably in Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Lake George Opera Association's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. While a student at the Boys Choir of Harlem, he studied piano with the late conductor and pianist Warren Wilson. It was also during these years that Mr. Miller began his work as an accompanist, having accompanied the choir on its tours of Europe, Israel, Austria, and Japan.

Mr. Miller studied at the Mannes College of Music, where he received a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano. He continued his studies at the University of Michigan School of Music where he received both a Master of Music degree and the Artist Diploma in Collaborative Piano under the tutelage of Martin Katz.

In addition to his formal studies, Mr. Miller has been a participant in some of the country's most prestigious festivals and young artist apprenticeships that include The Tanglewood Institute of Music, Aspen Summer Music Festival, The Cleveland Art Song Festival, San Francisco Opera's Mero-la Opera Program, Washington National Opera's Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program and the Glimmerglass Festival. Upon completion of his apprenticeship at Glimmerglass, he was invited to serve as a vocal coach at the Glimmerglass Festival.