Fellow Profiles – 2014 Recipients

Ryan Speedo Green, opera singer



Photo by Dario Acosta Photography

After seeing bass-baritone Ryan Speedo Green perform as the Commendatore in a production of *Don Giovanni* at the Juilliard School, a reviewer for the *New York Post* commented that he had "the magnetic presence of a superstar." Ryan, who grew up in low-income housing in Suffolk, Va., benefited from the support and encouragement of a teacher who steered him to the Governor's School for the Arts in Norfolk. At the age of 14, he saw *Carmen* at the Metropolitan Opera and that experience was transformative. Ten years later, after earning a Bachelor of Music from the University of Hartford and a Master of Music from Florida State University, Ryan won the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and he was invited to apply for the Met's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. In fall 2014, Ryan will join the Vienna Staatsoper as a company member. Fellowship funds will cover the costs of his move to Vienna and provide vital resources for voice lessons and coaching for new roles, including his first major role at the Metropolitan Opera in *The Death of Klinghoffer*, and Ferrando in a new production of *Il Trovatore* at Opera de Lille.

Francesca dePasquale, violinist



Photo by Alexandra DeFurio

Raised in Philadelphia, Francesca dePasquale grew up with a family of distinguished musicians, including her father William, co-concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and her mother Gloria, a member of the cello section. She attended the Colburn School Conservatory of Music in Los Angeles for her Bachelor of Music and she expects to graduate in 2014 from The Juilliard School with a Master of Music degree. At Juilliard, she also serves as Itzhak Perlman's teaching assistant. The first prize winner of the 2010 Irving M. Klein International String Competition, Francesca is committed to a career that balances solo, chamber, and orchestral music performance with pedagogy and outreach. With her Leonore Annenberg Fellowship, she intends to prepare for competitions and auditions, to explore the development of her artistic voice through a recording project, to undertake a United States recital tour, and to develop educational outreach programs for the purpose of introducing classical music to future generations.

Mia Rosenthal, visual artist



A native of Cranston, R.I., Mia graduated from Parsons the New School for Design with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts with a Master of Fine Arts. Mia specializes in drawings on paper, employing a multitude of tiny sketches that one critic has likened to the method of pointillism. An intriguing combination of science and art, her works are included in the collections of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Progressive Art Collection in Cleveland, and Woodmere Art Museum in Philadelphia. In the ink and graphite drawings for her first solo show, *American Landscapes*, at Gallery Joe in Philadelphia, she paid tribute to the tradition of American landscape painting while celebrating the biological diversity of the land. The landscape drawings depict more than 3,000 animals and plants ("organisms by the thousands forming the contours of the natural world") found in the Hudson River Valley. The centerpiece of her second solo show at Gallery Joe, titled *every day*, is a large spiraled drawing of 1,000 creatures, beginning with a single-celled organism and moving through time to early ocean life, plants, mammals, dinosaurs, primates, and the domestication of plants and animals through genetically modified organisms and synthetically created life forms. As the demand for Mia's work continues to grow, the Leonore Annenberg Fellowship will enable her to expand her art studio, purchase art supplies to complete additional drawings for art fairs in Houston and San Francisco and exhibitions elsewhere, and cover travel costs to meet with collectors, curators, and dealers.

Sarah Sokolovic, actor



Photo by Laura Rose

A Milwaukee native and a graduate of the Yale School of Drama, Sarah has an uncanny ability to command the audience's attention in musicals, comedy, drama, and the screen. Peers, coaches, and casting directors alike have remarked on her fearlessness, her original voice, and the immediacy of her work. In her final year of training at Yale, Sarah was recognized with the most prestigious scholarship the School has to offer, the Jerome Greene Fellowship. She received a Drama Desk nomination for her work in the Playwrights Horizons production of the musical *The Shaggs*, and appeared again at that theater in a successful production of *Detroit*; she was a cast member in *Relatively Speaking* on Broadway; she appeared in two television shows on CBS (*The Good Wife* and *Unforgettable*); she had a supporting role in the film *Every Secret Thing*; and she had a leading role in the independent film *La vida inesparada*. As a writer, she has completed work on one screenplay and is at work on two others. The Leonore Annenberg Fellowship will provide Sarah with artistic and technical training (voice lessons, dance and acting classes, music theory and basic piano instruction) and career development opportunities (private film mentorship, networking and audition trips, a creative writing retreat, a screenplay workshop and presentation).

Tessa Lark, violinist



Photo by Jesse Weiner

With a repertoire of both classical and cutting-edge works, Tessa has wide-ranging musical interests. Hailing from Richmond, Ky., she was the first American violinist to win the prestigious Walter W. Naumberg International Violin Competition (2012) since 1960. Her previous accomplishments include first prizes at both the Johansen International Violin Competition (2006) and the Irving M. Klein International String Competition (2009). A native of Kentucky, she brings an American folk perspective to classical music, doubling as a bluegrass fiddler. Tessa graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music with a Bachelor of Music in 2010 and a Master of Music in 2012. With support from the Leonore Annenberg Fellowship, Tessa proposes to record and commercially produce (on the Naxos recording label) her début CD of Telemann's *Twelve Fantasias for Solo Violin* and to further establish a performance career that has consisted mainly of solo recitals and concerto appearances.

Calvin Royal III, ballet dancer



Photo by Jade Young

A native of St. Petersburg, Fla., Calvin is a member of the corps de ballet of American Ballet Theatre. He joined ABT's pre-professional school after being discovered at the Youth America Grand Prix competition in New York City in 2006. His innate ability and passion for dance was clear, and he was swiftly promoted to ABT Studio Company and then into the Main Company in 2010. Since then, choreographer Alexei Ratmansky has featured him in *Piano Concerto #1*, and Marcelo Gomes created a role for him in *Aftereffect*. The Leonore Annenberg Fellowship will give him access to the "tools" for a deeper involvement in the classics, including research into the history and dramaturgy of the classics, and extra coaching. Calvin also will use his Fellowship funds to improve his classical ballet technique, to focus on body conditioning and strength, and to continue his college education.

Molly Bernard, actor



Photo by David Noles

A versatile and highly skilled actress hailing from Las Vegas, Molly longs to have an extensive career in the theater and to perform with multi-disciplinary artists. She aspires to collaborate on new plays. Moreover, she has equally large dreams for film and television. A graduate of Skidmore College and the Yale School of Drama, she has also trained at the Moscow Art Theater School and SITI Company. She has undertaken roles ranging from Celia in *As You Like It* to Dinah in *The Philadelphia Story*. She has also offered a hilarious and moving portrait of Edward (a boy living a lie) in Caryl Churchill's masterwork *Cloud Nine*, and a compelling account of Ethel Rosenberg in *Angels in America,* and more recently, was seen in the Amazon Prime Series *Alpha House*. She made her Yale Repertory Theatre debut in 2013 in Dario Fo's farce *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*. Her Leonore Annenberg Fellowship resources will be designated for travel and study abroad, training and classes (Alexander lessons, Martha Graham dance classes, on-camera class), coaching, audition expenses, and career and professional development requirements.

Fellow Profiles – 2013 Recipients

Isabella Boylston, ballet dancer



Photo by Rosalie O'Connor

A native of Sun Valley, Idaho, Isabella began her training as a twelve-year-old at the Academy of Colorado Ballet, and in 2003 she entered the prestigious Harid Conservatory in Boca Raton, Florida. In 2007, Boylston was accepted to the ABT Studio Company. Her career at ABT has been marked by rapid ascension: she joined the Main Company in 2007 and was promoted to Soloist in 2011. She has performed several leading roles during the past two years, including the Ballerina in Alexei Ratmansky's *The Bright Stream*, Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake*, Kitri in *Don Quixote*, and the Firebird in the premiere of Mr. Ratmansky's all-new *Firebird*. Isabella has achieved additional recognition with the Gold Medal in Youth America Grand Prix (2001), Reuger Award (2005), Princess Grace Award (2009), Benois De La Danse Nomination (2010) and Clive Barnes Award (2011). Andrew Blackmore-Dobbn, writing for Huffington Post Arts & Culture, extols her as the "the current odds on favorite to be the next Great American Ballerina."

Crystal Gregory, sculptor



Crystal Gregory is a multi-media installation artist whose work offers a provocative mix of traditional handmade objects, textiles, architecture, and technologies. Hailing from public schools in California, Gregory spent several years working as an artist in New York City before eventually moving to Chicago to attend the School of the Art Institute of Chicago's MFA program in Fiber and Material Studies, where she was awarded the department's only full merit scholarship. Gregory specialized in textiles, studying cloth construction in eight cities and four countries. Following graduation, she relocated back to New York, where she has shown in galleries, participated in exhibitions, acquired private and public commissions, and participated in esteemed artist residencies. *Heirloom*, presented at the DUMBO Arts Festival in 2010, is her largest installation to date, a merger of lace and architecture.

Korey Jackson, actor



A graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, Korey performed in a number of school theater productions, including the world premiere of Tony Kushner's *Henry Box Brown Play,* before making his professional debut and working in several renowned theatres. Korey made his Off-Broadway début at The Public Theater in Colman Domingo's *Wild With Happy*. He has appeared in the broadcast network series *Law and Order: SVU*, and in the premium cable series *Homeland* and *Nurse Jackie*. Korey also participated in a workshop alongside George C. Wolfe and the late writer and director Nora Ephron. Although Korey was cast in the major motion picture *Lincoln,* his scene was cut in the final version of the movie. Korey is described as standing out for his "broad and expansive imagination" and for offering up enactments that carry "real gravity and authority."

Emalie Savoy, soprano



Recognized as a talent on multiple levels – vocal, musical, intellectual, and dramatic – soprano Emalie Savoy is gaining momentum in what will surely be a major operatic career. Raised in Albany, New York, Emalie completed her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in Vocal Performance at The Juilliard School. She is currently a student of Edith Wiens, a Canadian soprano and esteemed teacher. The daughter of two professional musicians, Emalie has a full-bodied, dramatic voice and personality that demands leading roles in operas by Wagner, Verdi, and Strauss. Emalie is completing her official training as a member of the Lindemann Young Artists Development Program at The Metropolitan Opera. Emalie made her Met début during the 2011-2012 season in the role of Krista in *The Makropulos Case.* She is a recipient of the 2012 Hildegard Behrens Foundation Young Artist Humanitarian Award and is a 2011 George London Foundation Grand Prize recipient. Emalie has earned critical praise. Musical America calls her "a fresh young voice of great promise." *The New York Times* lauded her as "the star of the evening" following a 2010 oratorio; other reviews in professional publications have described her singing as "velvety" and "luminous." Emalie performed in the role of Countess Ceprano in the Metropolitan Opera's staging of Verdi's *Rigoletto* in February 2013, which was broadcast as part of the Met's *Live in HD* series. She has been invited to join the Opera Studio at Salzburg State Theater in Austria during the 2014-15 season.

Hayley Treider, actor



A young actor with a rapidly developing professional career in New York, Hayley Treider is a graduate (B.F.A. in Acting) of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA). Represented by Leading Artists, Inc., she has begun to diversify her work with appearances in plays, television, and film. Hayley boasts a particularly strong record in theater, having acted in numerous on and off Broadway productions as well as in several regional festivals and tours. Hayley reached a larger audience with her first television spot as a court witness on the NBC series *Law & Order SVU*. She boasts a wide range of training in acting, speech, voice, dance, stage combat, and film and audition techniques. One of her valuable talents is her singing, which has earned for her the opportunity to sing backup for James Taylor at Lincoln Center. *The New York Times'* theater critic Ben Brantley, in a review for *The Best of Everything,* wrote glowingly of Hayley's "torchy number". It is also evident from various reviews that Hayley possesses the often intangible charm that sparks an audience's connection with a performer.

Fellow Profiles – 2012 Recipients

Paul Appleby, tenor



An exciting and versatile talent, Paul Appleby completed his formal training last year as a participant in the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. He is a National Winner of the 2009 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and a recipient of a 2009 Sara Tucker study grant from the Richard Tucker Music Foundation. With the next few years bringing both huge opportunities and major challenges, Paul will use his Fellowship to continue to develop his artistry and to prepare for major roles at the Metropolitan Opera as well as role debuts and company debuts around the world.

Eric Berryman, actor



A graduate with University and College Honors of Carnegie Mellon University, Eric also received the John Arthur Kennedy Award for Acting. In his freshman year, he traveled to Japan to participate in an intense puppetry workshop. Three years later, he was the first student at the School of Drama to spend a semester at the Korea National University of Arts in Seoul. An appointment last year as a Resident Company Member of Everyman Theatre provided Eric with valuable performing experience in several different productions, including a featured role in Suzan-Lori Parks' *Topdog/Underdog*, a Pulitzer Prize-winning drama, and one of the lead roles in the play *Fly*, a tribute to the experiences of the African-American pilots in World War II, collectively known as the Tuskegee Airmen. Eric is currently in Australia working with the renowned Physical Theater Company Zen Zen Zo. He will perform as Jason in the Company's production of the Greek tragedy *Madea*.

Austin Durant, actor



Just two years after graduating from the Yale School of Drama, Austin is already earning recognition for stage acting that is precise, surprising and mature. He has performed for the past year as a member of the award-winning ensemble production of *War Horse* at Lincoln Center Theater. With the support provided by his Fellowship, he intends to continue his artistic development with a number of new and engaging projects which include two shows at the Yale Repertory Theatre: a new play called *American Night* and the role of Horatio in in a production of *Hamlet* starring Paul Giamatti.

Sullivan Fortner, Jr., jazz pianist



Building on his first-rate background in music education and training, including a Master of Music degree from the Manhattan School of Music, Bachelor of Music degree in Performance from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and graduation with distinction from the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts, Sullivan expects his Fellowship to have a significant impact on his artistic and career goals. He will be able to study with several "jazz icons," he has begun touring with his trio, and he is exploring the music and culture of other countries (India, Brazil and Ghana), fusing all these influences into a sound which is uniquely his own.

Devon Guthrie, soprano



Devon suggests that the mantra for this new chapter in her life is "Leap and the net will appear." With the welcome net of the Fellowship, she is taking the leap from her structured life as a student -- having earned a Bachelor's degree at Manhattan School of Music, Master's in Music degree and Artist Diploma in Opera Studies from The Juilliard School -- to work intensively on establishing her career. The Fellowship has allowed her to continue working on technique and to benefit from specialized coaching. She is also using Fellowship resources to travel to auditions, prepare for new roles, create a website, and fulfill other professional needs.

Alex Lawrence, baritone



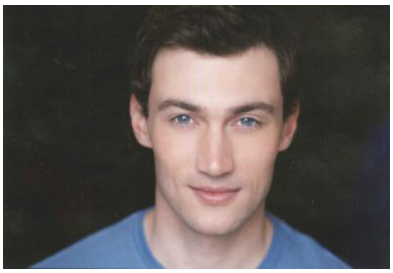
As an operatic baritone, Alex's rise in the musical world has been gradual, steady and measured. To be sure, he expects to continue his gradual career trajectory, counting on the time which is required for the maturation of his voice and artistry. Yet the Fellowship term also signals his entry into a series of increasingly valuable artistic and professional experiences that will build on the foundations he established during his four-year artistic residency at the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia and his membership in the studio ensemble of Theater Basel in Basel, Switzerland. In the fall 2013, Alex moved to Zurich to join the ensemble of the Zurich Opera. He returned to the renowned Glimmerglass Festival in July 2013 to sing the title role in Verdi's *King for a Day*.

Jeraldine May Mendoza, ballet dancer



The Joffrey Ballet welcomed Jeraldine into the company for its 2011-12 New Generation season and she has already made her mark in leading roles, including the world premiere of the Joffrey's *Don Quixote*, *The Nutcracker*, and the North American premiere of *Infra*. After completing her training at City Ballet School of San Francisco, primarily under the artistic direction of Galina Alexandrova, she became the first American female in the history of the Bolshoi Ballet Academy's 236-year history to graduate with honors in a Russian course. As a Leonore Annenberg Arts Fellow, Jeraldine will study in San Francisco with Ms. Alexandrova, in Moscow with ballet mistress Margarita Sergeevna Drozdova, and in London and Paris with contemporary master Antoine Vereecken. Jeraldine will study at the Moscow State Academy of Choreography and will become a certified classical ballet teacher.

Bryce Pinkham, actor



Within a few weeks of his nomination for the Fellowship, Bryce Pinkham was appearing as one of the four leads in the Broadway production of the London musical *Ghost*. He is currently starring on Broadway in the musical comedy *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder.* Previously, he performed at Yale Repertory Theater, The Guthrie Theater, Williamstown Theater Festival, and Hartford Stage, and he worked in high profile projects such as Horton Foote's *Orphans' Home Cycle* and the Broadway production of *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*. Bryce believes that his mission as an artist is continued growth; accordingly, the Fellowship will afford him opportunities to take advanced training in physical comedy, to invest in additional technical training for the stage (piano, tap dancing, and singing lessons), to participate in on-camera acting classes for work in television and film, to enroll in a filmmaking class, and to cover expenses for other professional needs.

Michelle Ross, violinist and composer



Trained as a violinist with Itzhak Perlman since the age of twelve, Michelle also holds a Bachelor's degree in English and Comparative Literature from Columbia University. She received a Masters of Music degree from The Juilliard School in May 2012. With her Leonore Annenberg Fellowship, she intends to study and perfect two monumental works -- all six *Unaccompanied Partitas* and *Sonatas* of J. S. Bach, and Bela Bartok's *Solo Sonata*-- and produce a CD/DVD recording of these works. She will follow the recording with multiple debut recitals in major U.S. cities. In addition, she will devote time to composing and performing the original works. She will tour for a third time with Musicians from Marlboro in 2014-2015.

Eric Tamm, corps de ballet



Photo by Gene Schiavone

A native of San Francisco, Eric began his dance training with tap and jazz. His ballet training began at age 14 at the Irine Fokine School of Ballet (2000-2003). After further training with American Ballet Theatre's Studio Company (2004-2007), he was invited to join the main company (corps de ballet) in 2007. Eric used some of his Fellowship to take acting lessons which gave him the opportunity to step back from the technique of ballet and delve more deeply into the emotions and mannerisms of the characters he portrays. He also will seek private coaching on both current and future principal roles. Finally, he will continue his studies toward a Bachelor's degree, with a view to his long term goal as a leader of an arts organization, and he created a dance on film video.

Fellow Profiles – 2011 Recipients

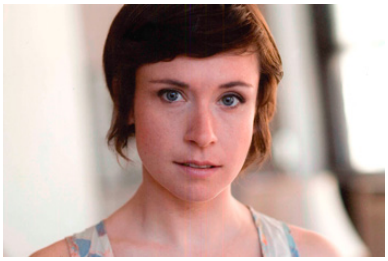
Christopher Bolduc, baritone



Photo by Arielle Doneson

The reviews are in for operatic baritone Christopher Bolduc – each one fortifying the bright and successful future that Christopher's vocals will bring him. While attending the master of music program at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, he excelled in numerous productions, earning top prizes including the Sullivan Foundation Awards for Voice, the Opera Index Competition, the Julian Gayarre Competition, and the Florida Grand Opera Voice Competition. With several professional debuts in leading roles across America, Christopher used the fellowship to assist him in securing vocal coaching for role preparation, as well as the necessary headshots and professional websites required of professional opera singers. Christopher made his Metropolitan Opera debut in the 2013-14 season in the new opera *Two Boys* by contemporary classical music composer Nico Muhly.

Hannah Cabell, actor



Born to a family of stage performers, Hannah Cabell fell into her role as an actor at an early age – five years old to be exact. She walked onstage and threw her arms around an actor playing her grandfather in the play "They Knew What They Wanted." She's been enthralled by the stage life ever since. Hannah attended Oberlin College (Oberlin, Ohio) and majored in Russian Literature and Theater, spent time in Moscow studying at the Moscow Art Theater, and pursued her dream of becoming a working actor by attending graduate school at New York University. In 2010 she co-starred with Mandy Patinkin in Rinne Groff's *Compulsion* at The Public Theater. With the fellowship, Hannah workshopped new plays at Williamstown, Playwrights Horizons, MCC Theater, and the O'Neill; studied on-camera acting; took a character and clown class with one of the top British physical theater actors in London; performed in Boston and New Haven in a new David Adjmi play, *Marie Antoinette*, co-produced by American Repertory Theater and Yale Repertory Theatre; joined a fledgling theater company called Dream Lab headed by Niegel Smith; completed the screenplay for a work of her own; and continued to secure support for a full staging in the West End of another play which she co-wrote.

Steve Daly, photographer



Photo by Yoni Goldstein

Steve walked away from nearly 15 years as an investigative reporter and media producer, having risked his life in conflict and disaster zones such as Iraq, the Balkans, Afghanistan, and Indonesia, to take on a different kind of risk: traveling, exploring exhibition opportunities in Düsseldorf, Colögne, Berlin and Scandinavia, and seeking gallery representation. "The more I make, the more I broaden my visual territory, the more all the pieces converse with each other…I've begun to successfully transfer some of my personal melancholy, layers of experience, and obtuse sense of humor into my work in the form of a larger, more complex sense about the time we live in through the process of photography," Steve says.

Demetia Hopkins, dancer



Photo by Rebekah Musser Photography

It started with a dream, a whisper in her ear of a notion that, while seemingly improbable, lit a fire inside of her. Demetia Hopkins began dancing when she was four in a studio not far from her hometown in Orange County, Virginia. Today, Demetia lives a 'New York storybook life,' performing in numerous productions and developing her talents in the acclaimed New York dance theater company, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Utilizing her fellowship, she is bringing more arts education into rural Virginia. Demetia made this possible by arranging performances by professional dance companies for the community and master classes for the local dance studio.

Nadine Sierra, soprano

Opera News called her the next 'singer to watch'; *The New York Times* praised her 'commanding stage presence'; *The Palm Beach ArtsPaper* predicts a sizable career for her in the world's opera houses. Clearly, Nadine Sierra has made an impression in the arts and theater scene. At age 22, the young soprano has been acknowledged in several competitions, including winning the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in March 2009. She graduated with her Bachelor's degree from the Mannes College for Music in May 2010, and shortly thereafter was accepted into a two-year residency as an Adler Fellow (young artist) with the San Francisco Opera. The Leonore Annenberg Fellowship allowed Nadine the opportunity to not only participate as an Adler Fellow comfortably but to continue receiving training and coaching, and most importantly allowed her to create a professional DVD to submit with her nomination to the prestigious 2013 Cardiff Singer of the World Competition.

Fellow Profiles – 2010 Recipients

Francesca Anderegg, violinist



Francesca has had orchestral performances with the Juilliard Symphony (as Concertmaster), at Tanglewood Music Center (Orchestra conducted by James Levine), and the Lucerne Festival Academy (Assistant Concertmaster, Orchestra conducted by Pierre Boulez). She also has performed with chamber music groups, including chamber music collaboration with Itzhak Perlman in the Perlman Music Program, and in solo recitals and concerts. Francesca used the Fellowship funding to record a CD which was released in 2012 by Albany Records to critical acclaim. Francesca designed the program on this recording, which consists of works by Mozart, Schoenberg, Perle, Carter, and Schubert. The Fellowship also allowed Francesca the opportunity to tour across the U.S., and in doing so, she was able to give back to each of the local communities in which performed by presenting a free outreach presentation in a public school to introduce students to classical music and inspire them to consider what they can achieve through artistic pursuits. In September 2012, Francesca accepted a position as a violin professor in St. Olaf College.

Amari Cheatom, actor



Theater critic Charles Isherwood in *The New York Times* (review of *Zooman and the Sign,* March 25, 2009) describes Amari Cheatom as "vibrant," a "coldly charismatic murderer [who] provides a sinister but captivating force." In a review of the same play for *Curtain Up,* Paulanne Simmons writes that "the cement that holds this play together is the riveting performance of Amari Cheatom." Amari played Roy in Quentin Tarantino's Oscar-nominated film *Django Unchained.* He made his debut as a leading actor in *Newlyweeds* (2013).

Charlotte Cutler Hallberg, painter



A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design and the Yale School of Art, Charlotte has exhibited her work at Yale, RISD, and Brown University. Charlotte is known not only for her artistic gifts but also her generous spirit: she played a key role in organizing a silent auction in the Yale School of Art to benefit victims of the earthquakes in Haiti. Charlotte used her Fellowship to travel to Europe and see firsthand its great works of art, visit its most important paint manufactures and study coloring and lighting. In 2012 she returned to the U.S. and established a studio in Brooklyn, NY.

Simone Messmer, soloist



Photo by Rosalie O'Connor

Simone trained at Ballet Arts Minnesota and at The Harid Conservatory in Boca Raton, Florida. She joined American Ballet Theatre's Studio Company in 2001 and was named an ABT apprentice in 2002. The following year, she became a member of the corps de ballet; in 2010, she was promoted to soloist. She joined San Francisco Ballet as a soloist in 2013. Simone has danced principal roles in ballets including Coralli/Perrot/Petipa's *Giselle* (Myrtha), Neumeier's *Lady of the Camellias* (Prudence), and Nureyev's *La Bayadère* (Gamzatti). She created principal roles in Ratmansky's *Firebird* (Maiden) and *Symphony #9*, among others. In the future, she expects to give back to the art form by coaching, teaching, and mentoring the next generation.

Nyambi Nyambi, actor



Since completing NYU's Graduate Acting Program in 2008, Nyambi has delivered critically acclaimed performances as Caliban in The Classic Stage Company's production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest,* in Lincoln Center's Broadway production of August Wilson's *Joe Turner's Come and Gone,* and in Athol Fugard's newest play, *Coming Home,* at the Wilma Theater in Philadelphia. Nyambi's plans to allocate his award range from paying his student loans to advanced acting and taking voice lessons and the developing a new play. He plays Samuel in CBS's hit show *Mike and Molly,* which debuted in the fall 2010 season.

Brenda Rae, soprano



Photo by Yoni Goldstein

Brenda Rae received her Master of Music degree from the Juilliard School in 2006. In 2007, she learned new roles as a participant in the Juilliard Opera Center, and was a member of Glimmerglass Opera's Young American Artists Program. She also performed at Alice Tully Hall as a winner of the Juilliard Vocal Arts Honors Recital, and gave a joint recital at Carnegie Hall under the auspices of the Marilyn Horne Foundation. Currently a member of the ensemble at Oper Frankfurt, Brenda has used the Fellowship to prepare for major professional roles, including Olympia in *Tales of Hoffman* (premiere at Oper Frankfurt, fall 2010) and Zerbinetta in *Ariadne auf Naxos* (L'Opéra National de Bordeaux, January-March 2011). Some of Brenda's roles in 2013 included playing Cleopatra in Handel's *Giulo Cesare, Pamina* in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte,* and Violetta in Verdi's *La Traviata.*

Fellow Profiles – 2009 Recipients

Jonathan David Martin, actor



Since receiving his Fellowship, Jonathan has traveled extensively, honing his acting skills and developing his nascent talent as a director. In Florence, Italy, he assisted his faculty mentor, Jim Calder (Tisch School of the Arts, NYU), on his adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream,* titled *Dream a Little Dream.* He also remounted his own play, *Point of Departure*, for the Studio Tisch Festival in New York. Jonathan performed in another Shakespeare adaptation, *Pericles Redux,* by Not Man Apart Physical Theatre Ensemble at the Kirk Douglas Theatre in Los Angeles. He performed in the popular Broadway production *War Horse.* As co-director of Smoke and Mirrors Collaborative, he helped to develop *Ndebele Funeral* which received the FringeNYC Overall Excellence Award for Best Play. The Off-Broadway premiere is scheduled in Fall 2014.

Angel Otero, painter



A graduate of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Angel is a highly sought after contemporary artist, who created a unique style of painting that sets him apart from other artists and results in a high demand for his work. He has exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) in Chicago, and participated on an artist's panel for a new collector's group called Emerge. Angel also exhibited his work at the New Art Dealers Alliance (NADA) during Art Basel Miami Beach, Leyendecker Gallery in the Canary Islands, Spain, the Chicago Cultural Center, and PRISM Gallery in Los Angeles. He has had solo exhibitions in the Brand New Gallery in Milan, Italy; Galerie Isa, Mumbai, India; and Istanbul '74 in Istanbul Turkey. He is represented by the New York Gallery Lehmann Maupin.

Constance Stamatiou, dancer



Photo by Andrew Eccles

Constance used her Fellowship funds to enhance her craft: she took classes in gyrotonics with master teacher Sebastian Plettenberg to improve core strength, flexibility, and overall technique; ballroom classes to improve her partnering skills, coordination, and versatility; and floor barre classes with Renée Robinson, a veteran of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (AAADT). A member of AAADT since 2007, Constance undertook these activities either after Ailey rehearsals or while the Company was on its international tour in Paris, Copenhagen and Athens. She is currently a freelance dancer/model/actress.

Fellow Profiles – 2008 Recipients

Nicole Beharie, actor

Nicole received critical acclaim for her first major film, *American Violet,* which is now available on DVD and Blu-Ray. She has continued to build an impressive list of film and TV credits, including a co-starring role in the Indie film *My Last Day Without You* (screened for distributors at Cannes and other film festivals) and in *Shame* (with Michael Fassbender), and she had a recurring role in the CBS series *The Good Wife*. She also worked with Pam Grier and Blair Underwood on a suspense thriller titled *On the Seventh Day*, co-starring with Chadwick Boseman, Harrison Ford, Christopher Meloni, T.R. Knight and Lucas Black, and she had a key role in the Jackie Robinson biopic, *42*. She is currently starring in the television series *Sleepy Hollow* on the Fox network. True to the vision of philanthropist Leonore Annenberg, Nicole has also volunteered in South Africa (teaching singing and acting to children affected by HIV and AIDS), attended three film festivals, shot a television pilot, started writing a performance piece, and completed numerous play readings and several workshop performances of plays.

Misty Copeland and Sarah Lane, soloists



Photo by Marty Sohl.



Photo by Rosalie O'Connor

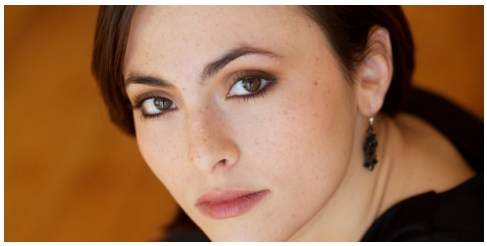
Both Soloists with American Ballet Theatre, Misty and Sarah used their Fellowships to explore new avenues of dance: Misty with the Balanchine technique and Sarah with flamenco lessons in Spain. Both also gained a better understanding of choreography, and participated in workshops and seminars in arts leadership. Sarah appeared as a dancing double for actor Natalie Portman in the Darren Aronofsky-directed thriller *Black Swan*. Misty is ABT's first black female Soloist in twenty years. She joined Prince on part of his Crimson and Clover tour and appeared in the music video for the song. A great believer in the value of Boys and Girls Clubs, she was inducted into the organization's Hall of Fame in 2012. In 2014, Simon and Schuster published Misty's memoir *Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina.*

André Holland, actor



In addition to his acclaimed work in playwright Tarell Alvin McCraney's *The Brother/Sister Plays,* André dedicated time to developing a solo show during a residency at the Ars Nova Theatre in New York; traveled to Florence, Italy to co-create a three-actor production of *Romeo and Juliet,* which was later performed at Classic Stage Company in New York; participated in workshops and readings with the Shakespeare Society, Red Bull Theatre, and the Alliance Theatre; and played a part in the FOX feature film *Bride Wars* and the title role in the independent film *Sugar.* He had a leading role in *All's Well That Ends Well*, a production of New York's Shakespeare in the Park; and had the part of reporter Wendell Smith in Brian Helgeland's *42*, a biographical movie about baseball player Jackie Robinson and the racial integration of Major League Baseball. His most recent film is *Black and White* with Kevin Costner and Octavia Spencer. He also appears in *The Knick,* a series on Cinemax directed by Steven Soderbergh.

Isabel Leonard, mezzo soprano



Just eight years into her professional career, Isabel has established herself as an audience favorite at the Metropolitan Opera. She recently appeared at the Met in a trio of roles: Miranda in the company premiere of Thomas Adès' *The Tempest*, directed by Robert Lepage and conducted by the composer; Rosina in Bartlett Sher's *Barbière* staging; and Blanche de la Force in a revival of *Dialogues des Carmélites*. In recent years, she has performed with six different opera companies and two orchestras, and in two recitals in France. She took on three new operatic roles: *La Perichole* by Offenbach, performed with L'Opera National de Bordeaux; *Cenerentola* in Fort Worth, Texas; and *Cosi fan Tutte* at the Salzburg Summer Festival. In between these productions, she sang in three different productions of *Le Nozze di Figaro* in Cleveland, Munich and the Metropolitan Opera and, in August 2012, she made her company début in a new production of that opera at Glyndebourne. She is the recipient of the 2013 Richard Tucker Award and a Grammy award winner for Ades' *The Tempest* (Best Opera Recording).

Michelle Mola, dancer

Since receiving her fellowship, Michelle has choreographed and performed several new works by her dance group, The Troupe; danced a solo part in new choreography by Aszure Barton at the Bolero Theater in Santa Barbara, Calif.; taught a workshop on improvisation at Peridance Center in New York City; volunteer-taught movement classes at the International Refugee Committee for children and teenagers from over 21 different countries; continued to take ballet lessons; and completed a residency at the Yard Dance Colony on Martha's Vineyard.

Richard Mosse, photographer



TIME Magazine published a 6-page photo essay ("The Tunnel Economy of Gaza," October 2009) showcasing Richard's work in the tiny coastal territory, as well as a 14-page essay ("The Tent Cities of Haiti," May 2010) in which he captured the devastation from the January 2010 Haiti earthquake. Richard's travels also have taken him to Iraq, Australia, Thailand, and Argentina. He followed these trips with "The Fall," an exhibition of his photographic work as a Leonore Annenberg Fellow, at Jack Shaiman Gallery in New York City. As a Guggenheim Fellow, he continued his work in the Democratic Republic of Congo, which involves shooting with infrared film. In 2013, Richard represented Ireland at the Venice Biennale which he describes as "one of the greatest honours possible, for an artist."

Jeremy Strong, actor



Jeremy was trained at Yale, The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, and Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre Company. As a Leonore Annenberg Fellow, Jeremy began to build a larger and more diverse audience for his work. He had pivotal roles in the Broadway production of Robert Bolt's classic *A Man for All Seasons*; in the Off-Broadway production of Theresa Rebeck's new satire *Our House,* and the lead role in the LCT3 production of a new play, *The Coward* for which he received a Lortel nomination for Best Actor; and a lead role in the movie *Robot & Frank*, which also starred Susan Sarandon, Liv Tyler, Peter Saarsgard, Jeremy Sisto, and James Marsden. After participating in numerous workshops and readings, and auditioning in Los Angeles, he branched out from his theater-based work to film, playing opposite Katie Holmes, Anna Paquin, Elijah Wood, and Adam Brody, among others, in *The Romantics.* He plays an aide to the sixteenth President in *Lincoln*; as Thomas in his most recent film *Zero Dark Thirty*; and as Lee Harvey Oswald in *Parkland.* His most recent film is *The Judge*, an American comedy-drama directed by David Dobkin and scheduled for release in October 2014.

Jeff Williams, sculptor and **Daniel Visconti**, composer



Jeff and Daniel were recipients of Leonore Annenberg Arts Fellowships at their respective programs abroad—the American Academy in Rome and the American Academy in Berlin—where they associated with other artists, architects, curators, scholars and musicians in a creatively challenging environment. Jeff has since accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Sculpture at the University of Texas at Austin. Daniel completed commissions from the Minnesota Orchestra and Albany Symphony as well as a new work, *Drift of Rainbows,* commissioned by the Scharoun Ensemble. His first CD was released in December 2012 under the Bridge Records label.