
Biographies

Creative Team

Christian Capocaccia

Conductor

Christian Capocaccia is artistic director and principal conductor of Syracuse Opera, where he has led productions of *Macbeth*, *Don Giovanni*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *Carmen*, *Rigoletto*, and *La bohème*. As a guest conductor, he has led productions for Pittsburgh Opera (*L'elisir d'amore*, *La traviata*), Welsh National Opera (*Roberto Devereux*), Manhattan School of Music (*Orlando Paladino*), and OperaLombardia (*I Capuleti e i Montecchi*, *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*), among others.

Mr. Capocaccia appears frequently in concert with Symphoria, as its associate conductor. He has conducted the Pittsburgh Symphony, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Moscow Ballet Orchestra, and several orchestras in his native Italy, including Orchestra di Roma e del Lazio, Orchestra Città Aperta, and Orchestra Sinfonica di Pesaro.

Mr Capocaccia has served as assistant conductor of the Dallas Opera, Indiana University Opera, and Indiana University New Music Ensemble; resident conductor of the Fischer Center at Bard College; visiting conductor with Montclair State University's Opera Department; and assistant professor of conducting at the State University of New York College at Fredonia.

Born in Rome, Mr. Capocaccia attended the Santa Cecilia Music Conservatory. He is graduate of Indiana University Jacobs School of Music and attended the Aspen Music Festival and School as a conducting fellow, studying under David Zinman and Murry Sidlin.

Chas Rader-Shieber

Stage Director

Chas Rader-Shieber has directed over 30 productions for the Curtis Opera Theatre. His recent work outside of Philadelphia includes new productions of *Rusalka* for Des Moines Metro Opera; *La finta giardiniera* for Portland Opera; *Artaserse* for Pinchgut Opera in Sydney, Australia; and *Shining Brow* for Arizona Opera. His work has been seen at the opera companies of Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Santa Fe, Houston, Glimmerglass, St. Louis, Boston, Philadelphia, Minnesota, and Vancouver; Staatstheater Darmstadt; the New York City Opera; Washington National Opera; and the Spoleto Festival, among others.

Having made a specialty of 17th- and 18th-century operas, Mr. Rader-Shieber has directed Mozart's *Idomeneo*, *La clemenza di Tito*, *Die Zauberflöte*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, *Il re pastore*, and *Così fan tutte*; Handel's *Giulio Cesare*, *Semele*, *Ariodante*, *Acis and Galatea*, *Imeneo*, *Alcina*, *Xerxes*, *Partenope*, *Rinaldo*, *Tolomeo*, and *Flavio*; and works of Cavalli, Charpentier, Gluck, Monteverdi, and Purcell.

In 2020 he directs new productions of Vivaldi's *Bajazet* for Portland Opera and Rameau's *Platée* for Des Moines Metro Opera.

Mr. Rader-Shieber joined the Curtis faculty in 2009.