

AN ORCHESTRA OF VOICES

2016-17 Season Biographies

ERIC ALATORRE, bass, joined Chanticleer in the last century. Really. Now in his 27th season, he is the provider of much of the Chanticleer lore from former times and is enjoying sharing the joy of singing with some of his colleagues who are, quite literally, a new generation of singers. He still enjoys being able to perform all over the country and the world, which gives him plenty of time to explore his other passion: food. A part-time hedonist and full-time wine enthusiast, he is always looking for another wonderful dining experience to share with friends and his fellow singers on the road. His other passions include eating his way around the world, being married to his wonderful wife Dorothee, and enjoying watching his daughters Mia and Clara discover the joys of learning English, German and Spanish.



CHRIS ALBANESE is ayoung tenor and conductor noted for his ability to bring intelligent and spirited musical interpretations to a wide variety of repertoire.     Before joining Chanticleer, Chris was a doctoral candidate in Choral Conducting at the University of Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music, where he also served as director of the University of Cincinnati Men's Chorus, and as chorus master and assistant conductor for CCM opera productions.  He has served on the choral faculties of Xavier University and Archbishop McNicholas High School, and has presented clinics and master classes for the Ohio Music Education Association, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, along with numerous high schools and universities in the Midwest.  As a soloist, he has appeared most recently with the Cincinnati Bach Festival, Dayton Opera, Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, Cincinnati’s *Vocal Arts Ensemble*, and under the baton of Maestro Lorin Maazel at the Castleton Festival. Chris holds a BM in Music Education and Vocal Performance from the University of Dayton, and an MM in Vocal Performance from Northwestern University.  His most recent teachers include Ken Shaw (voice), Earl Rivers, and Brett Scott (conducting).  Outside of music, Chris is a proud uncle, amateur chef, golf enthusiast, and die-hard Cleveland sports fan.  This is his first season with Chanticleer.

BRIAN HINMAN, tenor, is in his eleventh season with Chanticleer. Born in the suburbs of Chicago, he spent his childhood singing in choirs.  Brian studied vocal performance at the University of Tennessee in addition to acting at the Larry Singer Studios and jazz with Joe Solomon, both in New York City. He has sung with rock bands, bluegrass bands and gospel choirs and has a long string of theater credits including lead roles in regional productions of *Company* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.*This is also Brian's ninth season as Chanticleer's Road Manager. He recently Co-Produced Chanticleer's latest pop/jazz studio album, *Someone New,* with Leslie Ann Jones and Jace Wittig.

MATTHEW KNICKMAN, baritone, is proud to be in his sixth season with Chanticleer. Born in Korea, he started singing as a boy soprano at St. Stephen’s Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He holds degrees in vocal performance and pedagogy from Westminster Choir College. As a member of the critically acclaimed Westminster Choir and Westminster Kantorei, he performed with the New York Philharmonic, Dresden Philharmonic, & New Jersey Symphony, and was led by celebrated conductors, including Alan Gilbert, Lorin Maazel, Kurt Masur, Harry Bicket, Charles Dutoit, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Richard Hickox, Neeme Järvi, Bernard Labadie, Nicholas McGegan, Julius Rudel, Stefan Parkman, Joseph Flummerfelt, and Andrew Megill. He has also performed with Les Violons du Roy et La Chapelle de Québec, Early Music New York, Choir of Trinity Wall Street, Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys, Opera Company of Philadelphia, Opera Theatre of Weston, and Spoleto Festival U.S.A. He has been a soloist in numerous oratorios and Bach cantatas, including the St. John and St. Matthew Passions with early music organizations such as Fuma Sacra, Philadelphia Bach Festival, and Carmel Bach Festival. He has also been a Finalist in the Sixth Biennial Bach Vocal Competition for American Singers. Recently, he has performed as a soloist with Santa Clara Chorale, San Jose Chamber Orchestra, and Symphony Silicon Valley. When not singing, Matthew enjoys eating comfort foods around the world, and is an exercise and nutritional science enthusiast.

CORTEZ MITCHELL, counterternor, is a native of Detroit, MI. He graduated from Morgan State University with a B.A. in music and a B.S. in mathematics and holds an M.M. in voice from the University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music.  As Minnesota Opera's first resident artist countertenor he performed the role of Cherubino in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* and covered Nicklausse in Offenbach's *Les Contes de Hoffman*.  With Urban Opera he performed the role of 1st Witch in Purcell’s *Dido and Aneas.* He has been featured in solo performances of J.S Bach's Cantata#147 *Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben* with the Dayton Philharmonic, R. Nathaniels Dett's *The Ordering of Moses* and Adolphus Hailstork's *Done Made My Vow* with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Rachmaniov's *Vespers* in St. Petersburg Russia, and Wynton Marsallis's *All Rise* with the Lincoln Center Jazz Ensemble. Cortez has received awards from the National Opera Association, The Washington International competition and the Houston Grand Opera Elleanor McCollum competition. Mr. Mitchell is in his tenth season with Chanticleer.

GERROD PAGENKOPF, countertenor, is excited to be singing a second season with Chanticleer.  A native of Northeast Wisconsin, Gerrod received his Bachelors of music education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and also holds a Masters degree in vocal performance from the University of Houston where he was a graduate fellow under Katherine Ciesinski.  A specialist in early music, Gerrod has performed with many early music ensembles throughout Boston and Houston including Ars Lyrica Houston, the Handel and Haydn Society, Blue Heron Renaissance Choir, Exsultemus, and the prestigious Church of the Advent in Boston's Beacon Hill.  In his spare time, Gerrod enjoys exploring San Francisco, geeking out to 17th century Italian madrigals, and finding the best iced coffee in every city he visits!

KORY REID, counterternor & assistant music director, is in his sixth season with Chanticleer. He studied music education at Pepperdine University and completed a Masters Degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Southern California. Kory is a sought after countertenor soloist who has sung for Los Angeles Zimriyah Chorale, Los Robles Master Chorale, Catgut Trio, USC Chamber Singers, Pepperdine University Concert Choir and Collegium Musicum, and for many diverse choral recitals and church music programs, including Mel Gibson's church. He is a barbershop music enthusiast and was a past member of the Westminster Chorus, winning the International Barbershop Chorus Contest in 2010. Kory also served as the Music and Choir Director for St. Matthew’s United Methodist Church in Newbury Park, CA. In his spare time, he enjoys watching eccentric documentaries, drinking wine, and teaching barbershop tags to his Chanticleer brothers on the road. Kory would like to give a shout out to his beautiful wife, Madeleine!

ALAN REINHARDT, counterternor, is pleased to be in his eleventh season with Chanticleer. He grew up in Long Island, N.Y. and prior to joining sang with various ensembles in New York City including The Men and Boys choir at St. Thomas Church on Fifth Avenue, Early Music New York and choral performances with the N.Y. Philharmonic. In 2005, he sang the lead countertenor role in the premiere of the dance/opera *A More Perfect Union* in the State Theatre in Perm, Russia as part of the Sergei Diaghilev Festival. Recently, he has been exploring his love of poetry on the website [Voetica.com](http://voetica.com/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) where you can find him reading such classic poets as Robert Frost, Richard Wilbur, Walt Whitman, William Wordsworth, and John Keats. An avid motorcyclist as well, Alan enjoys taking extensive trips in and around California and is a frequent backpacker in the national and state parks of the West coast. Alan holds degrees from SUNY Potsdam and the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana.

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MARQUES JERRELL RUFF, bass-baritone, has been noted for having a voice that,“has power, clarity, and brilliant shades of color,” by The Hartford Courant. Mr. Ruff is pleased to be in his fourth season with Chanticleer and remains grateful for the opportunity to travel the world fulfilling his purpose. A native of East Hartford, Connecticut, Marques is a graduate of Central Connecticut State University where his love of choral music was cultivated under the direction of Dr. Pamela J. Perry, and further bolstered by his decade-long tenure as a Section Leader and soloist at the historic Asylum Hill Congregational Church. Mr. Ruff has been privileged to appear in concert as a soloist with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, Vivre Musicale, CONCORA, and VOCE Inc., where he recorded “Sure on This Shining Night” with American composer, Morten Lauridsen. Marques has also been the recipient of top honors from the National Association of Teachers of Singing Voice Competition and the Classical Singer Competition. An avid jazz, gospel, and musical theater performer, he has appeared in regional theater productions of several plays including: *Rent* (Tom Collins) and *Ain’t Misbehavin’*. Prior to joining Chanticleer, Mr. Ruff recorded and released on Spotify a brand new song cycle written specifically for his unique instrument by composer, and friend, SSG Daniel J. Campolieta en titled, *Guided Imagery*.

LOGAN S. SHIELDS, countertenor, is elated to be joining Chanticleer for his first season. A peculiarly proud Michigander, Mr. Shields studied vocal performace at Western Michigan University and Grand Valley State University. While living in Grand Rapids, he performed with St. Mark's Episcopal, Schola Choir of the Grand Diocese, and OperaGR. Most recently he sang with Audivi, a professional ensemble based in Ann Arbor under the direction of Noah Horn. Outside of the classical realm he has been featured in *DownBeat Magazine's Student Music Awards*, winning "Best Blues/Pop/Rock Group of 2014" for his contributions on the Aaron Garcia Band's album, *Glass Girl*. Other passions include craft beer, vegetarianism, philisophical banter, freestyle rap, pugs, and spending time with his partner, Gabrielle.

ANDREW VAN ALLSBURG, tenor, is thrilled to begin his first season with Chanticleer. Originally from Holland, Michigan, Andrew received his Bachelors of Music Education from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI. During his undergraduate tenure, Andrew performed with the University Chorale directed by Dr. James Bass, and recorded and released an album of Monteverdi’s Vespers of 1610 with the Miami-based professional choir Seraphic Firedirected by Patrick Dupré Quigley*.* In addition, Andrewconducted the choir of the early music ensemble Collegium Musicum, and won a Downbeat Award with the vocal jazz ensemble, Gold Company, under the direction of the late Dr. Steve Zegree. A versatile performer, Andrew has performed globally for various cruise lines, production companies, contemporary a cappella groups, musicals, and has made TV appearances on the *Oprah Winfrey Show* and *Last Week Tonight* with John Oliver. While living in New York City, Andrew sang with Schola Dominicana at the Church of Saint Catherine of Sienna directed by James Wetzel, and was a featured singer in the *Radio City Christmas Spectacular* featuring the Rockettes, under the musical direction of Kevin Stites. Andrew enjoys traveling, spending time with friends and family, and can throw a mean Frisbee.

ADAM WARD, alto, is originally from Tecumseh, Oklahoma. At an early age Adam became fascinated with the voice of Patsy Cline. As a child he made a number of television appearances singing Cline’s songs. Mr. Ward began singing countertenor while studying French horn performance at Yale University. There he was also a founding member of the Yale Schola Cantorum under the direction of Simon Carrington. He has since performed as soloist with the International Contemporary Ensemble and was a member of the Choir of St. Mary the Virgin at the famed “Smoky Mary’s” in midtown Manhattan. As a horn player, Adam was a member of the Verbier Festival Orchestra, winner of the concerto competitions at Yale and Stony Brook Universities, and was a top prizewinner at the Coleman, Fischoff and Yellow Springs national chamber music competitions. As a composer his works have been heard around the world for nearly two decades. He was recently composer-in-residence for the New York City based Choral Chameleon directed by Vince Peterson. He is also the lead singer alongside compatriot Chelsea Eiben in the internet's beloved "poetic pop prophecy" *CHADAM*. Adam holds a B.M. from Manhattan School of Music, M.M. from Yale School of Music and additional years of study at the Hartt School, Royal College of Music (London) and Stony Brook University. Adam is overjoyed to be in his eleventh season with Chanticleer.

WILLIAM FRED SCOTT, Music Director, was the Artistic Director of the Atlanta Opera from 1985-2005 and the Associate Conductor of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra from 1981-1988–a post offered him by Robert Shaw. As Associate Conductor and Artistic Administrator of the Opera Company of Boston, he worked alongside that company’s legendary founder Sarah Caldwell from 1975-1981.  He is a frequent guest conductor at many of the world’s opera companies and symphony orchestras and the Director of Choral Music at The Westminster Schools, Atlanta. His first encounter with Chanticleer was in 1994, when he conducted Chanticleer and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in a program of music of the Mexican Baroque.

CHRISTINE BULLIN, Chanticleer's President and General Director, oversees the organization's artistic and administrative activities.  Prior to joining Chanticleer, Ms. Bullin served as the Director of the Centre de formation lyrique for the Opéra National de Paris, directing a new training center for singers.  During her tenure there, she managed all administrative, financial and artistic activities, and produced numerous operas and concerts.  From 1982-1993, Ms. Bullin was the Director of the San Francisco Opera Center, which she created from existing and new programs and which is now revered throughout the operatic world.  Among her initiatives were a long-term exchange program with the Shanghai Conservatory; and Pacific Voices, a project which involved ten Pacific Rim countries.  She was the Executive Producer for three video documentaries about the SF Opera Center, including the Rocky Mountain Emmy-winning *Scaling the Wall*, featuring the historic visit of Western Opera Theater to China.  In recognition of her work in San Francisco, she was the recipient of the Bernard Osher Cultural Award.  Prior to joining the San Francisco Opera, she directed the touring company of the Opera Company of Boston.

Ms. Bullin is a frequent panelist for the National Endowment of the Arts, and a frequent jury member for vocal competitions.  A native of New Zealand, she holds degrees from Wellesley College and Simmons College, and was a Peace Corps volunteer in Liberia.