

North Park University
School of Music, Art, and Theatre presents

Buried Alive

Music by Jeff Myers
Libretto by Quincy Long

A journey through
death and what lies beyond.

Hanson Hall Room 202
7:30 pm
Friday | Saturday
March 24 | March 25
2023



BURIED ALIVE

Music by Jeff Myers
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BURIED ALIVE was commissioned by American Lyric Theater, Lawrence Edelson, Artistic and General Director.

World Premiere, Fargo-Moorhead Opera, March 2014.

BURIED ALIVE was developed under the auspices of the Composer Librettist Development Program at American Lyric Theater in New York City.

Underwriting for the commission and development of BURIED ALIVE was generously provided by the Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and the ASCAP Foundation.

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Undertaker/Doctor	Semajah Parker
Victor	Samuel Varghese
Morgue Attendant/Undertaker's Assistant 1/ ER Nurse/Priest	Charles M. Anderson*
Undertaker's Assistant 2 / ER Nurse 2 Mourner	Diana Monacelli**
Elena	Catherine Larson**
Gravedigger	Keaton Payne

* *Guest Artist*

** *NPU MMVP Alumna*

Supertitles operator
Azary Celis

Pianist, Vocal Coach, Conductor
Jennifer McCabe

Stage Director
George Cederquist

Special thanks to Lawrence Edelson and Lila Palmer at American Lyric Theater, and David Govertsen at North Park University.

JEFF MYERS

The music of Jeff Myers (b.1977) has been called "Striking...and harmonically rich" by the New York Times and "...brilliant and powerful..." by The Classical Voice of New England. He was recently hailed as a "gifted young composer" by New York Times critic Anthony Tommasini for the Fort Worth Opera staging of his opera *Buried Alive*. His violin work *The Angry Birds of Kauai* was commissioned, premiered and recorded by Grammy award winning violinist Hilary Hahn and pianist Cory Smythe. It is published by Boosey and Hawkes.

He has collaborated with librettist Royce Vavrek on two operas (*The Hunger Art* and *Maren of Vardø*) and librettist Quincy Long on a one-act opera (*Buried Alive*) for American Lyric Theater and a new Poe-inspired chamber opera (*The Embalmer's Daughter*). His *Requiem Aeternam* for mezzo and string quartet will be released on a new album with Rachel Calloway and JACK Quartet this year.

Myers' music has been played at venues such as Carnegie Hall, Library of Congress, Disney Concert Hall and many others. He has received awards and fellowships from The American Academy of Arts and Letters, BMI, and ASCAP, the Yale Institute for Musical Theater, Aspen Festival, and Tanglewood.

QUINCY LONG

Selected productions: *The Joy of Going Somewhere Definite*, Mark Taper Forum, also Atlantic Theatre, starring Felicity Huffman, directed by William H. Macy; *The Virgin Molly*, Atlantic Theatre and Berkeley Rep; *Shaker Heights*, Atlantic Theatre; *The Lively Lad*, New York Stage and Film, and Actors Theatre of Louisville's Humana Festival; Current projects: *The Point*, a play, *The Embalmer's Daughter*, an of opera, and *Plum Island*, a television series. Quincy is a graduate of the Yale School Drama and the American Lyric Theater's Composer/Librettist Development Program, and is a member of New Dramatists and Ensemble Studio Theater. Quincy is from Warren, Ohio and lives in New York City.

AMERICAN LYRIC THEATER (ALT)

Based in New York City, American Lyric Theater (ALT) was founded in 2005 by **Lawrence Edelson** to build a new body of

operatic repertoire by nurturing composers, librettists, and dramaturgs, developing sustainable artistic collaborations, and contributing new works to the national canon. ALT is home to the Composer Librettist Development Program (CLDP), the only full-time professional mentorship program for emerging opera writers in the country that provides tuition-free, personalized training along with direct financial support to artists selected through an open national call. The multi-year program consists of a core curriculum of classes and workshops, followed by residencies during which artists are commissioned to write full-length operas. Resident Artists in the CLDP are mentored by some of the country's leading working artists, including composer/librettist **Mark Adamo**; composers **Anthony Davis**, **Ricky Ian Gordon**, **Scott Davenport Richards**, and **Paul Moravec**; librettists **Mark Campbell** and **Michael Korie**; mezzo soprano **Adriana Zabala**; and dramaturg **Cori Ellison**. In 2012, ALT was the first company dedicated to artist mentorship rather than operatic production to be recognized by OPERA America as a Professional Company Member - a testament to ALT's service to the field. To date, ALT has provided intensive, personalized mentorship to over 50 gifted operatic writers. Alumni of the CLDP are at the forefront of creating new operas for companies nationwide, including Opera Philadelphia, Houston Grand Opera, Santa Fe Opera, Beth Morrison Projects, and The Metropolitan Opera. In 2020, ALT adopted The Opera Writers Diversity and Representation Initiative (OWDARI), a strategic framework that has evolved into a series of tangible actions to address racial justice in ALT's contributions to the opera field. Through the lens of the OWDARI, ALT has been diversifying the CLDP faculty and curriculum, and increasing access to ALT's programs by breaking down geographic and financial barriers to participation. The creation of the OWDARI Advisory Committee, comprised of BIPOC artists and related experts in the field, and the appointment of conductor **Kelly Kuo** to the newly created position of Associate Artistic Director in 2021, have been a particularly exciting developments for ALT as the company continues to advance these goals. For more information about ALT, please visit www.altnyc.org

School of Music, Art, and Theatre

Music Program

North Park University has been an accredited instructional member of the National Association of Schools of Music since 1940. The program seeks to complement a broad liberal arts education with intensive professional training that aspiring musicians need. Our students benefit from a relevant curriculum, attentive faculty, and programs where academic and performance studies are integrated. Two undergraduate degrees in music are offered: bachelor of music education and bachelor of arts in music, with concentrations in composition, general studies, jazz studies (instrumental), performance, and two master of music degrees, in vocal performance and collaborative piano (vocal coaching). We are also pleased to offer a Certificate in Arts Management and a Certificate in Music for Social Change and Human Values, based on the El Sistema-inspired philosophy of music instruction developed by celebrated Venezuelan economist and musician Maestro José Antonio Abreu.

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Calendar of Events



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