



## CATHY BERNS RUND *soprano*

Cathy Berns Rund hails originally from a grain and cattle farm in central Illinois. Her passion for music grew through childhood piano lessons along with singing and playing organ at her tiny parish church.

She earned her undergraduate degree in vocal performance from Eastern Illinois University, where she won top musical and academic honors, including the prestigious Livingston C. Lord Scholarship.

Cathy then followed her eventual husband, Rex, to Haiti, where she taught piano and directed a well-known boys' choir, *Les Petits Chanteurs*, in Port-au-Prince. This taste of the expatriate life whetted her appetite for more, and she won a Rotary International scholarship to study opera at the famed Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. She worked with the legendary Mozart soprano Wilma Lipp on her way to winning the conservatory's top prize for opera performance, the Lilli Lehmann Medallion. She was also a finalist in the European-wide *Deutsche Rundfunk* opera auditions. Upon graduation from the Mozarteum, she was engaged as a soloist for four years at the Vienna Staatsoper, one of the world's elite opera houses, where she became Vienna's favorite Papagena in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. She also appeared as an opera soloist in Monte Carlo and Oslo.

Since returning to America, Cathy has used her musical talent mostly in God's service as music director, cantor, and organist at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Lebanon. She has also appeared as a soloist in choir tours to Lourdes, León, Burgos, Santiago de Compostela, Fatima, Salzburg, Florence, Pisa, Siena, Assisi, and Rome, singing at Mass at St. Peter's Basilica with Pope Benedict XVI. For the past decade, Cathy has enjoyed numerous collaborations with David Bowden and the Columbus, Carmel and Terre Haute Symphony Orchestras, and has become an Indiana audience favorite.

Cathy and her husband take great pride and delight in their three children. They enjoy country life at their home near Lebanon, where they are avid gardeners, and Cathy, still a farm girl at heart, raises chickens for fresh eggs.



## BRUNO SANDES *baritone*

Known for his "ability to engage deeply with any audience" (Herald Times) and his "warm, refined, and mature voice" (NUVO), Brazilian baritone Bruno Sandes earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the Jacobs School of Music and is currently in the final stages of his doctorate in Voice Performance under the tutelage of Carol Vaness.

Bruno is passionate about the art song repertoire, particularly art songs based on folk music, which is also part of his final doctoral thesis.

In addition to an extensive list of concert repertoire, Sandes has also sung a vast and diverse number of roles, including Figaro in *The Barber of Seville*, Giorgio Germont in *La Traviata*, Belcore in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, Don Giovanni in *Don Giovanni*, Sergeant Sulpice in *La Fille du Regiment*, Ali Hakim in *Oklahoma!*, Doctor Falke in *Die Fledermaus*, Emile de Becque in *South Pacific*, Taddeo in *L'Italiana in Algieri*, and Sùng Ông in the world premiere of P. Q. Phan's *The Tale of Lady Thi Kinh*, among others.

Sandes has been seen on stages and theaters in the United States, Europe and South America. He has received many awards, including a Joshi International Fellowship from the Georgina Joshi Foundation, first place in the XI Maracanto International Voice Competition, a winner of the 2013 Indianapolis Matinee Musicale Competition, semifinalist in the IX Maria Callas International Voice Competition, and selected as one of six singers from around the world in the 42nd International Winter Festival of Campos do Jordão.

He was chosen as the grand winner of the 2014 IU Latin American Music Center Recording Competition and was a semifinalist of the 2018 Liszt International Competition. He served as an Associate Instructor of Voice at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music and was the assistant director of Carol Vaness's Graduate Opera Workshop.

Bruno received a degree in Interior Design and worked in the field before relocating to the United States. He still utilizes the skills gained in his first degree by renovating and restoring historic homes in Southern Indiana.