

Curriculum Vitæ of Elliott James-Ginn Encarnación

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Born: 01/11/1988, United States citizen

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Profile

Ambitious, thoughtful, dynamic and collaborative conductor, composer and tenor, with a strong interest and background in musical theory, sight-singing, tuning theory, the choral arts and opera.

Education

San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Master of Musical Arts in Composition (2012)

Manhattan School of Music, Bachelor of Musical Arts in Composition (2010)

Professional Experience

San Francisco Symphony, *Tenor Soloist* (2015 – present)

Major roles: Beethoven *Missa Solemnis*, tenor soloist (2015)

Bernstein *Candide*, Ragotski (2017)

Bach *Magnificat*, tenor soloist (2018 & 2020)

Mussorgsky *Boris Godunov*, Boyar in Attendance (2018)

Opera Theatre Unlimited, *Musical Director* (February 2017 – present)

I am responsible for the direction of all musicians and singers for workshops, rehearsal and performances, as well as individual coachings. I am also on the advisory committee, working with commissioned composers and librettists.

Prodigal Opera Productions, *Co-Founder/Artistic Director* (February 2014 - present)

New Bay Area non-profit organisation which focuses on reviving and maintaining a contemporary culture of opera through an active theatre component and a workshop series for librettists and composers. My role includes the typical repertory selection and directing duties of an AD; research, development, and composition of educational materials for the workshop programme; and administrative duties which include accounting, team organising, Board of Directors solicitation and conferencing, and donor solicitation.

San Francisco Symphony Chorus, *AGMA Tenor* (June 2013 – present)

I am expected to execute any and all choral repertory programmed by the symphony to a degree of excellence in keeping with the Symphony's artistic standards, as well as provide leadership and collaboration, in conjunction with my fellow AGMA members to the chorus at large.

San Francisco Conservatory of Music Precollege, Professor (2015-2018)

I was the vocal coach for all the opera and musical theatre scenes.
I also taught the 3rd through 12th grade students music history, theory and musicianship.

International Orange Chorale, Composer in Residence (2017 season)

As the ensemble thrives during its 10th year under the direction of Zane Fiala, I will be providing the group several original works for debut and recording.

San Francisco State University, Adjunct Professor, Chorus (2015)

I taught, directed and accompanied the school's highest-level chorus. I was expected to instruct musical theory, musicianship, sight-singing, vocal technique, ensemble, and diction. Under my leadership, the choir used its talents for community outreach, performing benefit concerts for charity.

CapellaSF, Tenor (November 2013 – present)

SFSC's award-winning director, Ragnar Bohlin, demands a high level of musicianship and vocal virtuosity from his elite group of singers. I have personally completed two professional recording contracts with this group.

Artists' Vocal Ensemble (AVE), Tenor (September 2011 – November 2014)

For over a decade, AVE has been a staple of the Bay Area's choral scene, performing difficult and diverse works with exceptionally minimal rehearsal preparation. Sight-reading and musical stability are indispensable skill sets in this group.

Hot Air Music Festival, Artistic Director, David Conte's Firebird Motel (2012)

I was selected to be the inaugural director of the festival's new opera component. My duties were unusually diverse, as I was called upon to be vocal coach to the entire cast, rehearsal pianist and musical director.

Colombia University, Assistant Musical Director, Michael J. LaCuscia's The Wild Party (2009)

My duties included vocal coaching, rehearsal piano and light conducting duties in assistance to director Micah Young.

Freelance Musician

TENOR (I have performed regularly at the following institutions for a year or longer)

- Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church (New York), *Ryan Jackson*
- St John the Divine Cathedral (New York), *Kent Tritle*
- Long Island Symphonic Choral Association (soloist), *Eric Stewart*
- St Peter's Lutheran Church (New York), *Bálint Karosi*
- Cathedral of Christ the Light (Oakland), *Rudy de Vos*
- Grace Cathedral (San Francisco), *Ben Bachmann*
- St Ignatius Catholic Church (San Francisco), *Jonathan Dimmock*
- All Saints' Episcopal Church (New York), *Cynthia Weinrich*

VOCAL COACH

While studying in New York, I made supplemental income by coaching and accompanying the students of :

- Marlena Malas
- Cynthia Hoffmann

- Robert White
- Edith Wiens
- Mignon Dunn
- Catherine Malfitano
- Ashley Putnam
- Mark Oswald

Major Teachers

Composition

Dr Conrad Susa (deceased), SFCM 2010 – 2012
 Dr David Garner, SFCM 2012
 Dr J. Mark Stambaugh, MSM 2006 – 2012

Conducting

David Gilbert 2010 – 2012, MSM (orchestral and operatic)
 Ronald Oliver 2011 – 2012, MSM (choral)
 Kristina Börger 2009 – 2010, MSM (choral)

Awards & Honours

SFCM Grand Prize Winner, Bi-Annual Choral Composition Competition, 2012
 SFCM Departmental Award for Excellence (composition), 2011 & 2012
 SFCM Dean's Award for Service, 2011
 SFCM First student to successfully test out of all available musicianship course levels, 2011

Unpublished Academic Texts

Making Opera: A Guide for Librettists and Composers (2014)
A Brief Exploration of the Achievement of Death in Venice (2012)
A Discussion of Tonal Relationship's in Britten's Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings (2012)
Saviour of the Heathens or The Redeemer Redeemed: A Brief Tour of a Prominent Melody (2011)
An Operatic Perspective on the Six String Quartets of Bartók (2011)
The Noble Comedy: Wagner's Mastersingers and the Serious Art of Laughter (2010)
Wahnsinn: The Symbiotic Unity of Tristan's and Parsifal's Third Acts (2008)

Languages

Spanish, *fluent conversational and written*
 German, *intermediate conversational and written*
 French, *intermediate written, beginner spoken*

References

Ragnar Bohlin, *director, San Francisco Symphony Chorus*
 email : rbohlin@sfsymphony.org

Dr David Conte, *Chair of Composition, San Francisco Conservatory of Music*
 email : david.conte@notes.sfcm.edu

Jimmy Kansau, *Coordinator for Vocal Ensembles, Voice Teacher, SFCM Precollege*
 email : jkansau@sfc.edu