



PACIFIC OPERA PROJECT

FRA DIAVOLO

DANIEL AUBER

NOVEMBER 7-16, 2025



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ABOUT POP

Founded in 2011, Pacific Opera Project's mission is to reimagine opera as an affordable adventure, by making unforgettable, entertaining performances accessible for all. We believe that in the future, opera will become a greater part of popular culture as we develop a diverse community of opera lovers and further the careers of talented creators through bold, inspiring performances.



This production is made possible in part by grants from the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and the Colburn Foundation.

SPECIAL THANKS

Phil and Susan Hopkins for hosting Mr. Stevens,
Josh Shaw for hosting Mr. Naig.

PACIFIC OPERA PROJECT PRESENTS

FRA DIAVOLO

BY DANIEL AUBER

ONE 20-MINUTE INTERMISSION

CAST

Fra Diavolo | Randall Bills
Zerlina | Sabrina Langlois
Lorenzo | James Stevens
Pamela | Meagan Martin
James George Hardcash | Matthew Ian Welch
Matteo | Errol Wesley Shaw
Giacomo | E. Scott Levin
Beppo | Krishna Raman

ARTISTIC TEAM

Director/Designer | Josh Shaw
Conductor | Kyle Naig
Chorus Master/Rehearsal Pianist | Benjamin Beckman
Costumer | Hailey Springer
Master Carpenter | David Handler
Scenic Painter | Juliet Prieto
Stage Manager | Maria Oliveira
Orchestra Manager | Boryana Popova
Technical Supervisor | Anthony Moresi
Front of House | Janie Dusenberry & Charlotte Osborn

SCAN HERE TO
MEET THE CAST



CHORUS

Jaime Reza | Fra Diavolo Cover
Talar Arslanian | Zerlina Cover
Christopher Walters | Hardcash Cover
Frank Watnick | Lorenzo Cover
Billy Malone | Matteo Cover
Jamie Sanderson | Giacomo Cover
Madeline Braun
John Nguyen
Mariah Schaumberg
Sarah Sturdevant

ORCHESTRA

Violin I | Boryana Popova
Violin II | Kimberly Hain
Viola | Alison Perrine
Cello | Oliver Walton
Flute | Eve Bañuelos
Oboe | Phil Popham
Clarinet | Virginia Figueiredo
Bassoon | Sumner Arano
Trumpet | Cameron Wilkins

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SYNOPSIS

Act 1 - Afternoon, outside an Inn in the village of Terracina, Italy, early 1800s

Zerlina, the innkeeper's daughter, is in love with Lorenzo, a young officer. However, because Lorenzo is poor, Matteo, her father, refuses to give his consent and intends her to marry a wealthy local farmer instead. Meanwhile, the notorious bandit Fra Diavolo has set his sights on new victims: the wealthy English couple Lord and Lady Hardcash, whose glittering jewels — especially Lady Hardcash's — have caught his attention. The couple arrive at Matteo's inn already shaken, having been robbed on the road, and they offer a generous reward for the recovery of Lady Hardcash's jewels. Lorenzo and his fellow soldiers immediately set out in pursuit of the thieves. Soon afterward, another supposed aristocrat — the Marquis di San Marco — arrives and takes a room for the night. (In truth, this is Fra Diavolo in disguise.) Feigning concern at rumors of local bandits, he generously offers to pay for the lodging of two ragged drifters who appear at the door. Once alone with them, the "Marquis" drops his mask: these are his henchmen, Beppo and Giacomo, who report that although they robbed the British travelers, they found no gold. When Lord and Lady Hardcash return, Fra Diavolo dismisses his men and begins flattering Lord Hardcash, cleverly coaxing him into revealing where his wealth is hidden — stitched into the linings of their clothing. Just then Lorenzo and his soldiers return, announcing they have routed the bandits, killed several, and recovered the stolen property. Lorenzo is given a share of the reward, making him wealthy enough to marry Zerlina at last.

Act 2 - Later that evening in the bedrooms of the inn.

That night, the guests retire to their respective rooms. Zerlina's room adjoins the Hardcash's, and she serves as Lady Hardcash's maid. While Zerlina is next door helping her, Fra Diavolo and his two accomplices slip into her room to await their chance to steal the hidden money. Zerlina returns and goes to sleep, but before the thieves can act, the soldiers unexpectedly come back from another sortie. The bandits must stay hidden. When Zerlina goes to open the gate for the returning troops, Lorenzo finds her with the disguised "Marquis" and, misreading the scene, angrily challenges him to a duel. Lord Hardcash, believing the Marquis is there to seduce his wife, also arranges a duel.

Act 3 - The following morning, again in front of the inn

By the next morning, Fra Diavolo has planned an ambush to destroy Lorenzo and his troops. However, Beppo and Giacomo inadvertently betray themselves and are searched by the soldiers, revealing the scheme. Lorenzo sets a countertrap, so when Fra Diavolo strides into the village expecting it to be deserted, he is surrounded and captured.

The libretto for this production was adapted by Josh Shaw and Sarah Sturdevant using multiple sources, with some original lyrics and dialogue. Special thanks to Michael Miller for securing a libretto by James Stewart, written for The Ohio Light Opera Company, and to Nicolas Garcia, for the use of Donald Pippin's libretto from Pocket Opera.

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FRA DIAVOLO

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THE MAGIC FLUTE
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