

HUGO VERA

Publicity / Media Packet

SHORT BIO

Hugo Vera is an Emmy Award-winning tenor, pedagogue, opera director, and conductor whose work spans the stage, the studio, and the classroom. He appeared on the Metropolitan Opera roster for seven seasons and has performed more than fifty operatic roles with companies including Lyric Opera of Chicago, Minnesota Opera, Arizona Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, Spoleto Festival USA, and Glimmerglass Opera. A champion of new work, he has originated roles in world premieres including *Riders of the Purple Sage* and *Loksi' Shaali'*. As Director of Vocal Arts & Opera at California State University, Northridge and founder of Lawrence Opera Theatre, he continues to perform while developing the next generation of singers.

FULL BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Hugo A. Vera is an Emmy Award-winning tenor, distinguished pedagogue, opera director, conductor, and entrepreneurial arts leader whose career embodies a rare fusion of artistic distinction, pedagogical depth, and institutional vision. A teacher of unusual breadth and impact, he has mentored singers across undergraduate, graduate, pre-professional, and professional settings. His pedagogy is shaped by a multistylistic vocal approach that unites rigorous classical training with stylistic versatility across musical theatre, jazz, pop, rock, country, and commercial music. His students have earned admission to Yale, USC, Indiana, Peabody, KU, and NYU, and have gone on to perform with the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala, Pittsburgh Opera, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, and Arizona Opera, as well as on Broadway and national tours of shows including *The Book of Mormon* and *Moulin Rouge!*.

Dr. Vera currently serves as Assistant Professor of Music, Director of Vocal Arts & Opera, and Coordinator/Department Head of Voice at California State University, Northridge. His broader teaching and leadership career includes appointments at New York University, Presbyterian College, the University of Kansas, the Vocal Academy of Orvieto, and the Vocal Academy of Opera in Bodrum, Turkey. He is the founder of Lawrence Opera Theatre.

Recognized for the vocal richness and dramatic force associated with the lyrico-spinto tenor repertoire, Dr. Vera appeared on the Metropolitan Opera roster for seven seasons and has sung with many of the field's most respected companies. His repertoire encompasses more than fifty operatic roles and over sixty-five large choral-orchestral works. A passionate champion of living composers and new music, he has helped bring significant contemporary works to life, including Ricky Ian Gordon's *The Grapes of Wrath*, Craig Bohmler's *Riders of the Purple Sage*, and Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate's *Loksi' Shaali'* (the first opera composed entirely in a U.S. tribal language). He is the 2025 winner of The American Prize in Opera and appears in the Emmy Award-winning documentary *Riders of the Purple Sage: The Making of a Western Opera*.

CONTACT & MANAGEMENT

Email: hugoverasings@gmail.com
Management: vocalartistsmgmt.com/hugo-vera

High-resolution publicity photos are available on the website gallery and upon request.