

Virginia Saya

Professor of Music and Director, Sinatra Opera Workshop at Loyola Marymount University
Los Angeles, CA, US

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Biography

Dr. Virginia Saya holds a Ph.D. in Musicology, teaches music history, and is founding director and designer of the Sinatra Opera Workshop, an ensemble endowed by Frank Sinatra in the mid-1990s for the cultivation and training of LMU undergraduate vocalists. As an operatic lyric coloratura, she appeared in major productions in such leading roles as Olympia in *The Tales of Hoffmann* and Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro*. Productions that she has directed and designed at LMU run the gamut of opera history and include *Gianni Schicchi* and her own 90-minute adaptations of *The Marriage of Figaro*, *The Rake's Progress*, *Così fan Tutte*, and *The Coronation of Poppea*, among others. In 2011, she added the West Coast premiere of John Cage's *Europera 5* to the list. Professor Saya was for ten years a contributing music critic to the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. She has authored several librettos and is published in *The New Grove Dictionary of Opera*; *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, Second Edition; *The Opera Quarterly*; and *Opera Canada*.

Industry Expertise

Training and Development, Research, Education/Learning

Areas of Expertise

Musicology, Music History, Sinatra Opera Workshop

Affiliations

The Tales of Hoffmann, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Gianni Schicchi*

Education

University of Cincinnati College
Ph.D. Musicology

University of Cincinnati College
M.M.

Simpson College
B.M.

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