

This production is made possible by Company Sponsors John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn

Porgy and Bess

(in English)

Opera in two acts by The Gershwins (see notes)

Libretto by (see notes)

Based on (see notes)

Additional major support has been provided by The Ira and Leonore Gershwin Philanthropic Fund

Conductor

John DeMain

Director

Francesca Zambello

Associate Director

Rita D'Angelo Tikador

Set designer

Peter J. Davison

Costume Designer

Paul Tazewell

Lighting Designer

Mark McCullough

Chorus Director

Ian Robertson

Choreographer

Denni Sayers

Dance Master

Lawrence Pech

Fight Director

Jonathan Rider

Piano

Paul Harris

Musical Preparation

Paul Harris

Allen Perriello

Carol Isaac

Dennis Doubin

Assistant Stage Director

Garnett Bruce

Stage Manager

Lisa Anderson

Costume supervisor

Christopher Verdosci

Wig and Makeup Designer

Gerd Mairandres

Production Super Captain

Susan Anderson

CAST

Porgy, a crippled beggar Eric Owens*

Bess Laquita Mitchell*

Crown, a stevedore Lester Lynch

Serena, Robbins's wife Karen Slack

Clara, Jake's wife Angel Blue

Maria, keeper of the cookshop Alteouise deVaughn

Jake, a fisherman Eric Greene

Sportin' Life, a dope peddler Chauncey Packer

Mingo Michael Bragg

Robbins Michael Austin

Peter, the honey man Calvin Lee

Frazier, a "lawyer" Kenneth Overton

Annie Malesha Jessie

Lily, Peter's wife Amber Mercomes

Strawberry Woman Samantha McElhanev

Jim, a cotton picker Earl Hazell

Undertaker Darren K. Stokes

Nelson Frederick Matthews

Crab Man Ashley Faatoalia

Detective Richard Farrell

Policeman Louis Landman

Coroner John Minágro

*Role debut †U.S. opera debut

PLACE AND TIME: Catfish Row and Kittiwah Island, South Carolina;
early 1950s

Tuesday, June 9 2009, at 8:00 PM

Friday, June 12 2009, at 8:00 PM

Sunday, June 14 2009, at 7:30 PM

Thursday, June 18 2009, at 7:30 PM

Sunday, June 21 2009, at 2:00 PM

Wednesday, June 24 2009, at 7:30 PM

Saturday, June 27 2009, at 8:00 PM

Part I

INTERMISSION

Part II

Sponsors:

Notes:

The Gershwins®
PORGY AND BESS
by George Gershwin, DuBose and Dorothy Heyward, and Ira Gershwin

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Washington National Opera production

ADDITIONAL SOLO VOICES:

Pamela Dillard
David Hughey
Kenneth Nichols
Taiwan Norris
Shawnette Sulker
Nicole Taylor
Tammy Woods

SUPERNUMERARIES

Rona Alexander
Denise Boxill
Yuriko Castillian
Vernon Felder
Verna Howard
Elé Howell
Morgan Jones
Myles Jones
Trina Lewis
Trinh Lewis
Mickel London
Jordyn Lucas
Christian Manning
Anita Merrihew
Wesley Morgan
Sean O'Connor
Tea Paden
Lawrence Shorter
Christopher Smith
Raymon Smith
Gilbert Spence
Doug Spradlin
James Stream
Skylar Waldon