

# Steven Aguiló-Arbues

*Conductor, Pianist, Vocal Coach, Chorus Master*

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## Faculty and Staff Positions

### **Conductor and Music Director, Boulder Opera Company, Boulder, CO**

I currently serve as conductor/music director for the 2021 season, leading productions of Ravel's *L'enfant et les sortilèges* and Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*. Served as conductor and vocal coach for the production of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* in 2015. I conducted the 2016 Gala Concert with orchestra, featuring arias and ensembles from standard operatic repertoire and zarzuela. 2015-2016, 2020-present.

### **Program and Music Director of Studio Artists, Sarasota Opera, FL**

Promoted to Head of Studio Program after one season with Sarasota Opera. I created programs, managed, and coached all Studio Artists for roles and concerts through out the winter season. The Studio Artists are members of the more advanced level of Sarasota Opera's two training programs. Some may have representation with a manager and they are usually assigned comprimario roles/covers in all four productions of the winter season. I served as the music director/pianist for outreach performances throughout the region. 2018-2020.

### **Cover/Assistant Conductor, Vocal Coach, Pianist, Sarasota Opera, FL**

Cover conductor for Mo. David Neely (Music Director at Des Moines Metro Opera, Director of Orchestral Activities University of Maryland) on a production of *Dialogues of the Carmelites*. I conducted rehearsals when Mo. Neely was unavailable as well as prepared/coached the cover cast. I conducted the cover run, presented pre-show lectures, and assisted Mo. Anthony Barrese (Artistic Director Opera Southwest, Opera Delaware) for a production of *L'Italiana in Algeri* as an assistant conductor. I coached selected principal, apprentice, and studio artists on their roles as well as for certain concerts presented throughout the 2017 season. During the 2018 season, I was cover conductor for *Carmen* (under Mo. John Spencer) and conducted occasional staging and chorus rehearsals. I coached the cover cast and conducted the cover run. During the 2019-2020 season, I assisted Mo. Victor DeRenzi on a production of *Rigoletto* as well as served as his cover conductor. I also served as cover conductor/assistant on *Roméo et Juliette* with Mo. Anthony Barrese. I am currently engaged for the 2022 season as cover conductor for *The Pearl Fishers* and assistant conductor for *Tosca*. 2017-present.

**Assistant Conductor/Principal Coach Pianist, Opera Colorado, Denver, CO**

I assisted conductor Stephen Lord during a production of *Madama Butterfly* and rehearsal conductor during *Le nozze di Figaro*. I also served as principal rehearsal pianist and coach for main stage productions of Bizet's *Carmen* and Verdi's *Rigoletto* with distinguished artists including Rachele Gilmore (Metropolitan Opera, Bayerische Staatsoper), Rene Barbera (La Scala, Metropolitan Opera, Vienna Staatsoper), Gordon Hawkins (Deutsche Oper Berlin, Washington National Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago) and Sandra Piques Eddy (Los Angeles Opera, Metropolitan Opera). 2008, 2014.

**Resident Coach Accompanist, Opera Colorado, Denver, CO**

Coached and musically prepared the Opera Colorado Young Artists for performances including outreach touring shows, aria and ensemble performances, comprimario main stage roles, recital song repertoire and masterclasses. I was the pianist for all Young Artist performances and repetiteur for Young Artist matinee performances. I arranged the outreach Young Artist touring operas as well as condensed versions of main stage operas for educational performances. I assisted in the *Page to Stage* educational program as resident composer, helping high school students create their own opera. In 2008, I was the music director (in collaboration with Central City Opera) of opera scenes composed by John Adams, Kirke Mechem, Thomas Pasatieri and Robert Aldridge for the Opera America Conference. 2008-2013.

**Staff Pianist Coach, The Atlanta Opera, Atlanta, GA**

Principal rehearsal pianist for Puccini's *Tosca* as well as organist during performances under the musical direction of Arthur Fagen (Atlanta Opera Music Director, Professor of Conducting Indiana University). Additional performances included Atlanta Opera's 2013 Gala Concert as well as preview concerts in the Atlanta metro area, featuring distinguished artists Kara Shay Thomson (Lyric Opera of Chicago, New York City Opera, Sarasota Opera), Luis Ledesma (La Scala, Teatro Colon, Houston Grand), and Massimiliano Pisapia (La Scala, Zürich Opernhaus, Munich National Theater). 2013.

**Coach/Pianist and Teaching Artist, Central City Opera, Central City and Denver Metro Area, CO**

Coach and pianist for the Central City Opera Touring Artists for performances through out the state of Colorado. Additional performances include preview and Gala concerts with distinguished artists such as Anna Christy (Metropolitan Opera, Santa Fe Opera, San Francisco Opera), Michael Mayes (Washington National, Teatro Real Madrid), Daniel Belcher (Opera Philadelphia, Houston Grand, Theatre du Chalet) and Elizabeth Welch (Phantom of the Opera, Broadway, Berlin). As a teaching artist, I collaborate and help lead school teachers and students with the *Music! Words! Opera!* curriculum, creating original opera/music theater productions. In addition, I was the coach/pianist for a touring production of *The*

*Ballad of Baby Doe* under the baton of Mo. John Baril. I was also featured as a collaborative pianist for the *CCO Al Fresco Series* during the summer of 2020, featuring baritone Armando Contreras. Currently I am engaged to serve as music director for a production of *Frida Kahlo and the Bravest Girl in the World* as well as répétiteur for a concert version of *L'elisir d'amore* in collaboration with the Denver Philharmonic. 2012-present.

**Assistant Professor Vocal Coach/ Opera Conductor, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO**

Principal vocal coach for the university voice area department and the Charles and Reta Ralph Opera Center. I coached undergraduate and graduate vocal students on recital and operatic repertoire. Taught advanced Italian, English, German and French Diction courses. Coordinated the opera music rehearsal schedule and conducted all opera music and staging rehearsals. I was the opera chorusmaster and backstage conductor. In 2015, I was the music director and conductor for CSU's production of *Idomeneo*. 2013-2015.

**Music Director Pianist and Vocal Coach, CU NOW, University of Colorado at Boulder, CO**

Coached and performed new opera scenes composed by selected CU composition students at the Composer Fellows' Initiative during the University of Colorado's New Opera Workshop (CU NOW). I also collaborated with esteemed contemporary opera composer Jake Heggie (*Dead Man Walking*, *Moby Dick*, *It's a Wonderful Life*) to improve the new opera scenes. 2018.

**Conductor, Collaborative Pianist, Vocal Coach, and Executive Recording Producer, Art Song Colorado, Denver, CO**

Collaborated and served as a vocal coach and recitalist for performances specializing in the classical art song genre with artists Margaret Ozaki Graves, Anna Englander, and Eapen Leubner. I recently served as rehearsal/associate conductor and coach for Heggie's *To Hell and Back* in collaboration with the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs (Colorado Springs). I was also pianist for the musical theater portion of that program with artists Jennifer DeDominici and Jonathan Hayes. I am currently engaged as collaborative pianist for upcoming recording album projects in 2022. 2018-present.

**Opera Consultant, Vocal Coach, and Pianist, Festival Amadeus, Whitefish, MT**

Served as pianist, vocal coach, continuo harpsichord, and opera conducting adviser to Mo. John Zoltek (Music Director Glacier Symphony and Chorale) for their production of *Così fan tutte*. 2019.

**Assistant Conductor and Conducting Fellow, Miami Music Festival, FL**

Assistant conductor to Mo. Steven Gathman (former Head of Music and Chorusmaster, Washington National Opera) on productions of *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* and *Gianni Schicchi*. I prepared a substantial amount of symphonic

repertoire for study and rehearsal with master teachers David Effron (former Artistic Director of Central City Opera and Professor of Conducting at Indiana University) and Larry Rachleff (Professor of Conducting, Rice University). 2016.

**Conductor and Lecturer, *Inside the Orchestra, Denver, CO***

Serve as conductor for a professional (union) orchestra that performs for more than 30,000 school children per year (formerly known as the *Junior Symphony Guild*). The performances expose school children and family audiences to orchestral repertoire, opera and ballet through a fast-paced scripted concert. Repertoire and styles range from Bach, Beethoven, Stravinsky to John Williams. In 2015, I created the first English/Spanish bilingual program, helping to foster relationships with Colorado's Hispanic population. 2012-present.

**Music Director and Conductor, *The Renaissance Project, Boulder, CO***

In charge of preparing and conducting a 25-person *a cappella* choir specializing in Renaissance choral works as well as contemporary choral works of a similar aesthetic. 2013-2017.

**Interim Chancel Choir and Music Director, *Augustana Lutheran Church ELCA, Denver, CO***

Served as conductor of the chancel choir during the months of November and December, culminating in the *Gloria Christmas Concert* (Chancel Choir and Stratus Chamber Orchestra), as well as preparing/conducting the anthems during Sunday services (through Christmas Eve). 2019.

**Staff Coach Pianist, *Crested Butte Music Festival, Crested Butte, CO***

Served as rehearsal pianist Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* and Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore* under Mo. David Syrus (former Head of Music for the *Royal Opera House in Covent Garden, London*). I coached and played for the Marcello Giordani Young Artist Program artists. I worked closely with renowned vocal coaches Richard Raub (Opera Company Philadelphia, Academy of Vocal Arts) and Laurent Phillipe (Academy of Vocal Arts, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden). 2012.

**Affiliate Faculty (Accompanying), *Metropolitan State University of Denver, Denver, CO***

Coached and played for a variety of vocal and instrumental students. I played for lessons, performance classes, juries and auditions. 2009.

**Music Director Senior Opera Theater, *Manhattan School of Music, New York, NY***

Coached and was responsible for the musical preparation of the Opera Theater seminar for undergraduate seniors completing a vocal performance degree. Repertoire included arias/ensembles from opera and musical theater selections. Served as chorusmaster and repetiteur for the production of *Dido and Aeneas*. 2007.

**Associate English Diction Coach, *Manhattan School of Music, New York, NY***

Associated English diction coach (Mid-Atlantic dialect) with Kathryn LaBouff (diction coach Metropolitan Opera, Houston Grand Opera) for the MSM Opera Studio productions of *The Village Singer* and *Lord Byron's Love Letter*. 2006.

**Conductor, Staff Pianist, and Coach, *Centro Studi Lirica Opera, Novafeltria, Italy***

I conducted opera scenes and played for regional and touring performances throughout the Emilia Romagna region of Italy. Coached program artists on Italian opera and song repertoire. I worked closely with Italian coach Ubaldo Fabbri (Rossini Opera Festival, Accademia Rossiniana). 2005.

**Assistant Conductor, Staff Pianist and Coach, *Manhattan School of Music, New York, NY***

I served as assistant conductor to the opera seminars conducted by Mo. Thomas Muraco (Oper Bremen, studienleiter), occasionally conducting rehearsals when Mo. Muraco was not available. I assisted on productions of *Madama Butterfly*, *Don Giovanni*, *Dialogues des Carmélites*, *Il Tabarro*, and *Gianni Schicchi*. I also studied orchestral conducting with Mo. David Gilbert (New York Philharmonic, American Ballet Theatre). I was hired as a staff pianist and coach one year before the completion of my Master of Music Degree. Duties included coaching undergraduate and graduate vocal students on operatic and recital repertoire, playing for lessons, playing for diction courses and vocal literature courses. I coached and played for the MSM Preparatory Division: Opera Studio, selected choirs and orchestras, and individual vocal and instrumental students. 2004-2007.

**Mentored as Assistant Conductor, *San Diego Opera, San Diego, CA***

I was a conducting pupil of esteemed Italian Maestro Edoardo Müller (Teatro alla Scala, Metropolitan Opera) at the San Diego Opera, working on productions of *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Tosca* and *Il Trovatore*. 1997-2003.

**Singers with whom I have performed with and coached have gone on to sing with opera companies including:**

*The Metropolitan Opera*  
*Vienna State Opera*  
*Teatro alla Scala*  
*Deutsche Oper Berlin*  
*San Francisco Opera*  
*Los Angeles Opera*  
*Santa Fe Opera*  
*Lyric Opera of Chicago*  
*Washington National Opera*  
*Oper Frankfurt*  
*Houston Grand Opera*  
*Royal Opera House Covent Garden*

*San Diego Opera*  
*Zürich Opernhaus*  
*Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe*  
*Opera National de Bordeaux*  
*English National Opera*  
*Opera de Lille*  
*Salzburg Festival*  
*Opera National du Rhin*

**Students whom I have coached have gone on to study at institutions including:**

*The Juilliard School*  
*Cincinnati Conservatory of Music*  
*Manhattan School of Music*  
*Mannes School of Music*  
*University of Southern California*  
*Yale University*  
*Indiana University, Bloomington*  
*Oberlin College and Conservatory*  
*Peabody Institute – Johns Hopkins University*

**Played for Studio Coachings/Masterclasses led by:**

Marilyn Horne, Renata Scotto, Nico Castel, Thomas Hampson, Martin Katz, Stephen Lord, Samuel Ramey, Dona D. Vaughn, Ari Pelto, Ubaldo Fabbri, Martha Eggerth, David Gately, David Syrus, Robert Cowart, Marni Nixon, Victor DeRenzi, Ashley Putnam, Brian Zeger, Richard Danielpour, Jose Maria Condemi, Lori Laitman, Takács String Quartet

**Conducting Teachers**

Edoardo Müller, Opera Conducting, *San Diego Opera*. 1997-2003.  
David Efron, Orchestral Conducting, *Miami Music Festival*. 2016.  
Larry Rachleff, Orchestral Conducting, *Miami Music Festival*. 2016.  
David Gilbert, Orchestral Conducting, *Manhattan School of Music*. 2006.  
Lawrence Kaptein, Choral Conducting, *University of Colorado, Boulder*. 2002.

**Major Collaborative Piano Teachers**

Thomas Muraco, *Manhattan School of Music*. 2003-2006.  
Robert Spillman, *University of Colorado, Boulder*. 2000-2002.

**Opera/Musical Theater Repertoire**

*Les pêcheurs de perles*, Cover Conductor, Coach. *Sarasota Opera*. 2022  
*Tosca*, Assistant Conductor. *Sarasota Opera*. 2022  
*L'enfant et les sortilèges*, Conductor, Coach. *Boulder Opera Company*. 2021  
*L'elisir d'amore*, Pianist, Coach. *Central City Opera in Concert*. 2021  
*Frida Kahlo and the Bravest Girl in the World*, Music Director, Coach. *Central City Opera*. 2021.

***To Hell and Back***, Rehearsal/Associate Conductor, Coach. *Art Song Colorado/Chamber Orchestra of the Springs*. 2021.

***Le Nozze di Figaro***, Conductor, Coach. *Boulder Opera Company*. 2021.

***Roméo et Juliette***, Cover Conductor, Coach. *Sarasota Opera*. 2020.

***Rigoletto***, Cover Conductor, Coach. *Sarasota Opera*. 2019.

***Brundibar***, Cover Conductor, Coach. *Sarasota Opera*. 2019.

***Così fan tutte***, Coach, Pianist, Consultant. *Festival Amadeus*. 2019.

***Turandot***, Backstage Conductor. *Sarasota Opera*. 2019.

***Carmen***, Cover Conductor, Coach. *Sarasota Opera*. 2018.

***Dialogues des Carmélites***, Cover Conductor, Coach, Repetiteur, Chorus Pianist. *Sarasota Opera*. 2017.

***L'Italiana in Algeri***, Assistant Conductor, Pianist. *Sarasota Opera*. 2017.

***The Ballad of Baby Doe***, Coach, Pianist. *Central City Opera Tour*. 2016-17.

***L'Enfant et les Sortilèges***, Assistant Conductor. *Miami Music Festival*. 2016.

***Gianni Schicchi***, Assistant Conductor. *Miami Music Festival*. 2016.

***The Scarlet Letter***, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2016.

***Il Barbiere di Siviglia***, Conductor, Coach. *Boulder Opera Company*. 2015.

***Idomeneo***, Conductor, Chorusmaster, Coach. *Colorado State University*. 2015.

***Aïda***, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2015.

***Signor Deluso***, Music Director, Coach. *Colorado State University*. 2015.

***The Meduim***, Music Director, Coach. *Colorado State University*. 2015.

***Gianni Schicchi***, Rehearsal Conductor, Coach. *Colorado State University*. 2014.

***Suor Angelica***, Rehearsal Conductor, Coach, Chorusmaster. *Colorado State University*. 2014.

***Rigoletto***, Coach, Repetiteur, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2014.

***Carmen***, Coach, Repetiteur, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2014.

***Cendrillon***, Rehearsal Conductor, Coach, Chorusmaster. *Colorado State University*. 2013.

***Tosca***, Coach, Repetiteur, Chorus Pianist. *Atlanta Opera*. 2013.

***Patience***, Rehearsal Conductor, Coach, Chorusmaster. *Colorado State University*. 2013.

***Don Giovanni***, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2013.

***Roméo et Juliette***, Coach, Chorus Pianist, Repetiteur for Young Artist Matinée. *Opera Colorado*. 2013.

***Die Zauberflöte***, Coach, Repetiteur, Chorus Pianist. *Crested Butte Music Festival*. 2012.

***L'Elisir d'Amore***, Coach, Repetiteur, Chorus Pianist. *Crested Butte Music Festival*. 2012.

***Le Nozze di Figaro***, Coach, Chorus Pianist, Repetiteur for Young Artist Matinée. *Opera Colorado*. 2012.

***Barber of Seville***, Outreach Music Director. *Opera Colorado*. 2012.

***Il Trovatore***, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2012.

***Florencia en el Amazonas***, Chorus Pianist and Diction Coach. *Opera Colorado*. 2012.

***Hansel and Gretel***, Outreach Music Director. *Opera Colorado*. 2011.

***La Cenerentola***, Coach, Chorus Pianist, Repetiteur for Young Artist Matinée. *Opera Colorado*. 2011.

***Rusalka***, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2011.

***Unfinished Sermons***, Conductor, Chorusmaster. *Denver, Colorado*. 2010.

***Carmen***, Outreach Music Director. *Opera Colorado*. 2010.

***La Bohème***, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2010.

***Il Barbiere di Siviglia***, Coach, Chorus Pianist, Repetiteur for Young Artist Matinée. *Opera Colorado*. 2010.

***Tosca***, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2010.

***Les Contes d'Hoffmann***, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2010.

***Così fan tutte***, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2009.

***The Music Shop***, Coach, Music Director. *Opera Colorado*. 2009.

***Les Pêcheurs des Perles***, Chorus Pianist. *Opera Colorado*. 2009.

***Roméo et Juliette***, Outreach Music Director. *Opera Colorado*. 2009.

***Anything Goes***, Conductor, Chorusmaster. *Colorado Light Opera*. 2009.

***Oklahoma!***, Assistant Conductor, Chorusmaster. *Colorado Light Opera*. 2009.

***Madama Butterfly***, Repetiteur, Chorus Pianist, Assistant to the Conductor. *Opera Colorado*. 2008.

***Don Pasquale***, Coach, Repetiteur for Young Artist Matinée. *Opera Colorado*. 2008.

***La Curandera***, Coach, Music Director. *Opera Colorado*. 2008.

***La Cenerentola***, Coach, Outreach Music Director. *Opera Colorado*. 2008.

***Dido and Aeneas***, Music Director, Conductor. *Manhattan School of Music*. 2007.

***Il Tabarro***, Assistant to Conductor, Repetiteur, Chorus Pianist. *Manhattan School of Music*. 2007.

***Gianni Schicchi***, Assistant to Conductor, Repetiteur. *Manhattan School of Music*. 2007.

***Dialogues des Carmélites***, Assistant Conductor, Repetiteur, Chorus Pianist. *Manhattan School of Music*. 2006.

***Don Giovanni***, Assistant Conductor, Repetiteur, Chorus Pianist. *Manhattan School of Music*. 2005.

***Madama Butterfly***, Assistant Conductor, Repetiteur, Chorus Pianist. *Manhattan School of Music*. 2004.

***Madama Butterfly***, Mentored Assistant Conductor, *San Diego Opera*. 2003.

***Pippin***, Performance Pianist. *University of Colorado, Boulder*. 2003.

***A Chorus Line***, Conductor, Repetiteur. *Boulder Broadway Company*. 2002.

***Tosca***, Mentored Assistant Conductor, *San Diego Opera*. 2002.

***Il Trovatore***, Mentored Assistant Conductor, *San Diego Opera*. 2000.

***Le Nozze di Figaro***, Mentored Assistant Conductor, *San Diego Opera*. 1998.

#### **Opera Chorus Master Experience**

***L'enfant et les sortilèges*** (*Boulder Opera Company*)  
***Idomeneo*** (*Colorado State University*)



*Suor Angelica* (Colorado State University)  
*Cendrillon* (Colorado State University)  
*Unfinished Sermons* (Denver, CO)  
*Patience* (Colorado State University)  
*Oklahoma!* (Colorado Light Opera)  
*Anything Goes* (Colorado Light Opera)  
*Dido and Aeneas* (Manhattan School of Music)

### Opera Arrangements

I created two-piano accompaniment versions of complete operas from the full orchestral scores. Operas included: *Madama Butterfly*, *Don Giovanni*, *Dialogues des Carmélites*, *Il Tabarro*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *L'enfant et les sortilèges*. 2003-2007

### Educational and Outreach Arrangements

Created condensed versions of operas, typically 45 minutes to one hour in length, intended mainly for K-12 outreach for Opera Colorado. In addition, I arranged condensed versions of operas, typically 2 hours in length, for Opera Colorado Young Artist matinee performances in the Ellie Caulkins Opera House with orchestra. Operas include: *Roméo et Juliette*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Carmen*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *La Cenerentola*. 2008-2012.

### Competition Judge/Adjudicator/Panelist

**National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)** Grant Panelist Opera Division, Washington, DC. 2020-2021  
**NATS National Association of Teachers of Singing** CO/WY, Laramie, WY and Denver, CO. 2016-2017.  
**Colorado Federation of Music Clubs (piano)**, Denver, CO. 2010-2016.  
**Young Artist Alliance (vocal)**, Thornton, CO. 2017.  
**United States International Duo Piano Competition**, Colorado Springs, CO. 2011-2015.

### Honors, Awards, Grants

**Winner Musical Merit Scholarship**, Manhattan School of Music. 2003-2006.

**Winner Festival Bela Bartok Competition (Collaborative piano)** Lima, Peru. 1998.

**Winner International Institute for Young Musicians Competition (Collaborative piano)**, Lawrence, KS. 1998.

**UROP Grant for Musicology Research** (University of Colorado, Boulder)

Awarded an academic grant in the field of musicology by the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program at the University of Colorado Boulder. I researched a rare medieval instrument called the *Zanfona* in Spain, returned to University of Colorado and presented my research in guest lectures for courses in Music History and Ethnomusicology. 2001.

**Languages**

Fluent Spanish (Castilian and Latin-American dialects) and English; proficient in conversational and written Italian. Extensive lyric diction studies and have taught university-level advanced diction courses in Italian, French, German, English (Neutral American, Mid-Atlantic, British RP).

**Education**

**Manhattan School of Music**, New York, NY, Professional Studies Certificate in Collaborative Piano. 2006.

**Manhattan School of Music**, New York, NY, Master of Music in Collaborative Piano. 2005.

**University of Colorado**, Boulder, CO, Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance. 2002.