



707

CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

presents

THE SOPRANOS

featuring

Marie Ashley, soprano,

Caroline Crawford, mezzo-soprano

Stefanie Katz, piano

Lisa Leonard, piano

Sunday, March 23, 2003

4:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall
de Hoernle International Center

Program

- Giunse alfin il momento* from Marriage of Figaro Wolfgang A. Mozart (1756-1791)
Deh vieni, non tardar from Marriage of Figaro
Jewel Song from Faust Charles Gounod (1818-1893)
Marie Ashley, soprano • Stefanie Katz, piano
- Stride la vampa (The flame crackles)* from Il Trovatore Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)
Must the Winter Come so Soon from Vanessa Samuel Barber (1910-1981)
Caroline Crawford, mezzo-soprano • Lisa Leonard, piano
- Elle a fui* from Tales of Hoffman Jacques Offenbach (1819-1880)
So anch'io la virtu magica from Don Pasquale Gaetano Donizetti (1797-1848)
Marie Ashley, soprano • Stefanie Katz, piano

INTERMISSION

- Zigeunerlieder (Gypsy Songs) Op. 103* Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Text by Hugo Conrat (translated to German from the original Hungarian)
Lieber Gott, du weisst
Brauner Bursche
Kommt dir manchmal
Caroline Crawford, mezzo-soprano • Lisa Leonard, piano
- Hello, young lovers* from The King and I Richard Rogers (1902-1979)
Summertime from Porgy and Bess George Gershwin (1898-1937)
Marie Ashley, soprano • Stefanie Katz, piano
- Ah! mon Fils (Ah! My Son)* from Le Prophete Giacomo Meyerbeer (1791-1864)
Caroline Crawford, mezzo-soprano • Lisa Leonard, piano
- O mio babbino caro* from Gianni Schicchi Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)
Marie Ashley, soprano • Stefanie Katz, piano
- Composer's Aria* from Ariadne auf Naxos Richard Strauss (1864-1949)
Caroline Crawford, mezzo-soprano • Lisa Leonard, piano

Biographies

Marie Ashley, soprano

Marie Ashley, a native of Philadelphia, earned her bachelor degree in vocal performance from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. While there, Ms. Ashley participated in the *Spoletto Festival of Two Worlds* South Carolina and Italy under the direction of Maestro Gian Carlo Menotti, performing the role of La Novizia in *Suor Angelica*. While studying at Westminster, she was able to perform under the direction of such world-class conductors as Kurt Masur, Michael Tilson Thomas and Riccardo Muti. Ms. Ashley then attended the Hartt School of Music at the University of Hartford earning her master degree in Opera Performance in 1997. Since then, Ms. Ashley has been heard singing in Palm Beach Opera's mainstage productions of *Tosca* as the Shepherd, *Don Carlo* as the Celestial Voice, and *Rigoletto* as Countess Ceprano. Ms. Ashley sang the role of Kate Pinkerton in Palm Beach Opera's production of *Madame Butterfly* and had the pleasure of working with one of opera's most notorious sopranos, Ms. Renata Scotto who directed the production. Ms. Ashley sang the role of Shepherd in *Tannhauser* for Palm Beach Opera's final opera of the 2001-2002 season. Ms. Ashley has participated in Palm Beach Opera's Educational program singing the role of Rosina in last season's production of *The Barber of Seville*. This season, Ms. Ashley sang the roles of Papagena as well as First Lady in the Educational Production of *Papageno*. Next season, she can be seen singing the role of Frasquita in Palm Beach Opera's production of *Carmen*. Ms. Ashley currently is an adjunct professor of voice at Palm Beach Atlantic University in West Palm Beach. She resides in Boynton Beach with her husband Dr. Carl Ashley.

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Caroline Crawford, mezzo-soprano

Caroline Crawford holds a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and an Master of Music in Voice Performance from Florida State University. She has sung principal roles in *Candide*, *Die ZauberFlöte*, and *The Rake's Progress* with the Florida State Opera. Ms. Crawford has also sung the role of Paola in the American premiere of Luciano Chailly's *Procedura Penale* with the Florida State Opera. She performed the role of Mrs. Herring in *Albert Herring* at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She has also sung principal roles with Opera Antica. Ms. Crawford was engaged as a soloist for the Palm Beach Atlantic Oratorio Chorus's performance of the Bach Magnificat in D Major.

Ms. Crawford was the recipient of the Marion Covington Music Scholarship at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro from 1995 to 1999. At Florida State University she taught voice as a graduate assistant. Ms. Crawford was a finalist in the 2002 Palm Beach Opera Vocal Competition and currently sings with the choir of Bethesda-by-the-Sea in Palm Beach.

Stefanie Katz, piano

Ms. Katz recieved her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Miami and her Master of Music from University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Stefanie is currently Assistant Keyboard Instructor at Dreyfoos School of the Arts and Staff Accompanist-Coach at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Ms. Katz's collaborative work with various artists has taken her many places in the United States and abroad. Her work includes Rehearsal Pianist-Coach with the Palm Beach Opera (West Palm Beach, Florida), International Institute of Vocal Arts (Chiari, Italy) and Opera Theater of Lucca (Lucca, Italy). Ms. Katz appears on the Palm Beach Chamber Music Festival's *True Colors* CD on the Klavier Music Production label.

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Lisa Leonard, piano

A native of Washington D.C., Lisa Leonard enjoys a versatile career as a soloist and chamber musician. In 1990 at the age of 17, Ms. Leonard made her debut with the National Symphony Orchestra in six concerts, at the Kennedy Center. She has appeared as soloist throughout Europe, Japan, Russia and North America with orchestras including Alexandria, Winston-Salem, Raleigh, International Symphony of Germany and the International Music Festival Orchestra with whom she recorded the Shostakovich First Piano Concerto for Hessisches Rundfunk.

An active chamber musician, she has performed with members of the Berlin, Vienna, New York and Cincinnati Philharmonic orchestras in performances featured on National Public Radio's "Performance Today" and "Command Performance" programs. Her love for new music has resulted in several premieres of both solo and chamber music including the recent recording of James Aikmans Sonata No. 3 with violinist Alexander Kerr, concertmaster of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra.

Ms. Leonard has served on the faculties of the North Carolina School of the Arts and the Meadowmount School of music and has participated in the Pacific Music Festival, Gilmore International Piano Festival, Caramoor and the East/West International Festival where she was assistant director of chamber music. She received her M.M. and B.M. from the Manhattan School of Music, where she was the premiere recipient of both the Rubinstein and Balsam awards, two of the highest awards given. Her former teachers include: Eric Larsen, Marc Silverman, Isidore Cohen, Thomas Schumacher, Cynthia Phelps, David Geber and the Meadowmount Trio.

Translations

Giunse alfin il momento

The moment which I will enjoy without anxiety, in the arms of my idol, has finally arrived.

Timid feelings, leave my breast; don't come to disturb my pleasure! Oh, how it seems that to amorous passion the pleasantness of the place, the earth and the sky respond, as the darkness favors my connivings!

Deh vieni, no tardar

Please come; don't delay, oh beautiful joy. Come to where love calls you to enjoy yourself until the nocturnal torch doesn't shine in the sky anymore — until it's dark again, and the world is still. Here the stream murmurs; here the breeze, which revives the heart with its gentle rustling, plays. Here little flowers are laughing, and the grass is fresh. To the pleasures of love everything here is enticing. Come, my dear, among these sheltering trees! I want to crown your head with roses.

The Jewel Song

Oh God — what jewels! Is this a pleasant dream that is dazing me? Or, what if I am awake? My eyes have never seen such opulence! If only I dared to adorn myself for a moment with these earrings! Ah! Here is just what I need, at the bottom of the box: a mirror! How not to be coquettish?

Ah! I'm smiling, seeing myself so beautiful in this mirror! Is it you, Marguerite? Answer me; answer quickly! No, it is no longer you! It's no longer your face; it's the daughter of a king to whom people bow as she passes! Ah, if he were here! If he could see me like this! Like a lady of gentility he would find me beautiful! Let's complete the transformation. I'm most eager to try the bracelet and the necklace! God! It's like a hand that sets itself upon my arm!

Stride la vampa (The flame crackles)

The flame crackles!
The indomitable crowd
runs to that fire
with joyful faces!
Screams of delight
echo around;
Surrounded by guards
a woman comes forward!
Sinister shines on their horrible faces
the ghastly flame that rises to the sky!

The blaze crackles!
The victim arrives
dressed in black,
disarrayed and barefoot!
A fierce cry of death rises;
the echo repeats it
from cliff to cliff!

Elle a fui, la tourterelle!

She has fled — the turtle dove!
Ah, memory too sweet!
Image too bitter!
Alas, at my knees
I hear him, I see him!

She has fled — the turtle dove,
She has fled far from you;
But she is forever faithful
and keeps her promise to you.
My beloved, my voice calls to you.
Yes, all my heart is yours.

Precious flower which has just bloomed,
for pity's sake answer me,
you who knows if he still loves me.
If he keeps his promise to me!
My beloved, my voice implores you.
Ah, may your heart come to me.

So anch'io la virtu magica

"Thus did her look transfix him: Bending his knee before her, He vowed to love and adore her, saying, 'My heart is yours.' Then as her glances grew tender, heavenly transport filled him. This cavalier of splendor. Conquered by love that thrilled him. He swore eternal fondness. Pledging that true love endures." Ha, ha!

I feel I also know the knack of looks well-timed and charming; I also know that embers glow with ardor quite disarming. The craft of furtive smiling is often most beguiling; an artful tear can melt a heart, and so can a fainting spell. A thousand tricks are handy to capture any dandy. I know the coaxing, wily art in which i can excel. I feel I also know the knack of love that none can quell. Flirtatious, vivacious, ah yes! I can make all men love me well love me well. My head full of whimsy, is flighty and flimsy: I'm lively and witty, and joke without pity; I tease as I please, In this I excel. I'm never malicious. But find life delicious. If tempers grow vicious, I'm quick to appease. Although I'm capricious, my heart is a kind one.

Zigeunerlieder (Gypsy Songs) Op. 103

Text by Hugo Conrat (translated to German from the original Hungarian)

Lieber Gott, du weisst

Dear God, you know how often I regretted
The kiss I gave but once to my beloved.
My heart commanded me to kiss him.
I shall think forever of the first kiss.
Dear God, you know how often at dead of night
In joy and in sorrow I thought of my dearest one.
Love is sweet, though bitter be remorse.
My poor heart will remain ever, ever true!

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Brauner Bursche

The swarthy young fellow leads to the dance
His lovely blue-eyed maiden,
Boldly clanking his spurs together.
A Czardas melody begins.
He caresses her and kisses his sweet dove,
Whirls her, leads her, shouts and springs about;
Throws three shiny silver guilders
On the cymbal to make it ring!

Kommt dir manchmal

Do you sometimes recall,
My sweet love,
When you once vowed to me with solemn oath?
Deceive me not, leave me not,
You know not how dear you are to me!
Do love me as I love you.
Then God's grace will descend upon you!

Ah! mon Fils (Ah! My Son)

Ah! My son! Blessed be thou!
Thy loving mother to thee was dearer than was Bertha,
Who claimed your heart!

For thou, alas!
Thou dost give for thy mother more than thy life,
For thou giv'st all the joy of thy soul!

Now up to heaven my prayer ascends for thee;
May heaven's blessings ever be with thee, my son,
Blessed be forever more.

My son, blessed may you be before the Lord.

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O mio babbino caro

Oh my dear daddy,
he pleases me; he is handsome!
I want to go to Porta Rosa
to buy the ring!
Yes, I want to go there!
And if I should love him in vain,
I would go to the Ponte Vecchio,
but in order to throw myself into the Arno!
I am feeling tortured and tormented!
Oh God, I should like to die!
Daddy, have pity!

Composer's Aria

Come, let us again be friends!
I see everything differently now!
The depths of the universe are immeasurable!
My dear friend, there is not much in the world that cannot be put into words.
Poets set down excellent words, yes, excellent-and yet-I am filled with courage my
friend!
The world is lovely and not frightening to the bold man.
What is music then?

Music is a sacred art, which brings together all men of courage, like cherubim around
a shining throne, and for this reason it is the most holy of the arts!
Most holy music!



Philharmonia Orchestra

Concerto Concert

Arthur Weisberg, conductor

featuring

*Sylvia Kim-violin, Lee Berger-oboe,
Marta Murvai-violin, and Danut Muresan-violin*

*performing pieces by
Tchaikovsky, Brahms, Chausson, and Kalliwoda*

Friday, March 28 • 7:30 P.M.

Spanish River Church • Boca Raton, FL

\$24.00 *Tickets still available*

Piano Masterclass

sponsored by Northern Trust Bank

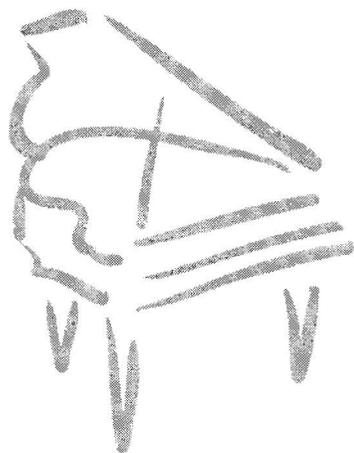
Rebecca Penneys, piano
Professor at the Eastman School of Music

Students will be performing Beethoven,
Brahms, Mendelssohn, and Rachmaninoff

*Monday, March 31
7:30 PM*

FREE

For reservations call 237-9000



Upcoming Events

MARCH

Friday 28

7:30 PM

Lynn University Philharmonia Orchestra

Sponsored by Dr. Elizabeth E. Force

Spanish River Church • Boca Raton, Florida

Concerto Concert

Arthur Weisberg, conductor

featuring

Sylvia Kim - violin, Lee Berger - oboe,

Marta Murvai - violin, Danut Muresan - violin

performing works by Tchaikovsky, Brahms,

Chausson, and Kalliwoda

Monday 31

7:30 PM

***Piano Masterclass**

Sponsored by Northern Trust Bank

Rebecca Penneys, piano

(professor of piano at the Eastman School of Music)

APRIL

Thursday 3

7:30 PM

***Conservatory All-Stars**

A Hank Ellman Memorial Concert,

sponsored by Sonny Ellman

Friday 4

7:30 PM

***South American Viola Music**

Laura Wilcox, viola

with Jose Lopez, piano

Friday 11

7:30 PM

***Due Turgeon in Recital**

Sponsored by Nabit Foundation, Inc.

All South American program!

Anne Louise-Turgeon, piano

Edward Turgeon, piano

* Located at the Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall