Lynn University presents

A SALUTE TO GERSHWIN

Featuring the Lynn Philharmonia Orchestra
Jon Robertson, guest conductor
and special guests Darren Matias, Neil Nelson
and Nadège Bellande Robertson

Saturday, April 16, 2011
7:30 p.m.
Count de Hoernle Amphitheater
at Mizner Park

LYNN UNIVERSITY CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

When talent meets inspiration,
the results are extraordinary.
A SPECIAL THANK YOU to the Len Camber Charitable Trust – Sanford and Marion Goldstein, Trustees for sponsoring this concert.

NADÈGE BELLANDE ROBERTSON

Born in California to a family of musicians and academicians, Nadège Bellande Robertson began playing the piano and violin as a child, but found her true talent as a vocalist. In 1994, she moved to Haiti pursuing her career as a soloist and also creating the band, N’Didgenous, with Gregory Vorbe. Their album, First Breath, is an eclectic mix of jazz-influenced vocals, indigenous instruments, traditional Caribbean rhythms and electronica. Ms. Robertson also has worked with Jean Pierre Grasset, the Widmaiers, Strings, and performed with Wycef Jean, The Marleys, Gilberto Gil and Bernard Lavilliers among others. Married to Hans Tippenhauer, she has three children, currently resides in Delray Beach, and is pursuing her master’s degree in international communication at Lynn University.

NEIL NELSON

Neil Nelson graduated from New England Conservatory with a degree in music performance. Winning awards such as the Stephen Shrestinian Award for Excellence (Boston Lyric Opera), the Heinz Refuss Singing Actors Award (Orlando Opera), and placing in the top ten in the New York Metropolitan Opera Auditions, launched him into his professional career. Nelson has performed lead roles with Boston Lyric Opera, Opera Theatre of St. Louis, Berkshire Opera, Orlando Opera and Boston Symphony Orchestra. Some of his roles include Leporello in Don Giovanni, Papageno in Die Zauberflote, Figaro in Le Nozze di Figaro and Bottom in A Midsummer Night’s Dream.

DARREN MATIAS

Filipino pianist Darren Matias has been a recipient of various awards including the Presidential Medal on Culture and Arts, Benavides Outstanding Achievement Award and Ultimate Pianist Competition in the Philippines. He recently performed as Liberace at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach. Matias performed in solo and chamber settings and as orchestral soloist at the Summit Music Festival in New York, and as concerto soloist with the University of Santo Tomas Symphony and the Philippine Philharmonic. He has worked with acclaimed pianists that include Phillip Evans, Gary Graffmann, Arie Vardi and Philippe Entremont. He is currently a graduate student at Lynn University under renowned pianist Roberta Rust.

JON ROBERTSON

Maestro Jon Robertson, guest conductor and dean of The Lynn University Conservatory of Music, enjoys a distinguished career as a pianist, conductor and academician. A graduate of The Juilliard School of Music, he studied piano performance under Beveridge Webster, choral conducting with Abraham Kaplan at Juilliard, and orchestral conducting with Richard Pittman of the New England Conservatory of Music and the Gewandhaus Orchestra (Germany). His conducting career spans the globe from symphony orchestras in Norway, China, Egypt, South Africa and Austria to the Redlands Symphony Orchestra in California, where he has been principal conductor since 1982. Robertson continues to guest conduct and perform in concert as a member of the Cole-Robertson Trio.
Cuban Overture

Variations on “I Got Rhythm”
   Darren Matias, piano

“Someone to Watch Over Me” from Oh, Kay!
   Nadège Bellande Robertson
   Jon Robertson, piano
   Jeff Adkins, bass
   Joel Biedrzycki, drums

“Embraceable You” from Girl Crazy
   Neil Nelson
   Jon Robertson, piano
   Jeff Adkins, bass
   Joel Biedrzycki, drums

“There’s a Boat Dat’s Leavin’” from Porgy and Bess
   Neil Nelson

“It Ain’t Necessarily So” from Porgy and Bess
   Nadège Bellande Robertson

“I Got Plenty O’Nuttin” from Porgy and Bess
   Neil Nelson

“Summertime” from Porgy and Bess
   Nadège Bellande Robertson

“Rhapsody in Blue”
   Darren Matias, piano

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Undergraduate Open House
Saturday, June 18, 2011 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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