

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Good afternoon, and welcome to the first annual Winners' Recital of the Barry Alexander International Vocal Competition (BAIVC). The singers performing today are a clear indication that the present—and future—state of classical vocal music throughout the world is an excellent one, as our winners hail from Canada, Iceland, Korea, Mexico, Russia, and the United States, and all enjoy a wealth of musical and professional experience.

This recital is part of several events that will culminate in the First Annual ABC Gala, to be held in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall on Monday April 14, 2008. The Gala will include performances by First Prize Winners of the BAIVC, as well as the Bradshaw & Buono International Piano Competition.

A focus on helping the careers of classical musicians led to the formation of two competitions, which now operate as the Alexander & Buono Competitions, or ABC, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation. The goal of the ABC Gala is to raise money for scholarships, and participation in our summer music festival, *Musica e Arte*, ([www.musicaearte.org](http://www.musicaearte.org)) held every July in Tolentino, Italy, while creating more performance opportunities like this afternoon's recital, for new and emerging artists. Please be sure to visit our website, [www.baivc.com](http://www.baivc.com), and follow the links to the related sites for updates.

March 22, 2008 has been set aside for "Barry Alexander & Friends: Music We Love," also at Carnegie. This recital will feature Mr. Alexander, sopranos Oxana Arkaeva and Teresa Dody, both BAIVC winners, a debut by soprano Denise Young, tenor Simon Oliver, and piano works by Cosmo Buono, Assuntina Giorgio, and Gohei Nishizawa.

We wish to thank all of you for your ongoing support and enthusiasm as we work to broaden visibility and awareness for the ABC.

We also extend a very special thanks to Anastasia Dedik, a 2007 First Prize winner of the Bradshaw & Buono. She has demonstrated unfailing skill and professionalism in accompanying many of the artists on today's program, and we deeply appreciate her singular dedication.

Barry Alexander  
Artistic Director

Cosmo Buono  
Executive Director

# Programme

## AMATEUR ADULT DIVISION

*Mahnung*, Brettli Lieder Arnold Schönberg  
*Auch kleine Dinge*, Italienisches Liederbuch Hugo Wolf  
*When Will it Come?* (Wie Lange Nach?) Kurt Weill  
(Translation by Walter Daum)  
SUSAN DAUM, Soprano  
GARY NORDEN, Piano

## COLLEGE ADULT DIVISION

*Als Luise* Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
*At Saint Patrick's Purgatory*, Hermit Songs Samuel Barber  
*Song to the Moon*, Rusalka Antonín Dvořák  
YOO SUN NA, Soprano  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

*Porgi amor*, Le Nozze di Figaro Mozart  
*Rejoice Greatly*, The Messiah Georg Friedrich Händel  
ABIGAIL CORAL ALMEIDA, Soprano  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

*Fear no more the heat o' the sun* Gerald Finzi  
*Questo amor vergogna mia* Giacomo Puccini  
*Lydia* Gabriel Fauré  
JOHN BRANCY, Baritone  
JACK HILL, Piano

*Charlotte's Letter Aria*, Werther  
*Sein wir wieder gut*, Ariadne auf Naxos  
KATHLEEN PROMANE, Mezzo-Soprano  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

Jules Massenet  
Richard Strauss

## PROFESSIONAL ADULT DIVISION

*Cäcilie*  
*Caro nome*, Rigoletto  
SARAH DAVIS, Soprano  
KRISTIN DITLOW, Piano

Strauss  
Giuseppe Verdi

*Il fervido desiderio*, Tre Ariette, No. 1,  
*Va! Laisse couler mes larmes*, Werther  
*Près des remparts de Séville*, Carmen  
*Zueignung*, Op. 10, No. 1  
ANN CRAVERO, Mezzo-Soprano  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

Vincenzo Bellini  
Massenet  
Georges Bizet  
Strauss

## -INTERMISSION-

*Ach ich liebte*, Die Entführung aus dem Serail  
CHRISTIN WISMANN, Soprano  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

Mozart

*Tu che di gel*, Turandot  
*Wir beide wollen springen*  
*Joy*  
*Ride On King Jesus*, Cantata  
MARIA CLARK, Soprano  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

Puccini  
Strauss  
Ricky Ian Gordon  
John Carter

*If With All Your Hearts*, Elijah  
*De Este Apacible*, Lusía Fernanda  
*Let All My Life Be Music*  
JAVIER GONZALEZ, Tenor  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

Felix Mendelssohn  
Federico Moreno Torroba  
Charles Gilbert Spross

*Chacun à son gout*, Die Fledermaus  
*O mio Fernando*, La Favorita  
HÖRN HRAFNSDÓTTIR, Mezzo-Soprano  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

Johann Strauss  
Gaetano Donizetti

*Come scoglio*, Così fan tutte  
*Una voce poco fa*, Il Barbiere di Siviglia  
TATIANA TARANEC, Soprano  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

Mozart  
Gioacchino Rossini

*O mio babbino caro*, Gianni Schicchi  
*Ah, non credea mirarti*, La Sonnambula  
RANNVEIG KÁRADÓTTIR, Soprano  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

Puccini  
Bellini

*Vieni, o Levita*, Nabucco  
*La Calunnia*, Il Barbiere di Siviglia  
*I Bless You, Forests*  
SERGEY ZADVORNY, Bass  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

Verdi  
Rossini  
Pyotr Il'yich Tchaikovsky

*On Music*  
*Das Grün von Hiroshima* (a cappella)  
*In questa reggia*, Turandot  
TERESA DODY, Soprano  
ANASTASIA DEDIK, Piano

Ben Moore  
Udo Zimmerman  
Puccini

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

### **ABIGAIL CORAL ALMEIDA**

At only twenty-three years of age, Ms. Almeida boasts an array of performance experience that includes principal roles in works by Gluck, Mozart, and Monteverdi, as well as appearances in Britten, Donizetti, Puccini, and Verdi operas. She is currently studying at the Instituto de Cultura de Yucatan in her native Mexico, while also taking private lessons from Maria Eugenia Guerrero Rada, and preparing for debuts in *Suor Angelica* and *La Traviata* later this year.

### **JOHN BRANCY**

Mr. Brancy is a Vocal Performance major at The Juilliard School, where he studies voice with Cynthia Hoffman. A recent graduate of the Clearview Regional High School, he distinguished himself there as a member and soloist of the Clearview Vocal Ensemble, touring with them extensively in the United States and Europe. Last year he received the First Place Gold Medal from the National Foundation for Advancement of Art, being chosen from more than seven thousand applicants. In addition to his work as a classical artist, he has also performed leading roles in musicals such as *Carousel* and *The Music Man*.

### **MARIA CLARK**

Soprano Maria Clark is a graduate of the Manhattan School of Music, and Florida State University's School of Music. Her roles include Clara in *Porgy and Bess*, Miss Silverpeal in *The Impresario*, and Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro*. Mrs. Clark was the first prize Oxnard Gold Medalist winner in the 2004 American Traditions Competition, and will tour Europe later this year in a joint production of *Porgy and Bess* sponsored by Atlanta Opera and Opéra Comique.

### **ANN CRAVERO**

Completing her musical studies with degrees in Music Education and Vocal Performance, Dr. Cravero has appeared in a variety of roles, with the University of Iowa Opera Theater and the Des Moines Metropolitan Opera. She has performed extensively as a recitalist throughout the United States and Europe, and studied with Michèle Crider and Frederica von Stade.

## **SUSAN DAUM**

A retired physician who specialized in Environmental Toxicology, Dr. Daum began studying voice in college, and most recently continued her work with Gary Norden and Kristine Kalina. She is also a member of the New Amsterdam Singers, a chorus performing primarily *a cappella* music, much of it from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Her interest in lieder and contemporary composers has led her to often perform the works of Hugo Wolf, Alban Berg, and Kurt Weill in recital, thereby helping to create new and enthusiastic audiences for the music.

## **SARAH JOANNE DAVIS**

Soprano Sara Joanne Davis recently received a Masters of Music degree from the Peabody Conservatory of Music of the Johns Hopkins University, and holds the distinction of having been asked to represent her alma mater in a duo song recital held at the Kennedy Center Terrace Theater in May of 2005. In addition to her operatic work, Ms. Davis has performed extensively in oratorio, particularly during her undergraduate studies at Trinity University in her native Texas.

Ms. Davis was also a participant in the Chautauqua Institution voice program, singing the roles of Anne Trulove in *The Rake's Progress* and Echo in *Ariadne auf Naxos*. In addition, she performed the Villa-Lobos *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5*, and sang the première of John Harbison's *Vocalism*, a grand aria for soprano and piano, in 2007.

## **TERESA DODY**

Teresa Dody is an Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Majoring in Voice and Music Education, she received her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. She received a Masters of

Music degree in Vocal Performance from Wichita State University, and is currently completing a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Vocal Performance also at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

In addition to performances with the Rome Festival, the Opera Theatre of Lucca, Italy, American Institute for Musical Study in Graz, Austria, Cincinnati Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Whitewater Opera, Kentucky Opera and Opera Kansas, Ms. Dody has sung the European premiere of *The Dialogue of St. Francis and St. Clare* oratorio in Assisi, Italy, and the American premiere of Lars Erik-Larsson's *A God Disguised* with Håkan Hagegård, the premiere baritone of Sweden. Upcoming performances include a return to New York for performances in Carnegie Hall and Italy, to perform with the Rome Festival this summer.

## **JAVIER GONZALEZ**

A native of southern California, Mr. Gonzalez studied vocal performance at Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland. He has been the lead tenor of Pro Musica for the last eleven years, and sung in a vast array of operatic and oratorio works including the Bach *Magnificat* and Verdi *Requiem*. He has also sung with Placido Domingo in a production of *Luisa Fernanda*, and in 2005 was one of four finalists chosen to audition for Mr. Domingo's Young Artist Program.

## **HÖRN HRAFNSDÓTTIR**

Hörn Hrafnisdóttir started her musical education in the Music School of Kópavogur and in the Childrens Choir of Kársnesskóli. During the last year in the academy she started attending classes with Elín Ósk Óskarsdóttir, with whom she continues to study. In 2004 she formed the trio Sopranos with Margrét Grétarsdóttir and Svana Berglind Karlsdóttir.

Ms. Hrafnisdóttir's operatic debut came in March of last year when she sang the role of La Zia Principessa in Puccini's *Suor Angelica*,

followed by a second performance in April as Lucia in *Cavalleria Rusticana* by Mascagni.

## **RANNVEIG KÁRADÓTTIR**

Although she began playing flute and piano as a child, soprano Rannveig Káradóttir only began formal voice studies five years ago. Having first studied jazz, she returned to classical singing, and enrolled at the Reykjavik College of Music, where she studies voice with Alina Dubik. Last spring, Ms. Káradóttir sang Laretta in Puccini's *Gianni Schicci* for the Opera Studio in Reykjavik, and next month will perform Annina in Verdi's *La Traviata* with the Icelandic Opera.

## **YOO SUN NA**

Lyric soprano Yoo Sun Na is a native of Seoul, Korea, and currently a Masters Degree candidate at the New England Conservatory of Music, specializing in Vocal Performance under the guidance of Professor Carole Haber. She is also a *cum laude* graduate of Seoul National University, where she received a Presidential Academic Scholarship. Her operatic performances include Elettra in *Idomeneo*, the Countess in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and Clorinda in *La Cenerentola*.

## **KATHLEEN PROMANE**

Currently completing her studies in Opera at the University of Toronto under the tutelage of Mary Morrison, mezzo soprano Kathleen Promane has received the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's Galaxie Rising Star Award, and spent a season at the Center for Opera in Sulmona, Italy.

In 2007, appearing in the title role of Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia* under the baton of renowned Britten specialist Stephen Ralls in Toronto, Ms. Promane was praised by *Opera Canada* magazine for her "surprisingly bright-voiced mezzo." Her extensive and growing repertoire also includes roles such as Giannetta in Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore*; second lady in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*; and Giovanna in Verdi's *Rigoletto*.

This year will see Ms. Promane performing the title role in Händel's *Ariodante*, while making her professional debut in the title role of Opera Saskatoon's production of Rossini's *La Cenerentola*.

## **TATIANA TARANEC**

Russian soprano Tatiana Taranec is currently on the roster of singers at the Saint Petersburg Theatre of Musical Comedy. She has performed the roles of Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, Cherubino in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and the title role in Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos*. Ms. Taranec is also the recipient of the 2006 Golden Footlight Award, one of Russia's most coveted theatrical prizes.

## **CHRISTIN WISMANN**

Ms. Wismann is currently a Masters Degree candidate in Music Performance at The Juilliard School. She has been a First Place Winner in the Metropolitan Opera Regional Auditions, as well as the National Opera Association Competition, and performed in a variety of roles under the batons *maestri* James Conlon, Julius Rudel, and William Vendice.

## **SERGEY ZADVORNY**

With nearly two dozen roles in his repertoire, and a staggering array of recital and concert engagements to his credit, basso Sergey Zadvorny continues to be in demand. He also boasts many recordings, including *Armida*, (Sony), *Eugene Onegin* (Philips), and a Ricordi production of *Semiramide* with Renée Fleming. No stranger to winning competitions, he has captured prizes in more than a dozen during the course of his career, including the prestigious Voce Verdiane.