

2010/11

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CENTER

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B. Arts Presenter
invites you to attend

Pamela E. Jones in Recital

Thursday, June 16, 2011
7:30pm

Merkin Concert Hall
at The Kaufman Center

129 West 67th Street
@ Broadway
New York, NY 10023

New York City
Recital Debut for
Pamela E. Jones
Soprano

Elaine Rinaldi, Piano

Performing everything
from Bach to Ellington

Tickets: \$40
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About the Artists

Pamela E. Jones has been singing at New York City Opera for ten years. She has sung many roles with the company including Miss Rose in the New York premiere of *Séance on a Wet Afternoon* by Stephen Schwartz, Oasis in Chabrier's *L'Étoile*, Lolette in *La Rondine*, the soprano in the Letter Quintet in Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*, Feisty Girl in *Cinderella*, First Conversa in *Suor Angelica*, and the soloist in Messiaen's *Trois Petites Liturgies de La Présence Divine*. She has performed Esmeralda in *The Bartered Bride* and First Lady in *The Magic Flute* for New York City Opera Education's division, and she performed the role of Winnie Mandela in scenes from *No Easy Walk to Freedom* by Chandler Carter at NYCO's Contemporary American Opera Lab, VOX. Ms. Jones made her Carnegie Hall debut singing Melanie in *Die Fledermaus* with the National Chorale, and with the American Symphony Orchestra she sang the role of Pani Majorava in Janáček's *Osud* at the Bard Festival. The lyric-coloratura soprano has appeared with the Springfield (MA) Symphony Orchestra, the Philadelphia Chamber Choir, the Pioneer Valley Symphony, the Connecticut Opera Alliance, the Opera Company of Brooklyn, Commonwealth Opera (MA), L'Orchestre Philharmonique Sainte Trinité in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, the Berkshire Lyric Opera, Opera Noire of New York, and the American Spiritual Ensemble. She has performed Blondchen, Gilda, Queen of the Night, Madame Heartmelt in *The Impresario*, Eurydice in *Orpheus in the Underworld*, and the title role in Lucia di Lammermoor. Her concert performances include Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Poulenc's *Gloria*, Schubert's *Mass in G*, and Brahms' *Deutsches Requiem*. Winner of the Best Supporting Actress Award at the Dundalk (Ireland) International Drama Festival for her portrayal of Sister Mary Amnesia in the musical, *Nunsense*, Ms. Jones won

the Legacy Award at the National Opera Association's Vocal Competition in both 2006 and 2007 and was a winner in the Y.W.C.A. Vocal Competition. She has also won a Career Grant from the Tuesday Morning Music Club. Earlier this month she recorded Scott Joplin's opera, *Tree-monisha*, with the Paragon Ragtime Orchestra.

Recital accompanist **Elaine Rinaldi** won the Newton Swift Prize for Accompanying during graduate school at Mannes School of Music. Notable recital engagements have included performances with Metropolitan Opera stars Olga Makarina, Elizabeth Caballero and Russell Thomas, and with acclaimed soprano Patricia Johnson. She is currently the collaborative pianist for the "Prima Volta" debut recital series at the Austrian Cultural Institute in Manhattan. A versatile artist, Ms Rinaldi's conducting has been called "brilliant" and her interpretative work "impeccable" by critics. As Founder and Artistic Director of Orchestra Miami, Ms. Rinaldi has brought a new level of professionalism and quality to the local arts scene there. Rinaldi was also the principal guest conductor at the Dicapopera Theater in Manhattan, led several tours for the National Lyric Opera, twice appeared as a guest conductor with the Albany Symphony for the Shaker Mountain Performing Arts Festival, appeared as a guest conductor with Teatro Lirico Europa at the Kravis Center in Palm Beach and conducted performances of *La Traviata* for Island Opera Theater in Key West, FL. She has also held many positions as an Assistant and/or Cover Conductor in many of this country's leading regional opera theaters including Florida Grand Opera in Miami, where she held the positions of Resident Associate Conductor and Chorus Master. Currently, she is on the faculty of the University of Miami, as an Adjunct Professor in Vocal Coaching.



Program Insert: Pamela E. Jones in Recital, June 16, 2011, 7:30 p.m., Merkin Concert Hall, Kaufman Center, 129 West 67th Street, NY, NY 10023

Translations

Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen

I. Aria: *Jauchzet Gott*

Praise God in all lands! Let everything created in heaven and earth exalt His glory; and to our God we too will now bring offering, for in affliction and need He has always stood by us.

II. Recitative: *Wir beten zu dem Tempel an*

Our adoration rises to the temple wherein God's glory dwells; where His constancy, renewed each day, rewards us with pure blessing. We praise what He has done for us. Our feeble mouths can only babble of His miracles, yet poor praise can still delight Him.

IV a. Chorale: *Sei Lob und Preis mit Ehren*

Glory, praise, and honor to God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost! May He increase in us all He has promised in His grace, that we may steadfastly trust in Him, look to Him in full confidence, with all our heart found our hope in Him; may our heart, mind and spirit remain always devoted to Him. Let us now sing Amen; our prayer will be granted, this is our belief at every hour.

IV b. *Alleluja*:

Halleluia

Translation by Marc Audus

Quatre chansons de jeunesse

Pantomime

Pierrot, who is nothing like Clitandre, empties a flask without further ado, and, practical fellow, cuts into a paté. Cassandre, at the end of the path, sheds a concealed tear over her disinherited nephew. That rascal Harlequin schemes the kidnap of Columbine and whirls about four times. Columbine is dreaming, surprised at sensing a heart caught on the breeze and at hearing voices in her heart.

Clair de Lune

Your soul is a choice landscape where charming maskers and bergamaskers go about playing the lute and dancing and are almost sad beneath their whimsical disguises. While singing in the minor [mode] of love triumphant and of the good life, they seem not to believe in their own happiness and their song is mixed and lost in the moonlight, in the calm moonlight, sad and beautiful, that makes the birds dream in the trees and the fountains sob in ecstasy, those tall, slender fountains among the statues. Ah, calm moonlight, sad and beautiful.

Pierrot

The good Pierrot, whom the crowd watches, having finished at Harlequin's wedding, wanders as in a dream along the Boulevard du Temple. A young girl in a flimsy blouse in vain entices him with her scamp's eye; and meanwhile, mysterious and shiny making him its dearest delight, the [white] moon with horns of a bull casts a glance [sidelong] at his friend Jean Gaspard Debureau.

Apparition

The moon was growing sad. Seraphim in tears dreaming, bows in hand, in the calm of flowers vaporous were drawing from dying viols white sobs that slid upon the azure blue of the corollas. It was the blessed day of your first kiss. My fantasy, which likes to torment me, knowingly intoxicated itself in the scent of sadness. Even without regret and without vexation, that sadness, the gathering of a Dream leaves in the heart that gathered it. I wandered about thus, my eye fixed on the worn paving when with sunlight in your hair, in the street, and in the evening, before me laughing, you appeared. And I thought that I saw the fairy with her halo of light who once in my lovely dreams as a spoiled child passed by, letting fall like snow from her half-open hands white bouquets of perfumed stars.

Translation by James R. Briscoe

From *La Traviata*

E strano

It is strange!...strange!...those words are carved in my heart! Would a serious love be a misfortune for me? What are you resolving, O my anguished spirit? No man ever aroused you before. O joy I did not know, to be loved and to love! And, can I spurn it for the barren follies of my life?

Ah, fors' è lui

Ah, perhaps he is the one whom my spirit, alone amid tumults, often enjoyed painting with its mysterious colors. He, who modest and constant, came to my sickroom door and kindled a new fever waking me to love. To that love which is the pulse of the universe, the whole universe, mysterious, aloof, the heart's cross and delight.

Sempre libera degg'io

Folly! Folly! This is vain raving! A poor woman, alone, abandoned in this crowded desert they call Paris. What more can I hope for now? What must I do? Enjoy myself! Perish in the giddy whirl of pleasure! Enjoy myself! Enjoy! Always free I must dart light-headedly from joy to joy; I want my life to glide along the paths of pleasure. Whether the day is born or dying, always gay at parties, my thought must fly always to new delights!

Translation by William Weaver

Additional Personnel

Donald Batchelder is principal trumpet of the New York City Opera Orchestra, and Brass Coordinator and Visiting Specialist in Trumpet at Montclair State University's John J. Cali School of Music. Recognized as an outstanding soloist and orchestral trumpeter in the New York area for many years, he performs frequently with the Metropolitan Opera, the New Jersey Symphony, the Brooklyn Philharmonic and the American Symphony, and on Broadway. In addition to his position with the New York City Opera, Mr. Batchelder holds the principal trumpet chairs in the Westfield (NJ) Symphony and the Stamford (CT) Symphony. Mr. Batchelder earned both his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from the Juilliard School, where he studied with William Vacchiano and Mel Broiles. Other influential teachers include Vince Penzarella, Arnold Jacobs and Philip Smith. Mr. Batchelder appeared as a featured soloist at the 2008 New York Brass Conference. Among other recent solo appearances: Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 2* with the Stamford Symphony; *When Speaks the Signal-Trumpet Tone* by David Gillingham, with both the Montclair State University Wind Ensemble and the Ridge-wood Concert Band; the Shostakovich *Concerto for Piano and Trumpet* with both the Stamford Symphony and the New York Virtuosi; the world premiere of Trent Johnson's *Concertino for Trumpet and Organ*; David Sampson's *Triptych* with the Westfield Symphony; and Herbert L. Clarke's *Southern Cross* with the Goldman Band.

Audrey Lo won her first violin competition at the age of ten then continued her training at the pre-college division of Manhattan School of Music, LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and the Performing Arts, and The InterSchool Orchestra of New York. She made her concerto debut at the age of 15 with the prep orchestra, Carnegie Hall debut at age 16 with her prep piano trio, and debut concerto appearance at Alice Tully Hall with ISO in her senior year of high school. Ms. Lo has performed with many great musicians including Philippe Herreweghe, Thomas Adès, Leon Botstein, Eugene Drucker, James DePreist, James Conlon, JoAnn Falletta, Jorja Fleezanis, André Emelianoff, and Paul Cantor. She has attended the Musicorda, Bowdoin, Garth Newel, Aspen, RoundTop, Spoleto USA, and Netherland Youth Orchestra festivals. Ms. Lo's teachers include Todd Phillips, James Buswell, Daniel Phillips, Masao Kawasaki, Lucie Robert, and GuoSi Young. She received her Bachelor of Music from SUNY Purchase and her Master's Degree at Mannes College the New School for Music. Ms. Lo frequently performs with Albany Symphony, Philharmonic Orchestra of the Americas, Ensemble DuMonde, Classical Revolution, and Ensemble 212.

Benita Beneitez-Vega, violinist, was born in Spain in the Basque city of Bilbao. She began to play violin at the age of nine, later studying at the Bilbao Superior Conservatory of Music. As the winner of the Caixa Galicia competition she was able complete her post graduate studies in the United Kingdom, graduating from The Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Her teachers have included Gerard Claret, Alexander Mikhline, Victor Berkovich, Krystof Smietana, Mauricio Fuchs, Marina Yashvili, and Felix Ayo. Ms Beneitez was a soloist with Bilbao Symphony Orchestra in Spain and toured Germany, Hungary, Italy, the U.K., and Portugal as a chamber musician. As an orchestral player she has performed with the Madrid Symphony Orchestra, Bilbao Symphony Orchestra, Real Filharmonia de Galicia, Asturias Symphony Orchestra, the Richmand Symphony, the Manhattan Symphony and many others, performing under the batons of conductors Pierre Boulez, Carlo Maria

Giulini, Jesús López Cobos, and Andras Ligeti. Since 2008, she has lived in New York City where she teaches and performs.

Kevin Bagby, tenor, has performed extensively in operatic, concert and liturgical music in the New York area and Europe in such roles as Faust, Ferrando in *Così fan Tutte*, Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte*, Alfredo in *La Traviata*, Belmonte in *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*, Rodolfo in *La Bohème*, and the Duke of Mantua in *Rigoletto*. The Virginia native performed for three seasons at the Metropolitan Opera before embarking upon a solo career. He performed the role of Sportin' Life in a special concert performance of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* with such notables as Simon Estes, Gwendolyn Bradley and Cynthia Clarey under the baton of Maestro William Vendice along with the role of Monastatos in *La Flauta Magia* in the Castell de Peralada Festival in Girona, Spain. While not limited to the classical music genre, Mr. Bagby participated on Broadway in the multi-Tony Award winning production of *Show Boat* directed by Hal Prince. He sang one hundred educational shows through Leonard Bernstein's Young Audiences Program, and over one hundred fifty performances for Tri-State area public schools for New York City Opera's Education Department. Mr. Bagby has recorded on Sony and Deutsche Grammophon and can be seen on the Carnegie Hall Spirituals Concert featuring famed sopranos Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle.

Patrick A. Bradford, dba B. Arts Presenter, is the producer of tonight's recital. Mr. Bradford is a New York City based attorney and arts supporter. This evening's recital is the third concert that he has produced at Merkin Concert Hall since 2010. He has served on the board of trustees of The Public Theater/New York Shakespeare Festival, The Negro Ensemble Company and The New Professional Theater. For over a decade he has sponsored Broadway theater matinees for the children of P.S. 115 in Washington Heights. He recently co-sponsored an art exhibition for Mr. James C. McMillan (American, b. 1925) at The African American Atelier, Inc. in Greensboro, N.C. Mr. Bradford currently serves as secretary of the board of The NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. He is a trustee of Fordham United Methodist Church in the Bronx where the pastor is Rev. Leo W. Curry. B. Arts Presenter is producing the forthcoming Merkin Hall Concerts: Sat. Oct. 1, 2011, 7:30 p.m. - Soprano Brandie Sutton in Recital; Sun. Feb. 5, 2012, 3:30 p.m. - A Black History Month Tribute: The African American Spiritual featuring *Tre Voce*; and on Sat. Aug. 25, 2012, 8:30 p.m. - Soprano Marilyn Moore in Recital.

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From Bach to Ellington

Pamela E. Jones, *soprano*

Elaine Rinaldi, *piano*

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen, BWV 51

- I. Aria: Jauchzet Gott
- II. Recitative: Wir beten zu dem Tempel an
- IVa. Chorale: Sei Lob und Preis mit Ehren
- IVb. Alleluja

DONALD BATCHELDER, *trumpet*

AUDREY LO and BENITA BENEITEZ-VEGA, *violin*

CLAUDE DEBUSSY

Quatre chansons de jeunesse

- Pantomime
- Clair de lune
- Pierrot
- Apparition

Intermission

GIUSEPPE VERDI

From *La Traviata*

- È strano
 - Ah, fors' è lui
 - Sempre libera degg'io
- KEVIN BAGBY, *tenor*

LEONARD BERNSTEIN

I Hate Music! A Cycle of Five Kid Songs

- I. My Name is Barbara
- II. Jupiter Has Seven Moons
- III. I Hate Music!
- IV. A Big Indian and a Little Indian
- V. I'm a Person Too

Arr. UNDINE SMITH MOORE

Come Down Angels Watch and Pray

DUKE ELLINGTON

Come Sunday Psalm 150

DONALD BATCHELDER, *trumpet*

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Ran Dank, piano

TUE 11.8.11 2 PM

Moran Katz, clarinet

TUE 12.6.11 2 PM

Bela Horvath, violin

TUE 1.17.12 2 PM

Attacca Quartet

TUE 2.21.12 2 PM

Leon Bernsdorf, piano

TUE 4.3.12 2 PM

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Linden String Quartet

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