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Concert: Festival of American Art Song

John Musto

Amy Burton

Cincinnati Song Initiative

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Festival of American Art Song

JOHN MUSTO, AMY BURTON, &
CINCINNATI SONG INITIATIVE

Vocalists:

Madison Hoerbelt
Marqis Griffith
Julia Callaghan
Catherine Kondi
Andrew Sprague
Emily O'Connor
Melanie Lota
Justin Shondeck
Francesco DiLello
Jamila Drecker-Waxman

Pianists:

Harris Andersen
Muse Ye
Lynda Chryst
Sungmin Kim
Maria Rabbia
Connor Buckley
Caleb Bates
Megan Smythe
Shelly Goldman

Cellist:

Malachi Brown

Hockett Family Recital Hall
Tuesday, November 5th, 2019
8:15 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

- "Grand is the Seen"
from *Songs at Parting: A Selection of Poems by Walt Whitman*
Madison Hoerbelt, mezzo-soprano
Harris Andersen, piano
Ernst Bacon
(1898-1990)
- "The Last Invocation"
from *Songs at Parting: A Selection of Poems by Walt Whitman*
Marqis Griffith, baritone
Muse Ye, piano
- "The Side Show"
from *114 Songs*
Charles Ives
(1874-1954)
- "Tom Sails Away"
from *Three Songs of the War*
Julia Callaghan, soprano
Muse Ye, piano
- "Music I Heard With You" (Conrad Aiken)
from *Songfest*
Catherine Kondi, soprano
Lynda Chryst, piano
Leonard Bernstein
(1918-1990)
- "To What You Said" (Walt Whitman)
from *Songfest*
Andrew Sprague, baritone
Malachi Brown, cello
Sungmin Kim, piano

- "Toothbrush Time" (Arnold Weinstein)
from *Cabaret Songs*
Emily O'Connor, soprano
Maria Rabbia, piano
William Bolcom
(b. 1938)
- "Blue" (Arnold Weinstein)
from *Cabaret Songs*
Melanie Lota, mezzo-soprano
Connor Buckley, piano
- "Lonely at the Top"
from *Sail Away*
Justin Shondeck, baritone
Caleb Bates, piano
Randy Newman
(b. 1943)
- "Emily" (The Ballad of the Bombardier)
from *The Aireborne Symphony*
Francesco DiLello, tenor
Megan Smythe, piano
Marc Blitzstein
(1905-1964)
- "Jabberwocky" (Lewis Carroll)
from *Eleven Songs*
Jamila Drecker-Waxman, soprano
Shelly Goldman, piano
Lee Hoiby
(1926-2011)

This concert has been funded by the Ithaca College School of Music Advance Grant Program, and is being presented in collaboration with the Ithaca College School of Music Arts Intensive.

COVERS AND HUMMING CHORUS

Louis Bavaro, baritone
Victoria Brooks, soprano
Logan Chaput, baritone
Felicity Davis, soprano
Emily Dimitriou, mezzo-soprano
Alejandro Galdo, piano
Alex Gutierrez, piano
Jordan Juliano, tenor
Andrew Lefferts, piano
Anthony Pilcher, baritone
Evan Sacco, bass
Lindsey Weismann, mezzo-soprano

Biographies John Musto

Composer and pianist John Musto is that all too rare exemplar, the classical composer whose work is both critically acclaimed and widely performed, who has also distinguished himself as an instrumental soloist and chamber musician. His activities encompass virtually every genre: orchestral and operatic, solo, chamber and vocal music, concerti, and music for film and television. His music embraces many strains of contemporary American concert music, enriched by sophisticated inspirations from jazz, ragtime and the blues. These qualities lend a strong profile to his vocal music, which ranges from a series of operas - *Volpone*, *Later the Same Evening*, *Bastianello* and *The Inspector* - to a catalogue of art songs that is among the finest of any living American composer.

As pianist he has performed repertoire from Galuppi sonatas to Bolcom études, Bach keyboard concerti to Bernstein's *Age of Anxiety*, his own piano concerti, Schubert lieder to the *Great American Songbook*. He also performs frequently with his wife, soprano Amy Burton, in recital and cabaret.

Mr. Musto was a Pulitzer Prize finalist for his orchestral song cycle *Dove Sta Amore*, and is a recipient of two Emmy awards, two CINE Awards, a Rockefeller Fellowship at Bellagio, an American Academy of Arts and Letters award, and a Distinguished Alumnus award from the Manhattan School of Music. He is currently on the piano faculty of the CUNY Graduate Center in New York, where he also serves as Co-ordinator of the D.M.A. Program in Music Performance.

Musto's work has been recorded by Bridge, Harmonia Mundi, Nonesuch, Cedille, The Milken Archive, Naxos, Harbinger, CRI and EMI, Hyperion, MusicMasters, Innova, Channel Classics, Albany, and New World Records. He is published by Peermusic Classical.

Amy Burton

"A sought-after teacher, Ms. Burton is pleased to announce that she will join the Vocal Arts faculty at the Juilliard School in the Fall of 2019. Also on the voice faculty at the Mannes College of Music (The New School), the CUNY Graduate Center DMA program, and SongFest at Colburn Conservatory in Los Angeles, she has taught French Vocal Literature at Manhattan School of Music, and maintains an active private voice studio in New York City. She has given master classes and residencies throughout the United States and in Paris."

With a voice the New York Times has called, "luminous" and "lustrous," versatile soprano Amy Burton has sung with the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera, at the White House, and with major opera companies and orchestras throughout the US, Europe, UK, Japan and Israel, as well as on recital and cabaret stages from New York to Barcelona. A frequent interpreter of 20th and 21st-Century music, she has premiered pieces by John Musto, Paul Moravec, Lee Hoiby, John Harbison, Richard Festinger, and Richard Danielpour, to name a few. Also specializing in French vocal music of the 1920s and 30s, Ms. Burton has performed both *mélodies* and *chansons populaires* throughout the US and Europe, and recorded a critically acclaimed CD with conductor Yves Abel, *Souvenir de Printemps*.

Recent projects include performances throughout the US of Late Night with Leonard Bernstein (with John Musto and Michael Boriskin, pianists, narrated by Jamie Bernstein, the composer's daughter), cabaret appearances at the Café Sabarsky with Musto, Double Date with William Bolcom and Joan Morris in New York, Corigliano's Mister Tambourine Man with the Midland-Odesa Symphony and Debussy songs with Lyricfest in Philadelphia (Laura Ward, piano).

Amy Burton sang in the modern-day premiere of Cole Porter's rediscovered 1928 musical, The Ambassador Revue (La Revue des Ambassadeurs), in both Paris (2012) and New York (2014), the New York premiere of John Musto's Scottish Songs, and the world premiere of Sarah's Song for the AIDS Quilt Songbook and Summer Stars for the Opera America Songbook and recording, also by Musto. Ms. Burton sang Winnie in the world premiere of Michael Dellaira's opera The Secret Agent and can be heard on the recording for SoundMirror.

Her frequent collaborations with composer-pianist John Musto include recitals, cabaret evenings and residencies. Their recent recording for Bridge Records, Got a Little Rhythm, a collection of songs and duets from the Great American Songbook (with baritone Patrick Mason), has garnered rave reviews. Amy Burton has previously recorded for Bridge, Naxos, Harbinger, Albany, Angel/EMI, and CRI.

A sought-after teacher, Ms. Burton is Professor of Voice at the Mannes College of Music and the CUNY Graduate Center Doctoral program, and is on the faculty of SongFest at Colburn Conservatory in Los Angeles. She has taught French Vocal Literature at Manhattan School of Music, and maintains a private voice studio in New York City. She has given master classes and residencies throughout the United States and in Paris.

Amy Burton's awards include major prizes from the Gerda Lissner, George London, and Sullivan Foundations. She was the Silver Medalist in the 1995 Marian Anderson International Vocal Competition, and New York City Opera, where she was a leading soprano for twelve seasons, honored her with the Christopher Keene Award, the Kolosvar Award, and the 2005 Diva Award. She is proud to be an active member of the Glimmerglass Opera Artist Advisory Board, New York Festival of Song's Artist Council, and Opera America, which honored her with their first-ever Artist Advocate Award in 2006.

Cincinnati Song Initiative

Cincinnati Song Initiative was founded to bring a concentrated and cohesive source of art song to the greater Cincinnati area. Dedicated to providing unique experiences through the power of poetry and music, each performance creates a sense of relevance and active engagement between performers and audiences. This is achieved not only through song, but also through spoken dialogue by the artists, which provides a context and historical background that connects audiences to the repertoire. Concerts take place at different venues throughout the Queen City in order to connect with its many vibrant communities and explore all it has to offer.

At the core of CSI is its innovative programming model: large-scale thematic series that span the course of multiple concerts. Each concert features singers and pianists of national renown, providing an unparalleled level of artistry within the context of an intimate and accessible atmosphere. The CSI artist roster rotates seasonally, allowing for audiences to experience a fresh variety of voice types and artistic personalities. Furthermore, Cincinnati Song Initiative remains devoted to the innovation of art song, commissioning and premiering new works to help lead the genre into the twenty-first century and connect more closely with today's audiences.

Unlike the Mainstage season, which is confined to the greater Cincinnati area, CSI Mobile features concerts that have no geographical boundaries. CSI artists love bringing programs to friends, family, and new communities around the country in order to share the power of art song outside of our Cincinnati home. Additionally, CSI Mobile features events in the greater Cincinnati area that fall outside of the Mainstage season, such as outreach and house concerts.

Samuel Martin

Founding Artistic Director of CSI, Pianist Samuel Martin is a dynamic artist in demand as a partner for recital, chamber, choral, orchestral, opera, and musical theater performances. A Presser Scholar, and the recipient of numerous other musical honors, his stylistic versatility has resulted in concert appearances both nationally and internationally.

2019-2020 brings numerous projects and performances, notably several music directing positions with HGOco (Houston) and the Vocal Audition Advantage (Hartford). He will appear as a guest artist with Cincinnati Song Initiative at Ithaca College in a week-long festival celebrating American art song, with a special focus on the vocal works of John Musto. In the recent past, Martin has served on the musical coaching staffs of Opera in the Heights (Houston), Cincinnati Chamber Opera, the International Performing Arts Institute (Bavaria, Germany), the Opera Company of Middlebury, and the CCM Summer Opera Studio (Cincinnati).

A strong proponent of new music, Martin has been directly involved in the premieres of works by numerous composers, including Sally Lamb McCune, Matthew Recio, R. Aaron Walters, Josh Oxford, and Christopher A. Sforza. In the realm of theater, he has served as music director for the premieres of two new musicals: *Beautiful Dreamer: The Stephen Foster Musical* by David Newman, and *The Teddy Bear Awards* by Peter Schmidt. Additionally, he had the distinct pleasure of serving as rehearsal and performance pianist for the world premiere of Dana Wilson's opera *The Wolf By the Ears*.

A native of New York, Martin holds degrees from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music and Ithaca College. He has continued his training as a Fellow at the Fall Island Vocal Arts Seminar, an intensive program focused on the interpretation and performance of contemporary American art song, led by master teachers and performers Stephanie Blythe and Alan Louis Smith. Currently, Martin serves on the music staff of Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, where he can be seen in numerous song recitals with graduate-level singers throughout the academic year.