

PORTLAND ROSSINI CLUB

152nd Season

The Cathedral Church of St. Luke
Portland, Maine

3:00 PM
Sunday, November 27, 2022

President
Program Chair

Jonathan Prak
Susanna Adams

Program

La Nuit

Ernest Chausson (1855 – 1899)

Die Schwestern

Johannes Brahms (1833 – 1897)

Habanera

Pauline Viardot (1821 – 1910)

Lurette Saul, soprano

Jazmin DeRice,* mezzo soprano

Morgan Lee,* piano

Clarinet Quintet in A major, K 581

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 1791)

Allegro

Larghetto

Menuetto

Allegretto con variazioni

Stephen Schiffman, clarinet

Ladies of Note

(Eleanor Lehmann, violin; Betsy Hooper, violin;

Susanna Adams, viola; Katherine Berry, cello)

Five Italian Art Songs

Il mio bel foco

Benedetto Marcello (1686 – 1739)

Amarilli, mia bella

Giulio Caccini (1551 – 1618)

Per la gloria d'adorarvi

Giovanni Bononcini (1617 – 1747)

O Cessate Di Piagarmi

Alessandro Scarlatti (1660 – 1725)

Che fiero costume

Giovanni Legrenzi (1626 – 1690)

Stacey Geyer, soprano*

Jonathan Prak, piano

*Guest

We request that the audience reserve its applause until the end of each performance

Our next program will take place here Sunday, January 22

Many thanks to St. Luke's Cathedral for the use of their facilities for our programs

Many thanks to the Nichols Charitable Trust for the grant to support the purchase of the acoustical shells

Today's Performers

Jazmin DeRice, mezzo soprano: Jazmin DeRice attended school for Vocal Performance at USM and Mannes School of Music. Currently, she teaches voice lessons and takes care of creatures as a large animal veterinary assistant.

Stacey Geyer, soprano: Stacey Geyer is a soprano who lives her life like a mezzo. She spends much of her time out of doors, landscaping, farming, camping, dancing, dipping in the ocean, wandering, and bushwhacking with her wonderful partner Sam. She comes from a Central Pennsylvanian family firmly rooted in rock and roll, within which she started her musical life as a percussionist. She thoroughly enjoys letting loose at the family jam sessions. Stacey sang mostly opera for a number of years, performing in Pittsburgh, Boston, New York City, Québec, Princeton, Binghamton, Santa Fe and Verona, Italy. She's absolutely delighted to be collaborating with sweet Jonathan for your listening pleasure!

Morgan Lee, piano: Morgan recently graduated from the University of Connecticut with her Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance, where she studied with Angelina Gadeliya. Morgan also holds a Master of Music from Mannes School of Music and a Bachelor of Arts from Brown University. A new resident of Maine, Morgan currently serves as staff accompanist at the University of Southern Maine Osher School of Music and teaches piano at Stone Coast Music.

Jonathan Pekdey Prak, piano: Jonathan Prak is a Saco native currently living in Portland. He studies with Dr. Laura Kargul at the Osher School of Music of the University of Southern Maine (USM). He loves playing works by Mozart, Chopin, Liszt, Ravel and Prokofiev, just to name a few. Jonathan is currently President of the Portland Rossini Club. Outside the world of music, Jonathan has a knack for learning languages, enjoys adventures and traveling, and running.

Lurette Saul, soprano: Lurette received a BM in vocal performance at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and an MM in the same from USM. She teaches voice at Bates College, at the Portland Conservatory of Music, and at her home in Portland.

Stephen Schiffman, clarinet: Prior to moving to Portland, Stephen Schiffman, emeritus faculty member at Babson College and the F.W. Olin College of Engineering, lived in Boston for 30 years and played with various ensembles and chamber music groups there. He has been playing the clarinet for over 55 years and his teachers have included Sherman Friedland, Julie Vaverka and Thomas Hill. Also a member of the Marston-Kotzschmar Club, he joined Rossini Club in 2015.

Ladies of Note

- **Susanna Adams, viola:** Susanna made the switch from violin to viola in 1999. She is a graduate of Smith College and holds masters degrees from Harvard and Berkeley. She obtained a B.S. in Music Education from U.S.M. in 1997. She is a member of Maineblend, the Woodfords choir, and the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra where she plays viola. She is co-chair of the Advisory Council of the Portland Conservatory of Music. Susanna has been a member of Rossini Club since 2009 and currently serves as Program Chair.
- **Katherine Berry, cello:** At the age of ten, Katherine began studying with the late Katherine Hatch Graffam, Rossini Club member and principal cellist of the Portland Symphony Orchestra. When she was 16 she played with the Portland Symphony Orchestra under Arthur Lipkin and Paul Vermel. She graduated from The Northern Conservatory of Music in Bangor in 1971. While attending college she played in the Bangor Symphony with Peter Re. She studied cello with Marian Heller of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, who was cellist with the now well known Portland String Quartet. A resident of Portland, she currently plays in the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra under Robert Lehmann. She enjoys playing cello and playing basketball with her 3 grandchildren
- **Betsy Hooper violin:** Music has always been an essential avocation for Betsy. As a young child, Betsy began violin lessons with her mother. Her first orchestral experience was with the Vermont Youth Orchestra under Peter Brown. Later she attended Interlochen Arts Academy where she studied with Rosemary Malocsay. As an Engineering student at Duke University she studied violin under Giorgio Ciompi, and followed up as a grad student at UC Berkeley studying under Felix Khuner. Following a several decade digression into traditional fiddle music – Scottish, Irish, and Swedish – she returned to her classical roots, playing with the Manassas Symphony Orchestra in Virginia under James Villani. Recently come to Maine and living in Gorham, she currently plays with the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra under Robert Lehmann with whom she also takes the occasional violin lesson.
- **Eleanor Lehmann, violin:** Eleanor began her musical studies on violin at the age of 5 with John M. Ray in San Francisco, California. She then attended the San Francisco Conservatory of Music where she studied with Jack O'Brian (Griller String Quartet) and Marion Ford. In 1963, she received a degree in music education and performance from San Francisco State University. After years of teaching and performing in California, as well as in Mexico City, and in Holland, she moved to Maine in 2003 and began teaching both violin and viola in her studio and at the Portland Conservatory of Music. In 2007, she initiated violin classes at USM, Portland, for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Today, she is an active member of both the Portland Rossini and Marston-Kotzschmar Music Clubs of Portland, and served as President for both.