

PORTLAND ROSSINI CLUB

153rd Season

The Cathedral Church of St. Luke
Portland, Maine

3:00 PM
Sunday, January 21, 2024

President
Program Chair

Jonathan Prak
Susanna Adams

Program

Featuring the women of the Amethyst Chamber Ensemble

Mary Sullivan, Molly Harmon, soprano

Joëlle Morris, Jazmin DeRice, Jenna Guiggey, mezzo soprano

Randy Day, piano

- O Pastor animarum R466v (*O Shepherd of Souls*) (Ensemble) Hildegard von Bingen (1098 – 1179)
- Cuatro Madrigales Amatorios (*Four Madrigals of Love*) Joaquin Rodrigo (1901 – 1999)
Con qué la lavaré (*With what shall I wash?*) (Jazmin)
Vos me matásteis (*You killed me*) (Jenna)
De dónde venís, amore? (*Where hast thou been, my love?*) (Joëlle)
De los álamos vengo, madre (*I come from the poplars, mother*) (Jazmin)
- Vier letzte lieder (*Four last songs*) Richard Strauss (1864 – 1949)
Frühling (*Spring*) (Molly)
September (Joëlle)
Beim Schlafengehen (*While going to sleep*) (Mary)
Im Abendrot (*At sunset*) (Joëlle)
- Two duets by Fauré Gabriel Fauré (1845 – 1924)
Puisqu'ici-bas toute âme, Op. 10 #1 (*Since down here each soul*) (Mary, Joëlle)
Pleurs d'or, Op.72 (*Tears of gold*) (Jazmin, Jenna)
- Three Songs Steven Finch (b. 1959)
An Apple Gathering (Molly)
Uphill (Jazmin)
A Birthday (Molly)
- Miss Wheatley's Garden Rosephanye Powell (b. 1962)
Songs for the People (Jenna)
I Want to Die While You Love Me (Jazmin)
A Winter Twilight (Jenna)
- To My Dear and Loving Husband (*Songfest*) (Mary, Molly, Joëlle) Leonard Bernstein (1918 – 1990)
- Rhinemaiden's Trio (Mary, Molly, Joëlle) Dan Sonenberg (b. 1970)
- Nessun dorma (Ensemble) Giacomo Puccini (1858 – 1924)

Our next program will take place here, at St. Luke's Cathedral, on Sunday, February 18

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

Today's Performers

Randy Day, piano: Randy Day is the music director at St. Paul Episcopal Church in Brunswick, Maine. An accomplished pianist and organist, Randy served as Minister of Music at Trinity United Church of Christ in Hanover, Pennsylvania and for six years at St. John's Episcopal Church as Organist and Choirmaster in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Jazmin DeRice, contralto/mezzo soprano: A Maine-based performance artist and teacher, Jazmin's got it covered From Baroque to Bootsy. Recent performances include the alto solos in Handel's *Messiah* (Parts I, II, and III) with the Down East Singers in Thomaston and Strawberry Moon Garden Party music festival (a charity event supporting Music for Meals) with Boba Funk in Harpswell. DeRice teaches voice privately at her home studio in Woolwich and is an adjunct voice instructor at Bates College. She is an active member of the Amethyst Chamber Ensemble, Portland Rossini Club, and is part of the Maine chapter of NATS. DeRice received her Bachelors and Masters in Vocal Performance from the University of Southern Maine, and Artist Diploma in Vocal Performance from Mannes School of Music. She has received awards from the Bay Chamber Concert series and multiple Maine NATS recognitions, including the Lillian Nordica Award. She studied with the late and great Ellen Chickering, the magnificent Margaret Yauger Smith, Margaret's late husband Malcom Smith, and Bonnie Hamilton (of Mannes and CUNY Purchase). A native Mainer, she lives in Woolwich with her partner Chris, daughter, Wolfe, and all their 4 legged (and feathered) creatures.

Jenna Guiggey, mezzo soprano: Jenna performs a diverse and demanding array of repertoire, including early Baroque, classic and modern musical theater, pop, rock, and contemporary choral music. She performs locally with the St. Mary Schola in Falmouth, as an Artist in Residence with Oratorio Chorale in Brunswick, and in several popular cover bands. She studied classical voice with Ellen Chickering and Bruce Fithian at the University of Southern Maine, completing a Bachelor of Music degree in music education and a Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy. She maintains a private studio in Auburn and owns and operates Blue Jay Coffee, a café in downtown Lewiston.

Molly Harmon, soprano: Molly frequently performs as a soloist and chorister in the Southern Maine area, and currently sings with local ensembles ChoralArt, Oratorio Chorale, and St. Mary Schola. Her most recent performances include singing the role of Dido in *Dido and Aeneas* with St. Mary Schola and as the soprano soloist in Vaughn Williams' *Serenade to Music* with the Portland Symphony Orchestra. She has also been a featured soprano soloist in Handel's *Messiah*, Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, and Orff's *Carmina Burana*. Molly's main passion lies in ensemble singing and chamber music; she has produced and performed in several recitals featuring works such as Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols* and Eric Whitacre's *Five Hebrew Love Songs* for soprano, violin, and piano. Molly resides in Portland where she has a growing voice studio.

Joëlle Morris, mezzo soprano: Originally from Evian, France, Joëlle Morris has performed throughout Europe and the United States and is admired for her versatility, from the concert stage to the operatic arena, in intimate jazz settings and French cabaret or simply sharing her gifts as voice teacher and coach. An active recitalist, Joëlle has sung across the United States, France and Switzerland, most notably in such prestigious halls as La Grange-au-Lac in Evian-les-Bains, at Le Château de Ripaille in Thonon, the festival La Belle Epoque at Evian and at l'Espace Maurice Novarina featuring her original production of "Poèmes en Musique" a presentation of French composers and their inspiration of poetry. Since relocating to Maine in 2011, Joëlle has appeared with the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, the Mozart Mentor Orchestra and is regularly a featured artist at Colby College, Bates College, Bowdoin College, the Franco Center, Waterville Opera House, Nordica Auditorium, the Colby Jazz Faculty Ensemble, and the Early Music Festival in Portland. Mrs. Morris is the co-founding member of the Resinosa Ensemble, which specializes in 21st century chamber works, and the Amethyst Chamber Ensemble in Maine. In addition to annual summer appearances in France, she is currently a Visiting Lecturer & Choral Conductor at Bates College.

Mary Sullivan, soprano: Hailed for her "power, suppleness, and expressive depth," Mary Sullivan has appeared as a soloist with numerous ensembles in New England. She has been featured as a recitalist at Bowdoin College's Studzinski Recital Hall with pianist and Artist in Residence George Lopez, and as a soloist for Opera Maine. Recent repertoire highlights include the Strauss *Vier letzte Lieder*; the Mozart *Requiem*; Handel's *Messiah*; the Pergolesi *Stabat Mater*; Mendelssohn's *Elijah*; and Bernstein's *Songfest*. She recently performed the role of Violetta in the Colby College Symphony Orchestra's presentation of scenes from Verdi's *La Traviata*. A gifted teacher and vocal coach, Ms. Sullivan is the co-founder of Amethyst Chamber Ensemble, a vocal and instrumental chamber ensemble, offering salon, recital, and full concert programs throughout the season. She is also a member of the Maine Friends of Music chamber ensemble, which is offering its fall season of concerts this month. Ms. Sullivan maintains a private voice studio in Brunswick, Maine.