



Since 1909

2010-2011 Season

Sundays at three o'clock

October 24

Presenting New Members

*Cardinal Stritch University
6801 N. Yates Road, Fox Point*

November 14

Opera Plus

*Steinway Piano Gallery
11550 W. North Avenue, Wauwatosa*

January 9

Solos & Ensembles

*Cardinal Stritch University
6801 N. Yates Road, Fox Point*

February 20

Chamber Music

*First Congregational Church
1511 Church Street, Wauwatosa*

March 20

Classical Celtic

*Irish Cultural Heritage Center
2133 W Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee*

May 22

Lightly Latin

*Cardinal Stritch University
6801 N. Yates Road, Fox Point*



Furthering musical interests in Milwaukee, providing performing opportunities for professional and amateur musicians, and acquainting the public with the number and excellence of local artists since 1909.

macdowellclubmilwaukee.org

OPERA PLUS

Program chaired by Sally Lane Schwarz

3 o'clock Sunday, 14 November 2010

*Steinway Piano Gallery
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin*

Opera Plus

Sull'aria
(Le Nozze di Figaro)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Georgine Wenzler, soprano (Susanna)
Linda Ehlers, mezzo soprano (Countess)
Patty Clemens, piano*

Voce di donna
(La Gioconda)

Amilcare Ponchielli (1834-1886)

Judith Pilon, mezzo soprano (La Cieca)
Patty Clemens, piano*

The Lullaby
(The Consul)

Gian Carlo Menotti (1911-2007)

Donna Shriner, mezzo soprano (the grandmother)
Sue Pajunen, piano

Entr'acte et Barcarolle
(Les contes d'Hoffmann)

Jacques Offenbach (1819-1880)

Linda Ehlers, mezzo soprano (Giulietta)
Judith Pilon, mezzo soprano (Nicklausse)
Patty Clemens, piano*

Donna Vocalise

Sholom Secunda

Enid Bootzin Berkovitz, soprano
Karen Fiedler, flute
Geraldine Thien Stone, piano

Donna Shriner, Mezzo Soprano, is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music and received her graduate music degree from Indiana University. She has sung numerous opera roles with the Skylight Comic Opera and the Milwaukee Opera Companies. Her roles have included Dorabella (COSI FAN TUTTE), Prince Orlofsky (DIE FLEDERMAUS), Princess (SUOR ANGELICA), among others. She has also sung Gilbert and Sullivan roles, including Pitti-Sing (THE MIKADO) and Tess (THE GONDOLIERS). Donna has taught voice at Alverno College and Cardinal Stritch University. She is a member and officer in various music organizations, sings for many churches and enjoys recital work throughout the Milwaukee area.

Geraldine Thien-Stone, Pianist, has had a remarkably interesting career in professional music despite never having moved from Milwaukee. As a classically trained pianist, she has won numerous awards, scholarships, and plaudits. Among these was a full scholarship for six years at the Wisconsin College Conservatory to study with Florence Bettray Kelly (Liberace's teacher). Geri's career covers work with the Florentine Opera Company, the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, various musical comedy performances as well as accompanying touring artists. She feels very blessed to perform and to maintain a rewarding and enjoyable profession.

Georgine Wenzler, Soprano, has performed with the Florentine Opera Chorus, The Skylight Opera Theatre and The Milwaukee Opera Company. She has also enjoyed working with the Milwaukee Children's Theatre, Music Under the Stars, and dinner theatre productions in Dubuque, Iowa. Georgine taught private voice lessons and sang concerts around the Milwaukee area when her two sons were growing up. She was blessed to serve as full time Pastor of Worship, Music & Arts for 28 years at Eastbrook Church in Milwaukee. Since 2008, Georgine has continued as Assistant Music Pastor conducting the Worship and Gospel Choirs while concentrating on her business as owner of Wenzler Architects, a Woman-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE) in downtown Milwaukee. – "In all things God works for the good of those who love Him." Romans 8:28.

Suzanne Pajunen, Pianist, has a B.A. in Piano Pedagogy from the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music in Milwaukee, and a M.M. in Music Ed from UW-Milwaukee. She has taught piano and music courses at all levels of education and has served as an accompanist for many organizations throughout the Milwaukee area. She is an active organist and is an adjudicator for National Guild of Piano Teachers, American College of Musicians, and Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs. She is past president of the MacDowell Club and an active member of many area music organizations.

Judith Pilon, Mezzo Soprano, completed a Bachelor of Arts in Music from UW-Milwaukee in 2002. As a student in the UWM Opera Theatre Workshop, she sang leading roles in CARMEN, GIANNI SCHICCI, and THE MEDIUM and appeared as Arnalta in POPPEA, which she also performed in Italy with the La Musica Lyrica program. Judith has been a member of the Florentine Opera Chorus, a soloist with the Eastbrook Orchestra and frequently performs in recital and church, including her own compositions for voice and guitar. She was on the Board of the MacDowell Club for two years and is an active performing member with the Club. "As for me, the nearness of God is my good." PS 73:28

Dan Roberdeau, Clarinetist, is currently principal clarinet with the Waukesha, Racine, and Kenosha Symphonies, as well as the Wisconsin Wind Orchestra. He performs regularly with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and the Festival City Symphony. Dan is the instructor of clarinet at Carroll University and Beloit College. His principal teachers include Robert Marcellus and Jerome Stowell. Throughout his career, Dan has performed with a wide variety of artists, which include Kansas, Led Zeppelin, Henry Mancini, Frank Sinatra, Ray Charles, Country/Western Singer Collin Raye, Robert Goulet, Mannheim Steamroller, the Mantovani Orchestra, PDQ Bach (Peter Schickele) and many others.

Sally Lane Schwarz, Soprano, earned her Bachelor and Masters Degrees in Applied Voice from Northwestern University-Evanston, IL and completed further graduate studies in Vocal Literature & Voice at the University of Iowa-Iowa City, IA and the Music Academy of the West-Santa Barbara, CA. Ms. Schwarz was a long time member of the Florentine Opera Co. including both chorus and comprimario roles, as well as roles with the Skylight Opera Theatre and the Milwaukee Opera Theater. She has performed in recital sponsored by the Civic Music Assoc., The Goethe House of Milw., The Dorothy Goff Frisch Recital Series and Faculty Recitals; both at Carroll University. She has been a soloist with The Concord Chamber Orchestra, Waukesha Choral Union and the Milwaukee Chamber Chorus. Ms. Schwarz is on the vocal faculty at Carroll University (since 1992), has a voice studio in her home, continues to perform recital/concert work, and is an active performing member and Board member of the MacDowell Club of Milwaukee.

Opera Plus

Andante, Act I.I
(*La Forza del Destino*)

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Dan Roberdeau, clarinet
Shanti Daya, piano

Sweet Affection, Heavenly Treasure Christoph Willibald Ritter von Gluck
(*Orpheus et Euridice*) (1714-1787)

Amor: Sally Lane Schwarz, soprano
Euridice: Linda Ehlers, mezzo soprano
Orpheus: Judith Pilon, mezzo soprano
Patty Clemens*, piano

Il trovatore
Beltà crudele

Giachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Christine O' Meally, mezzo soprano
Carla Coonan, piano

Noble Seigneurs (Les Huguenots)
Voi che sapete
Sexy Lady

Giacomo Meyerbeer (1791-1864)
W.A. Mozart
Ben Moore (b. 1960)

Jori Jennings, mezzo soprano
Janet Eckhardt*, piano

I am supremely honored to meet you, my Lady
(*The Marriage of Figaro*)

W.A. Mozart

Sally Lane Schwarz, soprano (Susanna)
Donna Shrinex, mezzo soprano (Marchellina)
Suzanne Pajunen, piano

* Guest Performer

SONG TEXT Synopsis

In the order of program

Sull'aria: In an attempt to catch Count Almaviva in his infidelities, the Countess dictates a love letter for Susanna to give to the Count, which suggests that he meet her that night “under the pines.”

Voce di donna: From Act I – In Venice, the 17th c.; the courtyard of the ducal palace, decorated for a holiday festival; a spring afternoon. La Cieca, the blind mother of the Venetian street singer La Gioconda, is wrongfully accused of witchcraft. Laura, the wife of Alvise, a chief of State Inquisition, intervenes on her behalf. In the aria, La Cieca bestows upon Laura her rosary, her thanks and her prayers for blessing.

The Lullaby: This lullaby is sung by the grandmother to cheer her tiny grandchild. Her son-in-law is a political fugitive in a police state and in his absence, the family is suffering from hunger and the cold.

Linda S. Ehlers, Mezzo Soprano, is a member of the Florentine Opera Chorus where she recently performed the role of a Keely Family Singer in the Midwest premiere of the opera ELMER GANTRY. She has been a soloist with the Concord Chamber Orchestra, the North Shore Symphony and the Eastbrook Orchestra at Washington Park and Bayshore Mall Music series. She has sung roles with the Skylight Opera Theatre, the Milwaukee Opera Theatre and the Bowen Park Opera Co. in Illinois. She has been a member of the Milwaukee Choral Artists, Bel Canto Chorus, the Grant Park Chorus in Chicago and currently active in the MacDowell Music Club of Milwaukee. Voice Major/Religion Minor from Bradley University in Peoria, IL. Linda has received training and has worked for over seven years as a Kindermusik teacher. Currently she enjoys her administrative work and service to the residents of Luther Manor in Wauwatosa. “I will sing to the Lord, for He has been good to me.” PS 13:6

Karen Fiedler, Flutist, has played both piccolo and flute with the Waukesha Symphony for 20 years. She has also been a member of the Waukesha Civic Band for 25 years. She has a Masters Degree in Music Performance from Southern Illinois University and a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from St. Cloud State University. She lives in Waukesha where she manages the recycling and solid waste programs for Waukesha County. Karen enjoys outdoor activities, biking, canoeing, hiking, and gardening.

Jori Jennings, Mezzo Soprano, is currently on the voice faculty of Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Illinois where she teaches applied voice, diction for singers, and opera workshop. Dr. Jennings is at home on both the concert and opera stage. She made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2002 as the soloist in Mozart’s Coronation Mass and Pergolesi’s Stabat Mater. She has been a soloist with the Rockford Choral Union, the Champaign Prairie Ensemble, New Mexico State University, and the Quad Cities Symphony Orchestra. Opera roles include Cherubino (FIGARO), Hansel (HANSEL und GRETEL), Dorabella (COSI FAN TUTTE), and Stephano (ROMEO ET JULIETTE). This past summer, she performed concerts of American music in Piobbico, Italy. Along with teaching and singing, Dr. Jennings is the director of the Community Music School on the Moody Institute campus.

Christine O’Meally, Mezzo Soprano, has performed everything from the motets of J.S. Bach to the melodies of Irving Berlin to the minimalism of Philip Glass. Opera appearances include roles with many companies and concert work has included performances with the Racine Symphony, Wheaton Symphony, Bel Canto Chorus of Milwaukee, Milwaukee Choral Artists, Washington Bach Consort, Handel Choir of Baltimore, and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. She is adjunct faculty at Carroll University and maintains a private voice studio at her home in Wauwatosa.

PERFORMER PROFILES

Enid-Ann Bootzin Berkovits, Soprano, is the director and founding member of the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale. She earned her bachelor's degree in music therapy from Alverno College, where she also studied choral conducting. She did postgraduate study at Northwestern University and DePaul University. Enid has sung at the Skylight Opera Theater, Milwaukee Opera Company and given numerous recitals in the Milwaukee area. She developed and owned Creative Dimensions in Care and is still associated with providing excellent in-home health care.

Patricia Clemens, Pianist, studied piano and organ performance in college (Lawrence University and UW-Milwaukee) before switching to a business career. As a teenager, she received a number of musical awards and won the Polanski Chopin piano contest. She has kept music in her life as a soloist and accompanist for singers and instrumentalists. Today, Patty is a Project Manager at Northwoods Software in Brown Deer. The MacDowell Club is pleased to welcome Patty as a guest today.

Carla Coonan, Pianist and Accompanist, recently moved here from Michigan. She has enjoyed being a private piano instructor for the past 20 years. In her 12 years of marriage, she has lived in 6 states giving her a wide variety of musical experiences. Some of her favorite events have been pianist for the Michigan Shakespeare Festival, the Jackson Symphony Orchestra, the Eight Hands and 39 Fingers four piano concert, Andante String Quartet and numerous recitals and concerts for local high schools and universities. She is looking forward to musical life in Milwaukee and has started her own home studio.

Shanti Daya, Pianist, received her Licentiate in Piano Performance from the Royal Schools of Music, London, and her Bachelor and Master degrees in piano performance from UW-Madison. She has appeared as soloist with the UW-Madison Symphony Orchestra, Concord Chamber Orchestra, Waukesha Symphony, Kettle Moraine Symphony, and the Malaysian National Symphony. In addition to giving numerous solo recitals and chamber music concerts, Shanti is on the music faculty of Carroll University and maintains a private piano studio in Brookfield, where she resides.

SONG TEXT Synopsis

Entr'acte et Barcarolle: In Venice, overlooking the canal, Giulietta and Nicklausse sing of the beautiful night of love.

Donna Vocalise: Sholom Secunda was a composer, arranger, director and critic who came to New York in 1907, entered the Institute of Musical Art (renamed the Juilliard School) where he trained with composer Ernest Bloch. Secunda's first love was classical music, but he first supported himself while a young student working as an extra in the Yiddish theater. He found considerable success as a composer and director in the Yiddish theater until the early 1970's. His compositions have been successful inside and outside the Yiddish theater, with hit songs sung by such artists as the Andrews Sisters and Joan Baez. His music manuscripts include Yiddish theater productions, Cantorial music, Liturgical music, Art Songs, Secular and Folk Songs.

Sweet Affection, Heavenly Treasure: In reward for Orpheus's continued love, Amor returns Euridice to life and she and Orpheus are reunited. They give thanks to Amor.

SONG TEXT Synopsis

Il Trovatore: is basically a 19th century version of Smokey Robinson's "Tears of a Clown" – the troubador sings and everyone assumes that he is happy and love has smiled upon him; but the singer is only trying to fool the public for he is really sad. He hopes, by singing, that the one who has betrayed him will not know how deeply he has been hurt, and perhaps he can assuage his own pain through the healing powers of music.

Beltà crudele: calls upon the gods of love to help the singer woo his true love with ribbons and roses. And if the ungrateful recipient of these gifts refuses him?-then- he will blind her to him with a love-knot.

Noble Seigneurs: Desiring to put an end to the differences between Huguenots and Catholics, Queen Marguerite de Valois sends her page, Urbain, to a banquet held by Count de Nevers, a leader of the Catholic party. Urbain arrives to extend an invitation to Raoul de Nangis, a Huguenot, to come with him blindfolded to meet a lady who shall not be named.

SONG TEXT Synopsis

Voi che sapete: In the second act of Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*, Cherubino seeks solace from Susanna and the Countess after learning that the Count is sending him into the army. Susanna convinces him to sing a love song he has written to the Countess. Accompanied by Susanna, Cherubino implores the ladies, who know what love is, to see if he has it in his heart.

Sexy Lady: Written for mezzo soprano Susan Graham, 'Sexy Lady' is one of several opera parodies penned by American composer Ben Moore. This spoof on trouser roles contains several musical quotes from operas such as *Le Nozze di Figaro* and *Der Rosenkavalier*. At least in those two operas, the pants role mezzo gets to wear a dress when she's a 'girl playing a boy, playing a girl...what a mess!'

I am supremely honored to meet you, my Lady: Susanna, younger lady in waiting to the Countess and Marcellina, the old housekeeper to Dr. Bartolo share a remarkably strong distaste for the other. They are surprised to be in the same room. Simultaneously, they lather on insincere compliments in their attempt to make their way to the center door. Unfortunately, neither can bear it and they give way to insults.