

The Art Song Preservation Society of New York  
Presents



*Romantic and Post-Romantic Europe*

with Thomas Muraco

Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014, 1:00 pm

Opera America

330 7th Avenue New York, NY 10001

# *Romantic and Post-Romantic Europe*

with Master Clinician Thomas Muraco

## **Anthony Acocella, Tenor**

Chanson Triste (Lahor)

Zueignung, Op. 10 No. 1 (Gilm)

Henri Duparc (1848-1933)

Richard Strauss (1864-1949)

## **Olivia Betzen, Soprano**

from *Mörike-Lieder* (Mörike)

Verborgeneheit

Er ist's

Hugo Wolf (1860-1903)

## **Timothy Stoddard, Tenor**

Phidylé from *Études Latines* (Leconte)

Mondnacht from *Liederkreis* (Benedikt)

Henri Duparc (1848-1933)

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

## **Elizabeth Fagan, Soprano**

Si mes vers avaient des ailes (Hugo)

Ständchen, Op. 106 No. 1 (Kugler)

Reynaldo Hahn (1874-1947)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

## **Robert Mellon, Baritone**

Und willst du deinen Liebsten sterben sehen

from *Italienisches Liederbuch* (Heyse)

Hugo Wolf (1860-1903)

## **James Conrad Smith, Baritone**

Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen

from *Fünf Rückertlieder* (Rückert)

Gustav Mahler (1860-1911)

## **Leanne Gonzalez-Singer, Mezzo-Soprano**

The last rose of summer (Moore)

A te from *Tosca* (Illica)

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)

## Master Clinician Thomas Muraco

Thomas Muraco has earned accolades through a combination of technical virtuosity, tonal beauty, and a profound understanding of the underlying poetry of music. His performances in major concert halls across three continents reflect his command of a repertoire remarkable for its complete range of musical styles, periods, and forms.



Muraco has famously partnered with singers such as Adele Addison, John Aler, Martina Arroyo, Arleen Augér, Phyllis Curtin, Faith Esham, Denyce Graves, Ben Heppner, Sumi Jo, Roberta Peters, Twyla Robinson, Benita Valente, and Dolora Zajick. Muraco also had the honor of assisting in the preparation of performances and a recording of *La Bohème* under the direction of Leonard Bernstein. Other career highlights include appearances at the White House and Library of Congress; the Aspen, Banff, Bermuda, Casals, Cincinnati May, and Ravinia Festivals; on recital series at New York's major concert halls; and at museums, universities, and cultural centers throughout the US, Europe, and Asia. Muraco has also been a judge for the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, as well as the jury chairman of the annual international vocal competition "De Vive Voix" held in Vivonne, France.

In addition to his busy performing schedule, Muraco has taught at Cleveland Institute of Music and the SUNY Stony Brook. Presently on the faculty of the Manhattan School of Music, he trains pianists in the art of accompanying and coaching, as well as singers in all aspects of the art. He has taught master classes for pianists and singers at St. Louis Conservatory, and Aspen and Banff Music Festivals. His master classes emphasize the unique relationship of poetry and music in vocal repertoire, applying his extensive knowledge of languages, including French, Italian, German, and Portuguese. Influential teachers in Thomas Muraco's own training include Jeanene Dowis, and John Nelson in conducting, and Brooks Smith at the Eastman School of Music (graduated with distinction).

## Eric Sedgwick, Pianist

Eric Sedgwick is a New York-based pianist, accompanist and vocal coach who has performed in concert with some of some of music's biggest talents, including Leona Mitchell, Marni Nixon, Sarah Rice, and Thomas Stacy. He is a staff coach at Manhattan School of Music, where he rehearses and musically directs Catherine Malfitano's performance classes. He also coaches and musically directs productions for the cutting-edge OperaWorks training program in southern California. Mr. Sedgwick performs regularly with several companies in New York City, including Opera Singers Initiatives, The Art Song Preservation Society of New York, The Stonewall Chorale, and Broadway Concerts Direct.



# About Us

## Our Mission

The Art Song Preservation Society of New York (ASPS) is a nonprofit arts organization dedicated to preserving, revitalizing, and promoting the art song repertoire and the art song recital. We do this by providing a variety of enriching and engaging programs, services, and events that promote the education and performance of classical vocal concert repertoire.

## What Is Art Song?

An art song is a music composition for voice and instrumental accompaniment. The text of these songs is derived from poetry resulting in the unification of two art forms: the poetic text and music. This makes the art song a dual art and one of the greatest (albeit oftentimes most neglected) gifts in the realm of classical music. When the ideal proportions are met – the heartfelt piano accompaniment, the exquisite voice, and the endearing poetry – one cannot help but be affected by it. It touches the mind. It touches the soul. It touches humanity.

## What We Do

The Art Song Preservation Society serves the New York City area by creating opportunities for education and performance in the genre of classical art song vocal literature to classical singers, piano collaborators, and art song aficionados. Our organization also generates exposure for emerging and established composers of art song to their key public – singers, teachers, accompanists, and enthusiasts!

With the financial support of grants and generous patrons of the arts, we offer opportunities for artistic development such as private and group voice lessons, workshops, a master class series, and educational lectures through the year. In addition to creating performance opportunities for emerging artists, we also sponsor both the Mary Trueman Vocal Arts Competition and a mentoring program for singers and pianists.

Finally, we share our passion for art song with everyone within our reach: recital and concert performances open to the public; community outreach and music therapy partnerships; and an exciting and informative internet-radio podcast show entitled "A Toast To Song" that has allowed us to expand beyond the New York City area.

## ***"If Music Be The Food of Love, Sing On, Sing On, Sing On!"***

ASPS is a beacon of light and an invaluable resource for emerging concert recitalists, piano collaborators, teachers, students, and anyone who cares to witness the pinnacle of artistic beauty. So if you have a genuine interest in the fusion of word and tone, rhythm of language, and the quality and beauty of the human voice, come experience the exuberance and joy of art song singing with The Art Song Preservation Society of New York: **where music speaks and words sing!**

# The Art Song Preservation Society Creative Team and Executive Board

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## GRANT AWARDS



The Florence Gould Foundation

Spring Into Song 2014 has been made possible in part with private funds generously granted by **The Florence Gould Foundation**.

Spring into Song 2014 is made possible in part with public funds from the **Manhattan Community Arts Fund**, supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and administered by **Lower Manhattan Cultural Council**.

Spring Into Song 2014 is made possible in part with public funds from the **Fund for Creative Communities**, supported by New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and administered by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council.

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Spring Into Song 2014 and every musically enriching ASPS program is made possible by the generosity of **supporters like you**. Our deepest gratitude is extended to all of our patrons!

# Spring Into Song 2014 Season Program

## *The Mary Trueman Art Song Vocal Competition Finals Recital*

Judged by Benita Valente, Thomas Grubb, & Thomas Muraco

**Date:** Saturday, March 29th, 1-5:00pm

## *French Mélodie Master Class – An Homage to Pierre Bernac*

with **Thomas Grubb**

The Juilliard School, Accompanying & Vocal Coaching Faculty

**Date:** Saturday, April 5th, 1-4:30pm

## *German Lied Master Class*

with **Baritone Elem Eley**

Westminster Choir College, Voice Teaching Faculty

**Date:** Saturday, April 26th, 1-4:30pm

## *Cross-Over Repertoire Master Class*

with **Soprano Marni Nixon**

Broadway Performer & Recording Artist

**Date:** Saturday, May 3rd, 1-4:30pm

## *Mélodies of Claude Debussy Master Class*

with **Dalton Baldwin**

Westminster Choir College, Accompanying & Vocal Coaching Faculty

**Date:** Saturday, May 17th, 1-4:30pm

## *Romantic & Post-Romantic European Song Master Class*

with **Thomas Muraco**

The Manhattan School of Music, Accompanying & Vocal Coaching Faculty

**Date:** Saturday, May 31st, 1-4:30pm

Unless otherwise indicated, all events take place at **Opera America** at 330 7th Avenue New York, NY 10001.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please contact Blair Boone at [aspsny@gmail.com](mailto:aspsny@gmail.com) or visit [www.artsongpreservationsociety.org](http://www.artsongpreservationsociety.org).

# Give the Gift of Music

If you ever wanted to become a patron of the arts, now is the time! With the rapid decline and tragic loss of many of our country's finest institutions of the arts, we need your assistance now more than ever to continue being a beacon of light to both musicians and music lovers in New York. The Art Song Preservation Society satisfies an aching need for resources, and creates unique opportunities to cultivate the beauty of art song education and performance in our community. Please consider giving the gift of music to honor or remember someone you love, or to simply celebrate your joy and appreciation for beautiful music!

## **Where Does My Donation Go?**

All donations made to the Art Song Preservation Society of New York will help us fulfill our missions of preserving, revitalizing, and promoting the art song repertoire and the art song recital. Individual donors help pay for the operational costs, educational and development programs, and community outreach services that grant funding does not cover. Your support will enable us to continue providing a variety of enriching and engaging programs, services, and events that promote the education and performance of classical vocal concert repertoire.

## **Your Contribution to the Arts is Tax-Deductible!**

The Art Song Preservation Society of New York (ASPS) has been incorporated and awarded nonprofit 501(c)(3) status. Financial support is provided by the generosity of individuals who seek to cultivate the talent of musicians interested in the arts. It is only by your donations that we can continue to fulfill our mission of preserving and revitalizing art song. Your gift in the amount that is right for your budget is greatly appreciated!

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Donations By Check are happily accepted, and donation receipts are mailed to the address listed on the check after deposit. **Please make all checks payable to ASPS.**

Cash Donations are graciously accepted, and cash receipts will be written at the time of donation.

**Donations can be made online at:**

<http://www.artsongpreservationsocietyny.org>

**Donations can also be mailed to:**

The Art Song Preservation Society of New York (ASPS)

P.O. Box 177

New York, New York 10113

Looking for more ways to give? Call **(646) 263-7829** or e-mail **[aspsny@gmail.com](mailto:aspsny@gmail.com)** for more information about estate and/or planned giving, resource donation, and volunteer opportunities!