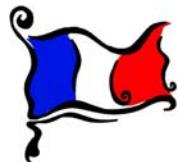


The Art Song Preservation Society of NY  
*Where music speaks and words sing!*



[www.ArtSongPreservationSocietyNY.org](http://www.ArtSongPreservationSocietyNY.org)

# The Art Song Preservation Society of New York - Master Class Series

With guest artist:  
**Thomas Grubb**

**The French Mélodie  
19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century Compositions**

Saturday, June 18, 2011  
1:30 - 5:30 pm

**The Art Song Preservation Society of New York (ASPS)** is dedicated to preserving and revitalizing the art song while simultaneously promoting the art song recital. Through pragmatic monthly workshop discussions, educational lectures, a master class series, concert and recital performances, competitions, mentorship programs for singers and accompanists and community outreach programs for the broader public, ASPS plans to ensure that New York's classical singers, accompanists and art song enthusiasts always have access to performing and/or appreciating this area of classical vocal literature through the financial support of patrons and grants for the arts. ASPS also promotes the art song through showcasing the talents of a roster of singers who make up this unique art song company.

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The photographing or sound recording of any master class or the possession of any device for such photographing or sound recording inside the theater, without the written permission of the Founder & Artistic Director of ASPS, is prohibited.

## About Fractured Atlas

### Mission



Fractured Atlas is a non-profit organization that serves a national community of artists and arts organizations. The programs and services facilitate the creation of art by offering vital support to the artists who produce it. Fractured Atlas helps artists and arts organizations function more effectively as businesses by providing access to funding, healthcare, education, and more, all in a context that honors their individuality and independent spirit. By nurturing today's talented but underrepresented voices, Fractured Atlas hopes to foster a dynamic and diverse cultural landscape of tomorrow.

[www.FracturedAtlas.org](http://www.FracturedAtlas.org)

Funding is provided by the generosity of individuals and organizations who seek to cultivate the talent of musicians interested in the arts. ASPS is a non-profit organization with 501(c)3 status.

ASPS is very thankful for the support of the following donors who have made significant contributions to help ensure the organization's future.

**Major Donors:**

Ruth McDonald

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To support *The Art Song Preservation Society of New York* please send an email to: [ASPSNY@gmail.com](mailto:ASPSNY@gmail.com) or call (646) 263.7829.

*Volunteer opportunities are also available!*

*Join our group of volunteers to help with our mailings, performances and senior outreach program and enjoy an educational and exceptional musical experience up close! Please contact Blair Boone or Cristie Strongman and let us know how you believe that you can best help as a volunteer.*

**ASPS continues its Master Class series with a look at selected works from the French vocal literature tradition. Guest Artist, Thomas Grubb, will provide a brief lecture about the French sounds and pronunciation.**

**Follow ASPS**



<http://www.ArtSongPreservationSocietyNY.org>

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There is a \$15 entry fee to the monthly workshops and \$20 entry fee to the master classes with RSVP. Master Classes are \$25 at the door.

To RSVP for our monthly Workshops and Master Classes, please visit [www.Meetup.com  
www.meetup.com/The-Art-Song-Preservation-Society-of-NY/](http://www.Meetup.com/www.meetup.com/The-Art-Song-Preservation-Society-of-NY/)



## Thomas Grubb - Thomas

Grubb is the author of SINGING IN FRENCH, A MANUAL OF FRENCH DICTION AND FRENCH VOCAL REPERTOIRE (Schirmer Books, 1979, with a Foreword by Pierre Bernac, now distributed by Thomson Learning). Since 1986 Mr. Grubb has been a member of the coaching staff of New York City Opera where he assists in the preparation of all the French productions. In the past, he has been a member of the coaching staffs of Houston Grand Opera and the Opera Society of Washington, D.C. Since 1985 Mr. Grubb has been a member of the faculty at The Juilliard School where he conducts classes in French Vocal Repertoire and Diction. From 1984 until May of 2007 he taught

Advanced Vocal Performance and French Diction at the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore. Previously he served on the faculties of Manhattan School of Music (1964-1985), The Curtis Institute of Music (1970-1977) and the Academy of Vocal Arts (1977-1983), both in Philadelphia, as well as at New York University in the early 1970s. From 1970 until 1977, Thomas Grubb assisted the renowned maître de French song, Pierre Bernac, in his master classes throughout the United States, Canada and France as both pianist and coach. Mr. Bernac eventually became his primary mentor and the inspiration for his specialization in French Vocal Repertoire. In addition, Pierre Bernac generously monitored the writing and editing of Mr. Grubb's above-mentioned book. Among his most influential piano teachers were Magda Tagliaferro, with whom he studied in Paris for three years, as well as Dora Zaslavsky and Artur Balsam with whom he studied at the Manhattan School of Music where he earned his Master of Music degree in Applied Piano in 1966. In 1962, Mr. Grubb received a Master of Arts degree in French Literature from Yale University Graduate School and in 1960 his Bachelor of Arts in French and Piano from the University of Rochester and the Eastman School of Music. As a performing pianist, Thomas Grubb has appeared in recital with Elly Ameling, Benita Valente, Eleanor Steber, Elizabeth Mannion and Dawn Upshaw, plus numerous others. He also made two North American concert tours with the French trumpet-player, Maurice André, as both pianist and translator. Mr. Grubb has recorded for both the Orion and the Lyrachord labels with Carol Kimball, mezzo-soprano, and Gerald Tarack, violinist. Thomas Grubb has given master classes throughout the United States, in France, Germany, Lithuania, Korea and annually in Taiwan from 1991 until 2006. In the coming year he will be giving a series of classes in Auckland, New Zealand. Mr. Grubb has participated as adjudicator for the Metropolitan Opera Council Auditions, the International Voice Competition of Paris, the Fulbright Commission Auditions, the Rockefeller American Music Competition of Carnegie Hall, various NATS competitions and those of the Oratorio Society of New York. In May, 2002, Mr. Grubb was decorated as Chevalier dans l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture in Paris for his advancement of French culture throughout the world. Presently, Thomas Grubb is working on a second edition of his Singing in French as well as a companion book to Pierre Bernac's Interpretation of French Song. While he continues to coach at New York City Opera and teach at the Juilliard School, he maintains a private studio on the Upper West Side of Manhattan not far from Lincoln Center where he has resided since 1974. Thomas Grubb was born in Bridgehampton, New York and is an American citizen.

## The Art Song Preservation Society of NY

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**Eduardo Valdes** - Tenor, The Metropolitan Opera



**Dura Jun - Coach and Collaborative Pianist:** Born in Seoul, Korea, Dura Jun began her musical studies at the age of 5 where she was exposed to a wide spectrum of musical education upon entering Seoul Art High School. During that time she won numerous piano competitions in Korea. She received her Bachelor of Music Degree from the prestigious Seoul National University in Korea, where she studied with Icjo Moon and she began to establish her career as a collaborative pianist. In 2010 she earned her Master's degrees at Manhattan school of Music and recently she has earned her Professional Studies degrees at Manhattan School of Music. Ms. Jun has studied with Thomas Muraco and John Forconi at Manhattan school of Music. Dura has performed with an impressive list of talented singers and instrumentalists at well known venues such as the Weil Concert Hall in Carnegie Hall, Steinway Concert Hall and Yamaha Concert Hall. In the field of Opera her non-stop schedule has resulted in performances promoted by the Martina Arroyo Foundation of La Boheme and Die Fledermaus in their Summer Festival. She also performed two piano versions of Rigoletto and Falstaff under Mr. Thomas Muraco's conducting and she has played in the Opera Scenes Performances in Borden auditorium at Manhattan school of Music. Dura also has been playing for several seasoned artists' master classes such as Marilyn Horne, Thomas Hampson, Stephain Blythe and Craig Rutenberg. This fall she begins her career as a vocal coach at Manhattan School of Music.



**Blair Boone – Founder & Executive Director**, a native of Texas, began his study of voice and piano in Houston before moving to pursue his Bachelor's in Voice Performance (honors) and Master's in French Language, Literature and Culture at Syracuse University. During his academic tenure he was nominated for and received many awards such as Who's Who Among College Students at American Universities in 1994, the university's prestigious Remembrance Scholar Award in 1995 (named for the 35 students killed in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 Dec. 21, 1988 over Lockerbie, Scotland), and The SU Graduate Teaching Fellowship in French in 1996. He also studied voice and piano at the Strasbourg Conservatory of Music in Strasbourg, France. After graduating and moving to New York City, Blair began teaching French and coaching singers in French diction and the French Mélodie. Blair is a member of both the National Association of Teachers of Singing (N.A.T.S.) and the New York Singing Teachers Association (N.Y.S.T.A.). He is also a published film and music critic. Not limited to the French vocal repertoire, Blair has given art song recitals representing such composers as Berlioz, Brahms, Debussy, Duke, Duparc, Faure, Hahn, Mahler, Poulenc, Schubert, Schumann, Strauss, and Tchaikowsky. He founded The Art Song Preservation Society of NY because of his deep interest in promoting the repertoire and passion for this area of vocal literature. Blair has studied voice with Mary Trueman (Rice University), JoElyn Walkiefied-Wright (Syracuse University), and Elisabeth Schroeder (The Strasbourg Conservatory of Music) and has sung in master classes with Oren Brown (The Juilliard School), Phyllis Curtain (Yale and Boston University) and Norma Newton (American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria). Blair also studied piano accompaniment with Mary Trueman and Steve Heyman (Syracuse University). In the fall of 2011, Blair will begin pursuing a Master's degree in Vocal Pedagogy at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey.



**Cristie Strongman - Project Director**, is a dramatic coloratura soprano and a native of Panamá City, Panamá. She began her musical studies as a child with her grandmother a lyric soprano, organist and pianist and she would continued her vocal studies in Germany. She attended The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) as an Opera Performance Major and performed extensively with the UTEP Conservatory Repertory Theater, The Italian Art Song Society under the direction of conductor, composer and pianist, Dr. Lucy Scarbrough, (Founder and Artistic Director of The El Paso Chopin Music Festival), The International Festival de la Zarzuela, El Paso, TX and Mexico alongside the late Metropolitan Opera soloist lyric baritone, Pablo Elvira, The Jarvis Conservatory Napa, CA before making her move to New York, to study with Metropolitan Opera soloists lyric tenor, Francisco Casanova and dramatic soprano, Atarah Hazzan. She has performed internationally in operas, oratorios, recitals, concerts and zarzuelas depicting the works of classical, contemporary and free form as well as experimental composers of art songs. She takes great pride in bringing music to diverse groups of people through the organizing and performing in outreach programs such as for *The Educational Enhancement for Mothers and Daughters Program A.K.A. Mother Daughter Program* (El Paso, TX), the community of The Navajo Tribe. Cristie will be performing once again in Carnegie Hall on October 29, 2011, this time, with the Carrillo Ensemble in ACMA's annual concert.



**Celeste Chau – Community Outreach Director**, is a native New Yorker, who began her musical studies as a child studying piano with Esther Lin and was greatly influenced by the devoted music lovers of her Chinese Peruvian family. She took a break from music during her high school years to study college at Pratt Institute's School of Architecture. During her time there, she caught her community service bug while studying low income housing and at their Community Development Program. She also started volunteering for the NYC branch of Habitat for Humanity during that time. After college she began taking voice lessons with Nicole Neiman who developed a unique pedagogy shaped by Neiman's

background as a social worker using music as a therapy tool. Celeste later formed an informal chamber group with fellow adult amateur musicians playing everything from Brubeck to Bach. The group participated in the music therapy program at Mt Sinai's Stroke Rehabilitation Clinic where she got her first taste of the rewards of musical outreach. She currently studies voice with Martha Arnold, pending faculty member at Turtle Bay Music School. She immersed herself into the New York amateur classical scene by joining Amateur Classical Musician's Association (ACMA) in early 2009. She served as their Executive Board member and helped to coordinate and produce ACMA's first concert at Carnegie Hall in 2009 where she also performed and will do again this year. In 2010, she became The September Concert Foundation's inaugural Community Music Coordinator, and is producing concerts at 8 different area senior centers/hospitals/nursing homes during the 3 day music festival. Already a member, Celeste proudly joins The Art Song Preservation Society of NY (ASPS) as their inaugural Community Outreach Director where she plans to introduce a series of mini-recitals and concerts throughout New York's senior centers, retirement communities, and hospices (as music therapy). These programs are designed to make art song interesting and accessible to audiences that may otherwise not have the chance to attend a performance but who in many ways stand to benefit the most.



**Courtenay Schowalter – Fundraising Director**, is a Soprano, who has performed with The Voices of Women, The Musica Bella Orchestra of New York, The Opera Project, Bacchanalia Baroque Ensemble, Brooklyn Repertory Opera, dell'Arte Opera Ensemble, the Hillyer Festival Orchestra and Opera Boston. Ms. Schowalter is an avid recitalist, performing in solo and group recitals in the New York City region and is delighted to be part of today's masterclass. This past year she performed two concerts with her recital group, The Voices of Women, and she is looking forward to making her Amore Opera debut in Carmen, singing Frasquita, this May. Other past highlights include performing with the Hillyer Festival Orchestra at Boston's Hatch Shell on the Esplanade and

performing a recital at the French Ambassador's home in Washington D.C. She lives in Brooklyn, NY, and studies voice with Margaret Lattimore. You can also visit her blog: [meetingvioletta.blogspot.com](http://meetingvioletta.blogspot.com)

# *The Art Song Preservation Society of NY*

*Presents*

## *The French Mélodie*

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**Vincent Festa - Duparc, Sérénade florentine**

**Bryn Jimenez - Duparc, Phidylé**

**La Toya Lewis - Massenet, Il est doux (bon et deliceux)**

~ **INTERMISSION** ~

**Stephane Malbec Garcia - Werther, Pourquoi me reveiller**

**Said Pressley - Poulenc, Hymne**

**Courtenay Schowalter - Milhaud, Dieu vous gard**