New York Composers Circle Inaugural Concert

St. Peter's Church Citicorp Center

New York City

May 4, 2003

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Böse Zeit (Evil Time)

Fedor Kabalin

Two American Songs, Op. 17
Dirge (Uncle Frank's Song)
I'm Home

Derrick Ballard, bass-baritone Susan Daum, soprano Edmond Schonberg, piano

Quixote Meditations

Edward Ficklin

Derrick Ballard, bass-baritone Edmond Schonberg, piano

This Heart Feels Heavy

Patricia Leonard

Lauren Bradley, soprano Clint Edward, piano

Beneath the Trees

Jacob E. Goodman

Under a Tree Under the Oak This Tree

> Derrick Ballard, bass-baritone Edmond Schonberg, piano

Ebb

Jennifer Louis Griffith

Gallant Château Eel-grass

> Susan Daum, soprano Edmond Schonberg, piano

Slants of Light

Debra Kaye

Not knowing

There's a certain Slant of light

I heard a Fly buzz

This is the land the Sunset washes

Derrick Ballard, bass-baritone Elizabeth Wolff, piano

INTERMISSION

Clint Edward studied composition at The Boston Conservatory. As both a

Fantasy Pieces

David Del Tredici

Fantasy Pieces

David Del Tredici

- 1. Adagio
- 2. Poco Allegretto
- 3. Allegro Minacciando (...Diabolique)
- 4. Largo

Wedding Song

David Del Tredici, piano

I am blessed To Olga **Gayther Myers**

Susan Daum, soprano

Derrick Ballard, bass-baritone Edmond Schonberg, piano

Imbrication No. 1

Eugene W. McBride

Kyung-A Lee, piano

Child April Yellow Cabs

Prayer

Derrick Ballard, bass-baritone

Kyung-A Lee, piano

Two Poems by Langston Hughes

Miki Nakanishi

Hard Daddy Mother to Son

> Susan Daum, soprano Gayther Myers, speaker Miki Nakanishi, piano

Epigramme

Robert Honstein

Derrick Ballard, bass-baritone Robert Honstein, piano

Nobell Hollstelli, plan

Allegro- "...chatter in the system"

Gary Strauss

Adagio- "...a plea for peace"

Sharon Boerum, piano George Dewar, cello Gary Strauss, trumpet

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A RECEPTION AFTER THE CONCERT

THE COMPOSERS

David Del Tredici is one of America's most distinguished composers, and arguably the leading proponent of the neo-Romantic movement. His music has been performed by nearly every major American and European orchestra. Born in California in 1937, he has lived in New York City for many years and currently holds the position of Distinguished Professor of Music at the City College of New York. He is the recipient of numerous commissions and awards, including the Pulitzer Prize for Music and membership in the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Edward Ficklin received his bachelor's degree in English literature from the University of Denver in 1996 and is currently enrolled at Hunter College pursuing a Master's degree in composition. His teachers have included Donald Keats, William Hill, and Shafer Mahoney. Upcoming performances include *Five Visions*, a song cycle for baritone and piano, at the Seattle Asian Art Museum, and excerpts from a work-in-progress at American Opera Projects.

Jacob E. Goodman is a professor of mathematics at City College, CUNY, the author of many books and research articles, and coeditor-in-chief of the journal *Discrete & Computational Geometry*. He has composed and improvised all his life, and has studied composition with Ezra Laderman and David Del Tredici. Recent compositions include a quartet for flute, piano, and strings, two song cycles (*Yiddish Love Poems* and *Beneath the Trees*), a set of variations for orchestra on a theme of Beethoven, *Variations for a Rainy Afternoon* for flute, violin, cello, and piano, and a set of six intermezzi for piano. This last composition won a competition for performance at the first annual Festival of Contemporary Music at the University of Nebraska in 2002, and was subsequently performed at the Delmarva Music Festival.

Originally from Oregon, **Jennifer Louis Griffith** recently moved to New York City from New England where she earned a master's degree in composition at Smith College. Prior to her concentration in composition, Griffith studied piano in the U. S. and abroad, where she researched the lives and music of French women composers in Paris. She currently studies with Tania Leon at the CUNY Graduate Center where she is earning her Ph.D. in composition.

Robert Honstein is entering his final year of studies at Yale University where his primary teachers have been John Halle, Kathryn Alexander and Matthew Suttor. This past year he took a leave of absence from school in order to focus on writing music and also to sing with the Yale Whiffenpoofs. During this time he has been studying with Sam Adler and his most recent works include a partita for violin and cello as well as a concerto in one movement for piano and string orchestra.

Born in Croatia, **Fedor Kabalin** came to the United States by way of Chile, having studied music in Europe and in this country (Northwestern University

and the Eastman School of Music). He has taught in the Midwest, California and the New York metropolitan area, and conducted in North and South America, Europe and China. Among his compositions are background music for a South American feature-length film, while his works have been performed in Europe and the Western Hemisphere in concert and on radio, with some of the performing ensembles including the New Jersey, Detroit, Louisville and Oklahoma symphony orchestras, and the Zagreb Philharmonic. Also active as orchestrator and arranger, he has written extensively on music, with book chapters, articles, reviews and record liner notes published in Europe and North and South America.

Debra Kaye is a composer and pianist who is enamored of the voice and has written in a variety of vocal genres. Premiering next season is her viola da gamba piece, commissioned by *Empire Viols*. Kaye is a graduate of Mannes College of Music and New York University, where she studied piano with Bruce Hungerford and Edith Oppens, composition with Ruth Schonthal and Todd Brief. Her music has been performed at various venues in New York City including Merkin Concert Hall, Elebash Hall, and Steinway Hall. She has received awards from from Meet the Composer, Fort Wayne Children's Choir, Atlanta Music Teachers' Association, and The New School. Ms. Kaye has been on the faculty of Mannes College of Music since 1991.

Patricia Leonard's early musical background includes performances of her compositions at Boston University's Tsai Performance Center, The Longy School, The New England Conservatory and The Boston Conservatory. In New York, Ms. Leonard has written original music for three plays at The Stella Adler Theatre and is a current member of The League of Composers/I.S.C.M. She would like to thank her family for all their love and support.

Eugene W. McBride is a freelance music-copyist and composer. He has studied at Juilliard, William Patterson University and The Center for Media Arts. While receiving a music education degree he studied composition at these institutions. He has recorded with Nonesuch Records (as pianist with the New Jersey Percussion Ensemble). His compositional output includes songs, chamber music, choral compositions, and works for percussion ensembles and for solo piano. One movement of his *Four for Orchestra* may be heard on MMC Orchestral Miniatures, Vol. V. He also conducted the recording.

Gayther Myers has been active in music and drama for a number of years.

Miki Nakanishi is a professional jazz pianist and a teacher of piano technique. She was born in Japan, and moved to the United States in 1993 to study music. She has studied composition with David Del Tredici,

first attempt to compose vocal music for performance. Her chief goal is to spread an understanding of the beauty of music.

Gary Strauss is a musician/composer who has performed all over the world. He has studied composition and theory with Stanley Wolfe and Aleksandra Vojcic at the Juilliard School and has a BA from Berklee College of Music.

THE PERFORMERS

Bass-baritone **Derrick Ballard** has been acclaimed for his "richly gifted bass" voice, his "impressive vocal command" and his "flair for characterization." This young bass-baritone has performed over 35 roles with such companies as the Opera Orchestra of New York, Santa Fe Opera, OperaDelaware, Opera Colorado, Florentine Opera, Bel Canto at Caramoor, Colorado Opera Festival, Opera Theater of Connecticut, American Opera Projects, Center for Contemporary Opera, and the Bronx Opera. Mr. Ballard has joined Maestro Eve Queler of the Opera Orchestra of New York in several concert performances and has been featured with the Dallas Symphony, the State of Mexico Symphony Orchestra, the Santa Fe Symphony, and the Boulder Philharmonic.

This past January, **Lauren Bradley** finished the role of Ludmila in *The Bartered Bride* with The Bronx Opera Company. Lauren has performed with Lake George Opera in several productions, including *La Traviata*, *Madama Butterfly*, *H.M.S. Pinafore* and *Ariadne auf Naxos*. She was also a part of *Opera To Go*, an educational community outreach program, performing for over 5,000 elementary school children in five weeks. She has also performed with the Victor Herbert Festival and the at the Marcella Sembrich Opera museum in upstate New York. Recently, she was the soprano soloist with the Saratoga Chamber Singers Chorus and Orchestra in a concert of music by Charpentier. Ms. Bradley is a graduate of The Boston Conservatory's Opera Program (2000).

Susan Daum has been studying music as an amateur since childhood. She studied piano with Robert Henry (later at the Hochschule for Music, Hamburg), and with Shirley Greitzer. She has studied voice with Barbara Troxell (at Cornell University), Rosalie Snyder, Barbara Peters and Nancy Wertsch. Her current coach is Gary Norden who has been tremendously helpful in preparing this music. She sings with the New Amsterdam Singers and the New Amsterdam Singers Chamber Choir, and has given solo song recitals at St. Paul's Church/Trinity Church as well as privately on a number of occasions. Susan practices medicine in the field of Environmental Toxicology and Occupational Medicine.

composer and pianist, Mr. Edward has performed in Boston, New York City and Saratoga Springs. He is currently composing the music for an original theatre piece in New York.

As a chamber musician, **Kyung-A Lee** has participated in numerous master classes (Mannes Trio, Orion String Quartet, Martin Katz, and others). Ms. Lee has performed with percussionist Randy Max in his master class at Manhattan School of Music. She also performed in Lewisburg as staff accompanist of the Quartet Program. Ms. Lee received her master's degree (in piano performance) from Mannes, and is currently completing her doctoral studies at Manhattan School of Music (in accompanying). Ms. Lee instructs in the Prep School of Manhattan School of Music. She is the accompanist for the Central City Chorus in Manhattan and the United Methodist Korean Church of Astoria.

Edmond Schonberg studied piano with Ruth Friedensohn in Paris, with Hans Lewitus, Ines Pauta, and Lola Odiaga in Lima, Peru, and with Deirdre O'Donahue in New York City. He holds a B.A. in piano performance from the National Conservatory in Lima. He is professor of Computer Science at New York University.

Pianist **Elizabeth Wolff** has developed a large following both as a chamber musician and as a soloist. She has appeared in prestigious music festivals including Aspen and Music Mountain. An active chamber musician, she is co-director of Chamber Music Retreats at Vassar, Founder and Director of Music at Lake Willoughby, and was on the faculties of Summertrios and Music Mountain. Miss Wolff is recipient of numerous awards and sponsorships including the Pro Musicis Foundation's International Award, The Belsky Music Award, and The Jerome Foundation debut recording grant. She has been presented in New York as a soloist on the Distinguished Artist Series at The Tisch Center of the 92nd Street 'Y', Merkin Concert Hall, Florence Gould Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Weill Recital Hall. She received her degree from the Juilliard School where she was a student of Rosina Lhevinne.

Special Thanks to:

St. Peter's Church Vladimir Bibic David Del Tredici Robert Dewar

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