

Lincoln Center's

January 30–March 4, 2019

American Songbook

Lead Support provided by PGIM, the global investment management business of Prudential Financial, Inc.

The Program

Friday, February 15, 2019 at 8:30 pm

Jenifer Lewis

Keith Harrison, *Piano*

*This evening's program is approximately 75 minutes long
and will be performed without intermission.*

Please make certain all your electronic devices are switched off.

Lead support provided by PGIM, the global investment management businesses of Prudential Financial, Inc.

Endowment support provided by Bank of America

This performance is made possible in part by the Josie Robertson Fund for Lincoln Center.

Steinway Piano

The Appel Room

Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall

Additional support for Lincoln Center's American Songbook is provided by Rita J. and Stanley H. Kaplan Family Foundation, The DuBose and Dorothy Heyward Memorial Fund, The Shubert Foundation, Great Performers Circle, Lincoln Center Spotlight, Chairman's Council, and Friends of Lincoln Center

Public support is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature

Nespresso is the Official Coffee of Lincoln Center

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Artist catering provided by Zabar's and Zabars.com

UPCOMING AMERICAN SONGBOOK EVENTS IN THE APPEL ROOM:

Saturday, February 16 at 8:30 pm

Desmond Child

With special guest Lena Hall

Wednesday, February 20 at 7:30 pm (in Alice Tully Hall)

An Evening with Christine Ebersole

Thursday, February 21 at 7:30 pm (FREE, in the David Rubenstein Atrium)

Vuyo Sotashe

Wednesday, February 27 at 8:30 pm

Gaby Moreno

Thursday, February 28 at 8:30 pm

Son Lux

Friday, March 1 at 8:30 pm

Oscar Isaac

Saturday, March 2 at 8:30 pm

Martha Plimpton: All the Presidents Mann

Monday, March 4 at 8:30 pm

Joyce DiDonato: Songplay

For tickets, call (212) 721-6500 or visit AmericanSongbook.org. Call the Lincoln Center Info Request Line at (212) 875-5766 or visit AmericanSongbook.org for complete program information.

Join the conversation: @LincolnCenter

We would like to remind you that the sound of coughing and rustling paper might distract the performers and your fellow audience members.

In consideration of the performing artists and members of the audience, those who must leave before the end of the performance are asked to do so between pieces. The taking of photographs and the use of recording equipment are not allowed in the building.

Meet the Artists

Jenifer Lewis



RODNEY WRIGHT

Jenifer Lewis has made more than 300 appearances in film and television. She currently stars on the Emmy-nominated show *Black-ish*, where her hilarious portrayal of Ruby Johnson earned her a nomination for the 2018 Critics Choice Award for Best Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series. Ms. Lewis's bestselling memoir, *The Mother of Black Hollywood*, was named 2018 Book of the Year at the National Book Club Convention and the audio version received

the Earphones Award from *AudioFile Magazine*.

Ms. Lewis played Tina Turner's mother in *What's Love Got to Do With It* and the mother of Whitney Houston's character in *The Preacher's Wife*. She starred opposite Matt Damon in Clint Eastwood's *Hereafter* and created characters in director Tyler Perry's *Madea's Family Reunion* and *Meet the Browns*. In the movie *Cast Away*, Ms. Lewis portrayed Tom Hanks's boss. In animated films, Ms. Lewis's recognizable voice is adored by Disney fans worldwide in roles such as Flo in the *Cars* franchise and as Mama Odie in *The Princess and the Frog*. Most recently, she is the voice of Professor Granville in the *Big Hero 6* television series. Ms. Lewis's television roles have ranged from regular appearances as Aunt Helen on *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* to guest starring on *Friends*, *Murphy Brown*, and *Girlfriends*. She portrayed Lana Hawkins on Lifetime's hit series *Strong Medicine* for six seasons.

Ms. Lewis has enjoyed a wide-ranging career in music and theater. She has performed in four Broadway shows, including *Hairspray* in the role of Motormouth Maybelle. At Carnegie Hall she received an electrifying standing ovation singing with the New York Pops. All told, Ms. Lewis has performed more than 200 concerts, appearing in 48 states and five continents. Her accomplishments as an entertainer and community activist have been recognized by the NAACP Lifetime Achievement Award in Theatre, the American Black Film Festival Career Achievement Award, the Human Rights Campaign Ally Award, and an honorary doctorate from her alma mater, Webster University in St. Louis.

Keith Harrison

Keith Harrison's (piano) credits range from live television shows like *American Idol* and the Daytime Emmy Awards, to acclaimed series like *Grace & Frankie* and *American Horror Story*, to the original Broadway in Chicago company of the Tony Award-winning *Million Dollar Quartet*, to national ad campaigns for Toyota and Allstate Insurance. He can currently be seen starring in *Westside* on Netflix, and has collaborated with composer Christopher Lennertz, lyricist Glenn Slater, and his wife Laura Nicole Harrison to write the score to the upcoming animated feature film *UglyDolls*.

His collaborators have included Ariana Grande, Martin Sheen, Babyface, Jason Alexander, Ana Gasteyer, Jessie Mueller, Keith David, Ben Platt, Jennette McCurdy, Jenifer Lewis, Dennis DeYoung, Shoshana Bean, Jordan Fisher, Lillias White, Liz Callaway, and many more.

Born and raised in Springfield, New Jersey, Mr. Harrison holds a bachelor's in music direction and conducting and a certificate in musical theater from Northwestern University. He has taught at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy and the Theatre of Arts in Hollywood. Along with his wife, Mr. Harrison develops original work through his independent company, Arborhouse Productions. Their original, award-winning musical *Emojiland* is currently being developed for Broadway.

American Songbook

In 1998, Lincoln Center launched American Songbook, dedicated to the celebration of popular American song. Designed to highlight and affirm the creative mastery of America's songwriters from their emergence at the turn of the 19th century up through the present, American Songbook spans all styles and genres, from the form's early roots in Tin Pan Alley and Broadway to the eclecticism of today's singer-songwriters. American Songbook also showcases the outstanding interpreters of popular song, including established and emerging concert, cabaret, theater, and songwriter performers.

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc.

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (LCPA) serves three primary roles: presenter of artistic programming, national leader in arts and education and community relations, and manager of the Lincoln Center campus. A presenter of more than 3,000 free and ticketed events, performances, tours, and educational activities annually, LCPA offers 15 programs, series, and festivals including American Songbook, Great Performers, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Midsummer Night Swing, the Mostly Mozart Festival, and the White Light Festival, as well as the Emmy Award-winning *Live From Lincoln Center*,

which airs nationally on PBS. As manager of the Lincoln Center campus, LCPA provides support and services for the Lincoln Center complex and the 11 resident organizations. In addition, LCPA led a \$1.2 billion campus renovation, completed in October 2012.

Lincoln Center Programming Department

Jane Moss, *Ehrenkranz Artistic Director*

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Jill Sternheimer, *Director, Public Programming*

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Viviana Benitez, *Associate Producer, David Rubenstein Atrium*

Olivia Fortunato, *Programming Assistant*

James Fry, *Technical Manager, Contemporary Programming*

Charmaine Marshall, *Assistant to the Artistic Director*

Jessica Braham, *House Seat Coordinator*

Elizabeth Lee, *Company Manager, Contemporary Programming*

Lucy Powis, *House Program Coordinator*

For American Songbook

Matt Berman, *Lighting Design*

Scott Stauffer, *Sound Design*

Matt Berman

Matt Berman is the resident lighting designer for Lincoln Center's American Songbook. He recently designed the lighting for South Florida Symphony Orchestra's production of *Porgy & Bess*. His most recent Broadway credit was Kristin Chenoweth's *My Love Letter to Broadway* at the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre, and, in London, for "Meow Meow's Pandemonium" with the London Philharmonic Orchestra at Royal Festival Hall. Mr. Berman continues his design work for Chenoweth, Liza Minnelli, Alan Cumming, Meow Meow, Brian Stokes Mitchell, and Elaine Paige on the road.

Through his work with several U.S.-based charities, Mr. Berman has designed for a starry roster that includes Bernadette Peters, Barbra Streisand, Reba McEntire, Melissa Errico, Deborah Voigt, Michael Urie, Stevie Wonder, India.Arie, Garth Brooks, Billy Joel, and Sting. His international touring schedule has allowed him to design for iconic venues such as Royal Albert Hall,

Paris Opera, Royal Theatre Carré in Amsterdam, the Sporting Club in Monte Carlo, the Acropolis, the famed amphitheater in Taormina, Sicily, as well as Luna Park in Buenos Aires, and the Sydney Opera House. Closer to home, Mr. Berman has done work in such iconic venues as the Hollywood Bowl, Alice Tully Hall, and Carnegie Hall. Other Broadway credits include the Tony Award-winning *Liza's at the Palace*, *Bea Arthur on Broadway* at the Booth Theatre, Nancy LaMott's *Just in Time for Christmas*, and *Kathy Griffin Wants a Tony* at the Belasco Theater.

Scott Stauffer

Scott Stauffer has been the sound designer for Lincoln Center's American Songbook since 1999. His Broadway design credits include *A Free Man of Color*, *The Rivals*, *Contact* (also in London and Tokyo), *Marie Christine*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Jekyll & Hyde*. Off-Broadway Mr. Stauffer has worked on *Mother Freaking Hood*, *Subverted*, *Promises*, *Hereafter*, *A Minister's Wife*, *Bernarda Alba*, *Third*, *Belle Epoque*, *Big Bill*, *Elegies*, *Hello Again*, *The Spitfire Grill*, *Pageant*, and *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. His regional credits include productions at the Denizen Theater, Manhattan School of Music, Capitol Repertory Theatre, University of Michigan, Hanger Theatre, Berkshire Theatre Festival, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, and Alley Theatre. His concert credits include many Lincoln Center galas, as well as the Actors Fund concerts of *Frank Loesser*, *Broadway 101*, *Hair*, and *On the Twentieth Century*. At Carnegie Hall he has worked with Chita Rivera and Brian Stokes Mitchell. As a sound engineer, Mr. Stauffer has worked on *The Lion King*, *Juan Darién*, *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*, *Carousel*, *Once on This Island*, and the original *Little Shop of Horrors*.