

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

Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 7:30 pm

## An Evening with Christine Ebersole

With special guest **Scott Frankel**  
Directed by **Scott Wittman**

**Lawrence Yurman**, *Music Director and Piano*  
**Aaron Heick**, *Reeds*  
**Paul Woodiel**, *Violin and Viola*  
**Davic Finck**, *Bass*  
**Jared Schonig**, *Drums*

*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.*

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Endowment support provided by Bank of America

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

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*Steinway Piano*  
Alice Tully Hall, Starr Theater  
Adrienne Arsht Stage

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

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Artist catering provided by Zabar's and Zabars.com

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## UPCOMING AMERICAN SONGBOOK EVENTS:

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

**Vuyo Sotashe**

## IN THE APPEL ROOM:

*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**

The Appel Room is located in Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall.

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

Join the conversation: @LincolnCenter

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*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.*

## Christine Ebersole



KIT KITTLE

Christine Ebersole has captivated audiences throughout her performing career, from the Broadway stage to television series and specials, films, concert appearances, and recordings. Ms. Ebersole received virtually every Off-Broadway award and her second Tony Award for Best Leading Actress in a Musical for her dual role as Edith Beale and Little Edie Beale in *Grey Gardens*. Other memorable New York stage performances include Elizabeth Arden in *War*

*Paint*, for which she received her fourth Tony nomination; her Tony Award-winning performance as Dorothy Brock in the smash hit revival of *42nd Street*; leading roles in *Steel Magnolias*, *On the Twentieth Century*, *Camelot*, *Oklahoma!*, and *Dinner at Eight*, for which she received both Tony and Outer Critics Circle nominations; and *The Best Man*, *Blithe Spirit*, and her Obie-winning and Drama Desk-nominated appearance in Alan Bennett's *Talking Heads*. Additionally, Ms. Ebersole made her operatic debut with the L.A. Opera in *Candide* and will appear this summer in the Glimmerglass Festival's productions of *Showboat* and *The Queen of Spades*.

Ms. Ebersole has appeared in many feature films including *The Wolf of Wall Street*, *Amadeus*, *Tootsie*, *Richie Rich*, *Black Sheep*, *Dead Again*, *Folks!*, *Ghost Dad*, *True Crime*, *My Girl 2*, and *The Big Wedding* (which also featured an original composition that she wrote for the end credits). She has an extensive list of television credits as well, including her portrayal of White Diamond in *Steven Universe*, three seasons of the TBS comedy *Sullivan & Son*, *Royal Pains*, *Madame Secretary*, *Blue Bloods*, *Search Party*, and a series regular on the 1981–82 season of *Saturday Night Live*. This spring, she will shoot the pilot for Chuck Lorre's new sitcom for CBS, *Bob Hearts Abishola*.

In concert, Ms. Ebersole has appeared in numerous halls throughout the country including the Kennedy Center, Symphony Hall in Boston, and Walt Disney Concert Hall. Memorable concert appearances include *The Grapes of Wrath* at Carnegie Hall, San Francisco Symphony's tribute to Leonard Bernstein, the Boston Pops concert version of *A Little Night Music*, and *Gershwin at 100: A Celebration at Carnegie Hall* and *The Rodgers & Hart Story: Thou Swell, Thou Witty*, which were both recorded for PBS. Ms. Ebersole has also released albums including *Christine Ebersole: Live at the Cinegrill*, *In Your Dreams*, *Sunday in New York*, *Christine Ebersole Sings Noël Coward*, and *Strings Attached*.

## Scott Frankel



Scott Frankel is a composer whose most recent work, *War Paint* (starring Patti LuPone and Christine Ebersole), enjoyed a run on Broadway following a record-breaking engagement at the Goodman Theatre. Other works include *Grey Gardens* (Tony nomination), *Far from Heaven* (Playwrights Horizons, Williamstown Theatre Festival), *Happiness* (Lincoln Center Theater), *Doll* (Ravinia Festival), and *Meet Mister Future* (winner, Global Search for New Musicals). Next up is the world premiere of *The Flamingo Kid* at Hartford

Stage this spring. Mr. Frankel is the recipient of the ASCAP Foundation Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award and the Frederick Loewe Award. He is a fellow of the MacDowell Colony and a graduate of Yale University, where he teaches musical theater composition.

## Scott Wittman

Tony, Grammy, and Olivier Award-winning lyricist, director, writer, and conceiver, Scott Wittman (director) co-wrote the lyrics for the hit musical *Hairspray* (Tony, Grammy, Olivier Award winner) with creative partner Marc Shaiman. Mr. Wittman also served as an executive producer on the hit film starring John Travolta. Mr. Wittman was nominated for a Golden Globe, Grammy, and two Emmy Awards for the original songs on NBC's musical drama *Smash*. While working on the show, he co-composed music for Jennifer Hudson, Uma Thurman, Bernadette Peters, and Liza Minnelli. Shaiman and Mr. Wittman's original score for the Marilyn Monroe musical featured on the show, *Bombshell*, was released by Sony Music.

Mr. Wittman's Broadway credits include *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me*, which he also directed, *Catch Me If You Can* (Tony nomination for Best Musical), and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (also at London's Theatre Royal Drury Lane). With Christine Ebersole, he created a series of annual performances at the Café Carlyle. He has written for Nathan Lane, Patti LuPone, Neil Patrick Harris, Sarah Jessica Parker, Bridget Everett's *Rock Bottom* at The Public Theater, and Bette Midler's Divine Intervention Tour. Off-Broadway, he conceived and directed *Jukebox Jackie* starring Justin Vivian Bond, Cole Escola, and Bridget Everett at La Mama. Mr. Wittman is nominated for an Academy Award for co-writing the lyrics for Disney's *Mary Poppins Returns* with Marc Shaiman.

## **Lawrence Yurman**

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Lawrence Yurman (music director, piano) is a pianist, arranger, and conductor with more than 30 years of experience on Broadway and beyond. He provided the accompaniment and arrangements for Christine Ebersole on her show *After the Ball*, which premiered to great acclaim at the Café Carlyle and was then performed at Feinstein's/54 Below and Feinstein's at the Nikko. He was the music director and conductor for *War Paint* starring Ebersole and Patti LuPone, which enjoyed successful runs at Chicago's Goodman Theatre and on Broadway. Mr. Yurman previously worked with Ebersole on the New York productions of *Grey Gardens* and the Broadway revival of *Blythe Spirit*. The latter culminated in their collaboration on a host of Noël Coward songs that were subsequently recorded. Mr. Yurman's other Broadway credits include the recent revival of *The Iceman Cometh*, *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever* starring Harry Connick, Jr. (music director/arranger), and *It Shoulda Been You*.

## **Aaron Heick**

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Originally from Seattle, Aaron Heick (reeds) is a saxophonist and woodwind player currently living in New York City. In 2012 he became a permanent member of the CBS Orchestra, the house band for *The Late Show with David Letterman*, a position he held until the show ended in 2015. Other highlights include being a featured soloist with Sting's *Symphonicities* project; touring and recording with Chaka Khan for more than eight years; tours with Barbra Streisand; and an eight-year stint as a member of Cameroonian bassist/singer Richard Bona's band. Most recently, Mr. Heick was a member of the onstage orchestra that played for the live televised production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* on NBC. In addition, he has performed or recorded with Paul Simon, Stevie Wonder, Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, Aretha Franklin, Carly Simon, Frank Sinatra, Donald Fagen, Panic! At the Disco, James Taylor, Suzanne Vega, Seal, Cyndi Lauper, Audra McDonald, Vanessa Williams, and Philip Glass.

## **Paul Woodiel**

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Paul Woodiel (violin, viola) is a New York-based musician with a broad range of violin and fiddle styles. An unabashed theater musician, he began his Broadway career as the solo "fiddler in the pit" for the Tony-winning 25th anniversary production of *Fiddler on the Roof* starring Topol, and has since held solo and concertmaster chairs in two dozen Broadway productions including *Ragtime*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *The Last Ship*, *West Side Story*, *The Music Man*, *The Color Purple*, and *Caroline, or Change*. Currently, he performs at *The Cher Show*. He has worked on stage and in the studio with such artists as Vince Giordano and the Nighthawks, Sting, Dick Hyman, Steve Reich, and the Grammy Awards orchestra.

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## **David Finck**

David Finck (bass) is a sought-after musician in New York whose bass playing can be heard on more than 250 CDs, including multi-platinum, gold, and Grammy winners. The bassist of choice for André Previn and Hank Jones, Mr. Finck has recorded with George Michael, Gladys Knight, Rod Stewart, Natalie Cole, and Rosemary Clooney, among others. In 2008 he released his highly acclaimed album *FutureDay* on Soundbrush, which also issued his latest album, *Low Standards*. Mr. Finck has produced albums for Tom Wopat, John Basile, Carol Fredette, and Christy Baron. His 1991 article for the *Village Voice* led to a contribution to the book *Frank Sinatra: The Man, The Music, The Legend* (University of Rochester Press).

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## **Jared Schonig**

Grammy Award–winning drummer, composer, and bandleader Jared Schonig (drums) has toured and/or recorded internationally with Nicholas Payton, Dr. Lonnie Smith, Donny McCaslin, Darcy James Argue’s Secret Society, Laurence Hobgood, Tim Hagans, Fred Hersch, Wycliffe Gordon, Tom Harrell, Joe Locke, and Ernie Watts, among others. A favorite among vocalists, Mr. Schonig has toured with Grammy Award winners Kurt Elling, Cynthia Erivo, The New York Voices, and singer/songwriter Donna Lewis, in addition to rising vocal supergroup Duchess, Spencer Day, Laila Biali, and Shayna Steele. He has performed around the world, from Carnegie Hall to festivals in Zimbabwe. Mr. Schonig also co-leads The Wee Trio, which has five critically acclaimed albums to its name. When at home in New York City, he plays on a number of Broadway shows. He recently held the drum chair for the critically acclaimed Tony, Grammy, and Emmy Award–winning Broadway revival of *The Color Purple*, and is currently playing drums and percussion for *The Prom*. He also is an in-demand drummer/percussionist for studio recordings, jingle sessions, and other commercial music recordings.

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## **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.**

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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*

Hanako Yamaguchi, *Director, Music Programming*

Jon Nakagawa, *Director, Contemporary Programming*

Jill Sternheimer, *Director, Public Programming*

Jordana Leigh, *Director, David Rubenstein Atrium*

Charles Cermele, *Producer, Contemporary Programming*

Mauricio Lomelin, *Producer, Contemporary Programming*

Walker Beard, *Production Manager*

Andrew C. Elsesser, *Associate Director, Programming*

Luna Shyr, *Senior Editor*

Regina Grande Rivera, *Associate Producer*

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**

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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**

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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*.