

Lincoln Center's

January 22–February 29, 2020

# American Songbook

*Lead Support provided by Holland America Line*

The Program

**Saturday, February 15, 2020 at 8:30 pm**

## Our Lady J

Kathy Deitch, *Vocals*

Kyla Page Williams, *Vocals*

Dena Tauriello, *Drums*

Alex Eckhardt, *Bass*

*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

Corporate support provided by Morgan Stanley

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

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*Steinway Piano*

The Appel Room

Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall

## American Songbook

Additional support for Lincoln Center's American Songbook is provided by Christina and Robert Baker, EY, Rita J. and Stanley H. Kaplan Family Foundation, The DuBose and Dorothy Heyward Memorial Fund, The Shubert Foundation, Great Performers Circle, Lincoln Center Patrons and Lincoln Center Members

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

NewYork-Presbyterian is the Official Hospital of Lincoln Center

Artist catering provided by Zabar's and Zabars.com

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### **UPCOMING AMERICAN SONGBOOK EVENTS IN THE APPEL ROOM:**

*Wednesday, February 26 at 8:30 pm*  
**An Evening with Natalie Merchant**

*Thursday, February 27 at 8:30 pm*  
**Kalani Pe'a**

*Friday, February 28 at 8:30 pm*  
**Ali Stroker**

*Saturday, February 29 at 8:30 pm*  
**Martin Sexton**

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.*

# Meet the Artists



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## **Our Lady J**

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Our Lady J is an Emmy-nominated writer and producer, currently writing on Ryan Murphy's hit TV series *Pose* and previously on the Golden Globe and Emmy-winning series *Transparent*.

Before her career in film and television, Our Lady J enjoyed a career of making music with stars including Sia, Justin Tranter, Lady Gaga, Cyndi Lauper, Debbie Harry, Scissor Sisters, Rosie O'Donnell, Michael Arden, Andy Mientus, Chita Rivera, Christine Ebersole, and Justin Vivian Bond. She served as music director and pianist for The Actor's Studio, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, American Ballet Theatre, LaMaMa E.T.C., New York University, New York City Gay Men's Chorus, Los Angeles Ballet, Royal Danish Ballet, Staatsballett Berlin, and the Mark Morris Dance Group, where she was a featured performer in the MMDG Music Ensemble. Theater credits include Off-Broadway: *Fame on 42nd Street*, *Brundibar*, and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. National Tours: *The Music Man*, *Miss Saigon*.

In 2013, she released her first studio album, *Picture of a Man*, to critical acclaim and toured it to sold-out audiences in New York City, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Boston, Portland, Washington D.C., Montreal, London, Manchester, Warsaw, Berlin, Dublin, Mexico City, Copenhagen, Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane.

Our Lady J holds the honor of being the first out trans woman to perform at Carnegie Hall, as well as the first out trans writer to be hired in a television writers' room. She has been awarded two Peabody Awards, two American Film Institute Awards, and has been nominated for three Writers Guild Awards and an NAACP Image Award.

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### **Kathy Deitch** (*Vocals*)

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Kathy Deitch grew up in the suburbs of Philadelphia and moved to New York to attend Wagner College. She made her Broadway debut in the original cast of *Footloose* and later created the role of Shen Shen in the smash Broadway hit *Wicked*. She made her LA acting debut at the Hollywood Bowl in *Rent*, directed by Neil Patrick Harris. Other credits include *Silence! The Musical* (LA Weekly Award), *American Horror Story: Freak Show*, the thriller *Loft*, opposite Modern Family's Eric Stonestreet, and *Magic Mike XXL*. In looking to combat body bias, she co-created *Plus This! Show*, a weekly podcast on UBNGO that highlights fat women and non-binary folk and their allies.

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### **Kyla Page Williams** (*Vocals*)

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Kyla Page Williams is a classically trained singer who holds a B.A. from Westminster Choir College. She has been seen on the opera stage as Dorabella in Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, Carmen in Bizet's *Carmen*, and in the opera chorus during the Opera Festival of New Jersey. She was recently heard singing in the musical comedy *Life in Boobs* at Upstairs at Vitello's, at the El Cid with *For Good: A Monthly Night of Showtunes to Save the World*, and at the Montalban theater in Hollywood with *Broadway to the Rescue*. Ms. Williams is also a recital soloist and an early childhood music teacher. She has enjoyed singing with Our Lady J for almost 10 years!

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### **Dena Tauriello** (*Drums*)

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Dena Tauriello currently holds the drum chair for the Off-Broadway revival of *Little Shop of Horrors* at the Westside Theatre, previously holding the drum chair on Broadway's *Head Over Heels*. She continues to perform at events for New York Stage and Film, New York Theater Workshop, and Amas Musical Theatre, having played with artists such as Christopher Jackson, Leslie Uggams, Len Cariou, Vivian Reed, Alice Ripley, and Daphne Rubin-Vega. Prior to her entrée to Broadway, Ms. Tauriello recorded and toured for 20 years with the all-female rock band Antigone Rising, opening for rock and pop greats like Aerosmith, the Rolling Stones, Allman Brothers, Joan Jett, and Cheap Trick. She also served as cultural ambassador to the U.S. embassies in Israel and Vietnam.

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## **Alex Eckhardt** (*Bass*)

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Coming from a multi-generational musical family, Alex Eckhardt began playing bass at age 8 with her father as her teacher. She attended the University of Connecticut, where she was mentored by Kenny Davis, and upon graduating, played on two consecutive national tours, *In the Heights* and *The Book of Mormon*. Ms. Eckhardt held the bass chair on *The Band's Visit*, in addition to being featured on the Grammy Award-winning original cast recording. She has performed with a variety of artists including Sara Bareilles, Martha Plimpton, Jeremy Jordan, Here We Go Magic, and Kate Nash, and frequently doubles on cello and vocals. Other credits: *Bat Out of Hell*, Ross Golan's *The Wrong Man*, and this spring's *The Visitor* at the Public Theater. Ms. Eckhardt is the music supervisor for the upcoming feature film *Passing*, directed by Rebecca Hall.

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## **American Songbook**

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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.

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## **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 engagement, and manager of the Lincoln Center campus. A presenter of thousands of free and ticketed events, performances, tours, and educational activities annually, LCPA offers a variety of festivals and programs, including American Songbook, Avery Fisher Career Grants and Artist program, David Rubenstein Atrium programming, Great Performers, Lincoln Center Emerging Artist Awards, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Lincoln Center Vera List Art Project, LC Kids, Midsummer Night Swing, Mostly Mozart Festival, White Light Festival, the Emmy Award-winning *Live From Lincoln Center*, which airs nationally on PBS, and Lincoln Center Education, which is celebrating more than four decades enriching the lives of students, educators, and lifelong learners. As manager of the Lincoln Center campus, LCPA provides support and services for the Lincoln Center complex and the 11 resident organizations: The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Film at Lincoln Center, Jazz at Lincoln Center, The Juilliard School, Lincoln Center Theater, The Metropolitan Opera, New York City Ballet, New York Philharmonic, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, School of American Ballet, and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

### **Lincoln Center Programming Department**

Jane Moss, *Ehrenkranz Artistic Director*

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Olivia Fortunato, *Associate Producer, Public Programming*

James Fry, *Technical Manager, Contemporary Programming*

Annie Guo, *Production Coordinator*

Shade Adeyemo, *Programming Coordinator, David Rubenstein Atrium*

Charmaine Marshall, *Assistant to the Artistic Director*

### **For American Songbook**

Matt Berman, *Lighting Design*

Scott Stauffer, *Sound Design*

Paloma Estevez, *Company Manager, Contemporary Programming*

Roshni Lavelle, *House Seat Coordinator*

## **Matt Berman**

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Matt Berman is the resident lighting designer for Lincoln Center's American Songbook. He most recently designed the lighting for Kristin Chenoweth's *For the Girls* at the Nederlander Theatre. In the summer he designs in Provincetown for producer Mark Cortale's concerts and shows at the both the Art House and Town Hall. This past spring, Mr. Berman had the honor of designing the lighting and sound for South Florida Symphony Orchestra's remarkable production of *Porgy & Bess*, directed by Richard Jay-Alexander. This past summer he designed a small promotional tour of the U.S. with Meow Meow and Thomas Lauderdale of Pink Martini for their collaboration album, *Hotel L'Amour*. Additionally he has designed shows with Meow Meow for the London Philharmonic Orchestra and many other concert appearances.

Mr. Berman's international touring with stars such as Liza Minnelli, Kristin Chenoweth, Alan Cumming, Meow Meow, and Elaine Paige has allowed him to design for such iconic venues as Royal Albert Hall, the Paris Opera, Olympia Theater in Paris, Royal Theatre Carré in Amsterdam, the Sporting Club in Monte Carlo, The Acropolis, the famed amphitheater in Taormina, Sicily, Luna Park in Buenos Aires, the Sydney Opera House and, closer to home, the Hollywood Bowl, Alice Tully Hall, and Carnegie Hall. Other Broadway credits include Kristin Chenoweth's *My Love Letter to Broadway* at the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre, 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*.