

Lincoln Center's

January 22–February 29, 2020

American Songbook

Lead Support provided by Holland America Line

The Program

Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 8:30 pm

Roomful of Teeth

Estelí Gomez, *Soprano*

Martha Cluver, *Soprano*

Caroline Shaw, *Alto*

Virginia Kelsey, *Alto*

Steven Bradshaw, *Tenor*

Avery Griffin, *Baritone*

Dashon Burton, *Bass-Baritone*

Cameron Beauchamp, *Bass*

Brad Wells, *Artistic Director*

With The Dessoff Choirs

Malcolm J. Merriweather, *Conductor*

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.

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.

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

UPCOMING AMERICAN SONGBOOK EVENTS IN THE APPEL ROOM:

Friday, February 14 at 8:30 pm

Brandon Victor Dixon

Saturday, February 15 at 8:30 pm

Our Lady J

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. 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



Roomful of Teeth

Roomful of Teeth is a Grammy-winning vocal ensemble dedicated to exploring the boundless expressive capacity of the human voice. Inspired by singing styles from all over the globe, founder and artistic director Brad Wells imagined a vocal project unconstrained by traditional Western classical singing. Combining master technicians of various singing styles with exceptional singers trained in classical techniques, Roomful of Teeth seeks to broaden its sonic palette in order to create vibrant and exciting contemporary vocal music.

The group maintains a substantial touring season and has performed programs of original repertoire worldwide. Roomful of Teeth also regularly collaborates with other artists and organizations, such as with Peter Sellars in an ongoing production of Claude Vivier's surrealist chamber opera *Kopernikus*. The post-genre nature of Roomful of Teeth has allowed collaboration with diverse artists in the fields of rock/pop and jazz such as Fred Hersch, Tigran Hamasyan, Ambrose Akinmusire, Merrill Garbus of tUnE-yArDs, and Bryce Dessner of The National.

Roomful of Teeth's eponymous first album was awarded a Grammy for Best Chamber Ensemble Music/Small Ensemble Performance. Its recordings have been featured on several television shows and films, including Netflix's German series *Dark*, and *Homecoming*, a film by Beyoncé. The group is also featured on Silkroad Ensemble's album *Sing Me Home*, which won the 2017 Grammy for Best World Music Album. The members of Roomful of Teeth reside far and wide from San Francisco to San Antonio to New York.

The Dessoff Choirs

The Dessoff Choirs, under the baton of Malcolm J. Merriweather, music director, is one of New York City's leading choruses. Founded in 1924 by Margarete Dessoff, the group has a reputation for pioneering performances of choral works from the pre-Baroque era through the 21st century. The plural "Choirs" connotes the group's 50-voice core, plus the Symphonic Choir assembled for larger collaborative engagements and smaller Chamber Choir for more intimate works.

Dessoff produces a New York concert series each year, and, over 95 seasons, has presented world premieres by Virgil Thomson, George Perle, Paul Moravec, Ricky Ian Gordon, Eve Beglarian, and Matthew Aucoin. Dessoff collaborates frequently with local and visiting ensembles, appearing in the American premieres of Philip Glass's Symphony No. 5 and John Tavener's all-night vigil, *The Veil of the Temple*. Notable engagements have ranged from Lorin Maazel's final performances as music director of the New York Philharmonic to an East Coast tour with British rock star Ray Davies. Dessoff has published 48 editions of the Dessoff Choir Series and released 13 LPs, introducing Renaissance music to a U.S. audience. Dessoff's newest CD is *Margaret Bonds: The Ballad of the Brown King & Selected Songs* (Avie Records).

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 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

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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

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

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*.