

*“A LITTLE BIT IN LOVE”*



*SUSAN LORETTE DUNN, soprano*

*BRIAN CONNELLY, piano*

*PAUL ELLISON, double bass*

*CRISTIAN MĂCELARU, violin*

*DEBRA DICKINSON, director*

*TOVA WIGDERSON, visual production*

*Thursday, April 26, 2007*

*8:00 p.m.*

*Lillian H. Duncan Recital Hall*

RICE UNIVERSITY

the  
Shepherd  
School  
of Music

PROGRAM

- Stranger Here Myself* Kurt Weill  
*from One Touch of Venus* (1900-1950)
- 
- Poetry: *Ah Love ... Love* Ronberge  
 (b. 1967)
- Non so piú cosa son* Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
*from Le Nozze di Figaro* (1756-1791)
- 
- A Little Bit in Love* Leonard Bernstein  
*from Wonderful Town* (1918-1990)
- 
- Poetry: *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock* T. S. Eliot  
 (1888-1965)
- Yunggamurra* Betty Beath  
 (b. 1932)
- 
- Meine Lippen sie küssen so Heiß* Franz Lehár  
*from Giuditta* (1870-1948)
- 
- Amor* William Bolcom  
 (b. 1938)
- 
- Poetry: *Pastourelle ...* Joseph Canteloube  
 (1879-1957)
- Pastourelle* Joseph Canteloube  
*from Chants d'Auvergne*
- 
- Poetry: *Unfortunate Coincidence* Dorothy Parker  
 (1893-1967)
- Could I Leave You* Stephen Sondheim  
*from Follies* (b. 1930)

INTERMISSION

- The Loneliness of A Lover's Arms* Christine McCombe  
 (b. 1967)
- 
- Les chemins de l'amour* Francis Poulenc  
 (1899-1963)
- 
- Poetry: *I Do Not Love You Because I Love You* Pablo Neruda  
 (1904-1973)
- I Dreamed A Dream* Claude-Michel Schönberg/Alain Boublil  
*from Les Misérables* (b. 1944)/(b. 1941)
-

<i>Surabaya Johnny</i> from <i>Happy End</i>	Kurt Weill
—	
<i>I Hate Men</i> from <i>Kiss Me Kate</i>	Cole Porter (1891-1964)
—	
Poetry: <i>Symptom Recital</i>	Dorothy Parker (1893-1967)
<i>Joy</i> from <i>Genius Child</i>	Ricky Ian Gordon (b. 1956)
—	
<i>Yo soy María</i> from <i>María de Buenos Aires</i>	Ástor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

## BIOGRAPHIES

SUSAN LORETTE DUNN studied at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music in Brisbane, Australia, graduating with both a Bachelor of Music degree and a Master's degree in Voice and Opera. She made her debut with Opera Australia performing the role of Tzeitel in *Fiddler On The Roof*. Her Opera Queensland debut was as Frasquita in *Carmen*. Other roles in her repertoire have included Lola in *Cavalleria Rusticana*, Dorabella in *Così fan Tutte*, Dido in *Dido and Aeneas*, Earth in *The Eighth Wonder*, Musetta in *La Bohème*, Valencienne in *The Merry Widow*, Mlle Dangeville in *Adriana Lecouvreur*, Stephano in *Romeo and Juliet*, Cornelia in *Damascus*, Laetitia in *The Old Maid and the Thief*, and Catherine in *Seeking True South*.

Miss Dunn's international performances include the British premiere of Kurt Weill's *Street Scene* in London's West End, the U.S. tour of *Pirates – The Ballet*, an American Music Theatre Gala in Tel Aviv, Israel, and *Bernstein on Broadway* for Leonard Bernstein – An 80th Anniversary Celebration. Miss Dunn has performed major roles throughout Australia in musical theatre which include Leonard Bernstein's *Mass*, *Aspects of Love* (The Really Useful Company), *Baby* (Queensland Theatre Company), *Nonsense II* (Mixed Company), *Into The Woods* (Opera Australia), *Lucky Me* (Tropic Line Theatre Company), *A Little Night Music* (Sydney Theatre Company), and *Kiss Me Kate* (Andrew McKinnon Concert Productions).

Additionally, she has produced and performed as soloist in concert performances of *Aspects of Romance*, *Broadway Showstoppers*, *No Tune Like a Show Tune*, and *Leading Ladies*. She has also produced and performed in *Bernstein on Broadway*, a show she conceived for the Queensland Symphony Orchestra.

Miss Dunn has performed and recorded as soloist with ABC Australia and with many of Australia's major orchestras. Miss Dunn has sung concert performances with the Rhode Island Philharmonic, the Chicago Philharmonic, the San Antonio Symphony, the Kansas City Symphony, the Grand Teton Music Festival, Connecticut's Summer Music Festival, the Interlochen Music Festival, and the Sunflower Music Festival. Upcoming performances include

appearances with the Dayton Philharmonic, the Chicago Philharmonic, the Rhode Island Philharmonic, the San Antonio Symphony, Camerata of San Antonio, the Czech Republic's Martinů Philharmonic, and performances of *The Golden Axe*, a new opera by David Heusser, for the Cactus Pear Music Festival.

Susan Lorette Dunn has been instrumental as an educator while maintaining her full-time performing career. She has held positions as lecturer at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music and the Queensland University of Technology, where she also devised programs in Music Theatre Skills. She is currently on the Voice and Opera faculty of the Shepherd School of Music.

Miss Dunn has won many major Australian singing competitions including the State and Commonwealth Finals of the ABC Instrumental and Vocal Competition, an Opera Foundation Scholarship, an Australia Council Grant for study in the United Kingdom, an Arts Queensland Personal Development Grant, and most recently a prestigious Winston Churchill Fellowship, where she worked with the New York Festival of Song in New York City.

As a result of her Churchill Fellowship, Miss Dunn will launch her company *Songfest* this year with the program "A Little Bit in Love." *Songfest* is dedicated to the re-invention of the song recital with special emphasis on Australian and American song.

Susan Lorette Dunn currently lives in Houston with her husband, conductor Larry Rachleff, and their young son Samuel.

BRIAN CONNELLY is recognized as a pianist of unusual range and accomplishment in both historical and modern repertoires. Born in Detroit, he studied at the University of Michigan with pianists György Sándor and Theodore Lettvin. He has premiered works by William Albright, Karim Al-Zand, Derek Bermel, William Bolcom, Anthony Brandt, Paul Cooper, David Diamond, Ross Lee Finney, Arthur Gottschalk, Laura Karpman, Richard Lavenda, and many others. He has performed as soloist and chamber player in major cities throughout the United States and Europe, and as guest artist with groups such as the Chicago Contemporary Players and the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble. He was featured in the Carnegie Hall series "Making Music" in a tribute to composer William Bolcom, and he performs regularly at the Cascade Head and Grand Teton music festivals. He has appeared in concert with a host of pre-eminent artists such as violinist Sergiu Luca, violist Nobuko Imai, cellists Gary Hoffman and Roel Dieltiens, flutist Carol Wincenc, clarinetists Charles Neidich and Lorenzo Coppola, pianists Robert Levin and André-Michel Schub, fortepianists John Gibbons and Riko Fukuda, and he has shared ragtime recitals with jazz pianist Marcus Roberts. Mr. Connelly played nearly 150 solo and chamber works for the acclaimed Da Camera of Houston in its path-breaking first six seasons. He is a member of the ensemble CONTEXT, performing on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century pianos as well as the modern Steinway. He teaches piano performance and chamber music at the Shepherd School.

PAUL ELLISON, co-principal bass at the Aspen and Grand Teton Festivals, is Professor of Double Bass at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music. In addition, his diverse international activities include chamber music, period instrument performance, and solo and duo performance, as well as workshops and master classes.

Mr. Ellison enjoyed twenty-three years as principal bass of the Houston Symphony Orchestra, several years as principal bass of the Santa Fe Opera, and seven years as chair of strings at the University of Southern California.

Regular performances and master classes throughout North America and Europe include those with *Da Camera of Houston*, *Strings in the Mountains (Steamboat Springs, Colorado)*, *Aspen, Festival Domaine Forget (Quebec)*, the *Curtis Institute*, *Yale University*, *Banff (Canada)*, the *Yehudi Menuhin School (Surrey, England)*, the *Royal College of Music (London)*, the *Royal Northern College (Manchester)*, the *Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival*, *Festival Flaine de Musique (Flaine, France)*, *Sarasota (Florida)*, *Southern California Resource for Electro-Acoustic Music (Los Angeles)*, the *Grand Teton Festival*, and conventions of the *International Society of Bassists in New York, Los Angeles, Houston, Chicago (Evanston), Austin, and Cincinnati*, and in *England, France, and Germany*. Most recently, Ellison was in residence at *Australia's National Academy of Music in Melbourne* as a guest artist and faculty member.

With former students holding prominent positions in orchestras and schools worldwide, Mr. Ellison holds the first *Diploma and Teaching Certificate* awarded by the *Institute Rabbath in Paris* and is a former president of the *International Society of Bassists*.

Romanian violinist, composer and conductor **CRISTIAN MĂCELARU** started studying music at the age of six in his native country. After winning top prizes in the *National Music Olympiad of Romania (1994, 1996, 1997)*, Mr. Măcelaru attended the *Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan*, where he furthered his studies in both violin and conducting. Upon his graduation, he moved to *Miami*, where he received a *Bachelor of Music degree* from the *University of Miami*.

While in *Miami*, Mr. Măcelaru was assistant conductor of the *University of Miami Symphony Orchestra*, associate conductor of the *Florida Youth Orchestra*, conductor and founder of the *Clarke Chamber Players*, and concertmaster of the *Miami Symphony Orchestra*. He has performed recitals throughout the *United States, Europe, and China*, as well as with orchestras such as the *Houston Symphony Orchestra*, the *Miami Symphony Orchestra*, the *Naples Philharmonic*, and the *Banatul Philharmonic*.

Recently receiving the *Master of Music degree in violin performance* from the *Shepherd School of Music* under the guidance of *Sergiu Luca*, Mr. Măcelaru's 2006-07 season includes performances with *CONTEXT*, *Crisalis Music Project*, the *Houston Symphony*, the *Banatul Philharmonic*, and recitals both in the *United States* and abroad. Currently pursuing a *Master of Music degree in conducting* with *Larry Rachleff*, he is also founder and artistic director of the *Crisalis Music Project*.

**DEBRA DICKINSON** has directed productions of *Hansel and Gretel*, *The Turn of the Screw*, *Werther*, *Albert Herring*, *Così fan tutte*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the *Shepherd School of Music*. Other opera directing credits include *Die Fledermaus* at *Florida State University*, *Trouble in Tahiti* for the apprentice program of the *Connecticut Opera*, and *The Tender Land* at the *Monteux Opera Festival*. Ms. Dickinson was the assistant director of *Naughty Marietta* and *The Pajama Game* at the *New York City Opera* under *Beverly Sills*. Performing credits include *Guenivere* in *Camelot* opposite both *Richard Burton* and *Richard Harris*, and *Jellylorum* in *Cats* at *Theater an der Wien* in *Vienna*. Ms. Dickinson teaches the *Opera Workshop classes* at the *Shepherd School of Music*.

TOVA (KRONICK) WIGDERSON was born in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and came to Houston in 2002 with more than fifteen years of experience in film and television production. She is an award-winning short film director and has shared her passion for the arts, for women's issues, and youth subjects on several acclaimed Canadian television series and specials including *BookTelevision* (1998-2003), *Girltalk* (1992-1995) and *YAA! The Youth Achievement Awards* (1995-1998). These programs aired on Bravo! Television, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), and The Women's Television Network (WTN) as well as on Trio in the United States.

Tova's independent short video, *Sometimes A Voice*, illuminated the poetry of Canadian Don McKay and was commissioned for screening at Toronto's prestigious Gryffin Poetry Prize Awards in 2001. This "experimental" inspired Tova to co-create a fresh genre of arts production dubbed the "book-video" which borrowed in style from music videos. In collaboration with producer Pauline Rentzelos, the bookvideos spotlighted literary works by new and established novelists, poets, playwrights, and spoken word artists. The team traveled in North America and Europe to cover the works of everyone from W.B. Yeats to John Irving, Michael Ondaatje (*The English Patient*) to the late Spalding Gray (*Swimming to Cambodia*). They were honored with a Gemini Award nomination for *BookTelevision* in 2002.

Now a Houston resident herself, Tova recently worked for KUHT Houston PBS as an editor/associate producer on the local series *Balancing Your Life* with Ellen Susman. The program can now be seen on select PBS channels across the United States.

Tova is delighted to be at the Shepherd School of Music to contribute the visual elements for tonight's recital by Susan Lorette Dunn.



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