"WELCOME BACK" SONG SERIES

thedallasopera



"AN EVENING OF SONG"

MORRIS ROBINSON

MARCH 31, 2021 | 7:30 PM | WINSPEAR OPERA HOUSE

WELCOME BACK!



Karen Almond

A remarkable thing happens when we experience music *live*—especially the sound of the human voice in song. It stops us in our tracks, calms our minds and souls, and immediately sets us "in the moment." At a time when hearts are burdened by the impact of the COVID pandemic and so much discord in our communities, I invite you to experience the power and joy of stories and songs sung by some of the opera's most celebrated and socially engaged artists.

Enjoy extraordinary recitals with Morris Robinson, Leah Crocetto and Jamie Barton, and John Holiday—"Garden Serenades" at some of Dallas's most beautiful outdoor spaces—our soon-to-be-announced new OperaTruck in family-friendly performances—and the long-awaited return of star mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato in concert on May 10 at 7pm with Emmanuel Villaume and The Dallas Opera Orchestra.

We are so happy to welcome you back for the unparalleled experience of shared *live performances*. Thank you!

Ian

Ian Derrer
The Kern Wildenthal General Director and CEO

"AN EVENING OF SONG"

March 31, 2021, 7:30 PM

Morris Robinson, Bass
Caren Levine, Piano

"Mentre ti lascio, o figlia!" — **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** (1756-1791)
K. 513

Drei Lieder nach Gedichten von Michelangelo — **Hugo Wolf** (1860-1903)
"Wohl denk' ich oft an mein vergangnes Leben"
"Alles endet, was entstehet"
"Fühlt meine Seele das ersehnte Licht von Gott"

From *Simon Boccanegra* — **Giuseppe Verdi** (1813-1901)
"Il lacerato spirito"

From *Macbeth* — **Giuseppe Verdi**
"Come dal ciel precipita"

— BRIEF PAUSE —

From *Arias and Barcarolles* — **Leonard Bernstein** (1918-1990)
"Greeting"

From *Three Dream Portraits* — **Margaret Bonds** (1913-1972)
"Dream Variations"
"I, too"

"Sweet Jesus" — **arr. Wendell Whalum** (1931-1987)

"God is a God" — **arr. Wendell Whalum**

Program is subject to change.

ARTIST BIOS



MORRIS ROBINSON (Bass)

The world-renowned American bass appears regularly at the Metropolitan Opera, most recently in *The Magic Flute* and *Salome*. He has also been featured with the major companies of San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, Philadelphia, Seattle, and Cincinnati, among others. European appearances include La Scala, the Vienna Volksoper, Opera Australia, and the Aix-en-Provence Festival. Robinson triumphed earlier this season as Hagen/*Twilight: Gods*, Michigan Opera Theater's reimagining of *Götterdämmerung*. Later in the season he sings Sparafucile/*Rigoletto* in a special performance produced by the Tulsa Opera. Robinson recently debuted with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in Mahler's *Symphony No. 8*. He has appeared with the major orchestras of New York, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, and Atlanta (where he was 2015/16 Artist in Residence); with the BBC Proms; and at the Ravinia, Mostly Mozart, Tanglewood, Cincinnati May, Verbier, and Aspen Music festivals. Robinson's solo album, *Going Home*, was released on the Decca label. He appears on DVD in *Show Boat* (San Francisco Opera), *Salome* (Met), and Mozart's *Zaide* (Aix-en-Provence). The bass was recently named artistic advisor to the Cincinnati Opera.



CAREN LEVINE (Piano)

The New York native is an alumna of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and has been a Met assistant conductor and prompter since 2003. She holds Grammy Awards for the Met's DVDs of John Adams's *Doctor Atomic* (2012) and Thomas Adès's *The Tempest* (2014). Levine has been heard as a recitative accompanist and continuo player with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Met Orchestra, Florida Grand Opera, San Antonio Symphony, and Vienna Philharmonic. Her performances include collaborations with singers Barbara Bonney (including tours throughout North America and Asia), Susanne Mentzer, Lawrence Brownlee, Juan Diego Flórez, Marcello Giordani, and Morris Robinson, as well as violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg and the Miró String Quartet. Levine is also active as a jazz composer and arranger. Capstone Records released a CD of her own jazz piano compositions, *Flowers from a Secret Admirer*. Levine has served on the coaching staff of many major opera companies nationwide, as well as director of Florida Grand Opera's Young Artist Program and conductor and head of music staff at the Miami Summer Music Festival.

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