

Master
VOICES
FORMERLY
THE COLLEGIATE CHORALE

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Master VOICES

FORMERLY
THE COLLEGIATE CHORALE

2015 | 2016

**THE ART OF
MUSICAL STORYTELLING**



MESSAGE FROM TED SPERLING, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,


I am thrilled to let you know about many exciting changes we are making this season! On the eve of our 75th Anniversary, we have decided to take the new name **MasterVoices** to better represent who we are: a performing arts organization that celebrates storytelling through the masterful voices of our chorus, our world-class soloists, and the creative voices of the composers, librettists, designers and directors whose work we produce.

We are delighted to be starting a partnership with New York City Center, whose capabilities will allow us to heighten the theatricality of our presentations. Our City Center series, featuring concert performances of operettas and operas in English, will debut with Gilbert and Sullivan's irresistible 1879 operetta *The Pirates of Penzance* in October and Henry Purcell's tempestuous Baroque opera *Dido and Aeneas* in April.

Our season will also include world premieres by Michael John LaChiusa and Marisa Michelson. We are committed to returning to our long-standing tradition of commissioning, an element of our organization that has lain dormant for too long.

We are proud to introduce *Bridges*, our new outreach program that will enable people, regardless of their abilities and backgrounds, to experience the joy of group music-making. Each season, **MasterVoices** will partner with a different composer and diverse community in the New York City area to create and perform a newly commissioned work. We look forward to sharing more information with you soon about our inaugural *Bridges* performance in June 2016.

With these initiatives, **MasterVoices** enters a new era with renewed energy. I hope you will join us for one of our performances and be a part of this very special season in our organization's history!

Warmly, 

SEASON AT A GLANCE

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE (OR THE SLAVE OF DUTY)

by Arthur Sullivan and W.S. Gilbert

Featuring Deborah Voigt, Hunter Parrish, Julia Udine,
Phillip Boykin, Montego Glover, Betsy Wolfe, and Douglas Hodge

Conducted by Ted Sperling with Orchestra of St. Luke's

October 15, 2015 at 8pm

October 16, 2015 at 8pm

NEW YORK CITY CENTER

DIDO AND AENEAS

by Henry Purcell and Nahum Tate
with a World Premiere companion work by Michael John LaChiusa

Featuring Kelli O'Hara and Victoria Clark

Conducted by Ted Sperling with Orchestra of St. Luke's

April 28, 2016 at 7pm

April 29, 2016 at 8pm

NEW YORK CITY CENTER

BRIDGES

Featuring a World Premiere commissioned work by Marisa Michelson to herald the inaugural year of *Bridges*, MasterVoices' new community outreach program.

June 2016

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[BOX OFFICE](#)
131 W 55th St. (btwn 6th & 7th)



Special Assistance | New York City Center is wheelchair accessible and has a hearing augmentation system. Please alert the box office of special needs when ordering tickets.

Artists, programs, and prices subject to change. Telephone and online orders will be charged a \$6.50 handling fee per ticket. A \$2.50 facility fee will be added to the price of each ticket. No refunds. No exchanges.

THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE (OR THE SLAVE OF DUTY)

By Arthur Sullivan and W.S. Gilbert

OCTOBER 15-16, 2015 at **8PM**

NEW YORK CITY CENTER

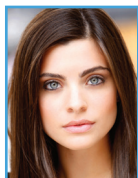
This program is dedicated in loving memory of MasterVoices' Artistic Associate Roger Rees.



Deborah Voigt



Hunter Parrish



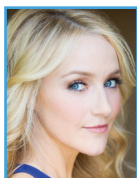
Julia Udine



Phillip Boykin



Montego Glover



Betsy Wolfe



Douglas Hodge

MasterVoices | Orchestra of St. Luke's **Ted Sperling, Conductor and Director**

"Brilliant! Witty! Elegant and Merry!" extolled *The New York Times* in 1880 about the NYC premiere of *The Pirates of Penzance*. "It would be impossible for a confirmed misanthrope to refrain from merriment." Don't miss MasterVoices' semi-staged presentation of Gilbert and Sullivan's irresistible 1879 operetta, featuring Metropolitan Opera star Deborah Voigt, Hunter Parrish ("Weeds"; *Godspell*), Julia Udine (*The Phantom of the Opera*), Phillip Boykin (Tony Award Nominee, *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*), Montego Glover (Tony Award Nominee, *Memphis*), Betsy Wolfe (*The Last Five Years*), Douglas Hodge (Showtime's "Penny Dreadful"), MasterVoices, and Orchestra of St. Luke's, all under the baton of Artistic Director Ted Sperling. Set by David Korins, Lighting by Frances Aronson, Sound by Scott Lehrer, and Choreography by Gustavo Zajac.

Tickets ranging from **\$30** to **\$130** on sale at City Center.

FALL GALA | October 15

Join us for some swashbuckling fun at MasterVoices' Fall Gala! Tickets include pre-concert cocktails and a three-course dinner at Le Parker Meridien, as well as preferred seating for *The Pirates of Penzance*. Call 646-202-9623 to learn more and reserve your ticket.

The Pirates of Penzance



DIDO AND AENEAS

By Henry Purcell and Nahum Tate

Featuring a World Premiere companion work by Michael John LaChiusa

APRIL 28, 2016 at **7PM**

APRIL 29, 2016 at **8PM**

NEW YORK CITY CENTER

This program is dedicated to the memory of beloved Board Member James S. Marcus.



Kelli O'Hara



Victoria Clark



Michael John
LaChiusa

MasterVoices | **Orchestra of St. Luke's** **Ted Sperling**, Conductor and Director

Purcell's beloved opera *Dido and Aeneas* was first presented in New York at the Plaza Hotel in 1923. MasterVoices will present a semi-staged concert production of Purcell's tempestuous Baroque opera, with a newly commissioned curtain-raiser by Michael John LaChiusa, one of the most prolific composers for the American musical stage in the past several decades. Don't miss Kelli O'Hara (Tony Award Winner, *The King and I*), and Victoria Clark (Tony Award Winner, *The Light in the Piazza*) with MasterVoices, Orchestra of St. Luke's and Conductor Ted Sperling.

Tickets ranging from **\$30** to **\$130** on sale at City Center.

SPRING BENEFIT | **April 28**

Support our compelling artistic programming and education initiatives at MasterVoices' Spring Benefit! Tickets include pre-concert cocktails, preferred seating for *Dido and Aeneas*, dinner and live auction. Call 646-202-9623 to learn more and reserve your ticket.



*Dido é
Aeneas*

BRIDGES

Featuring a World Premiere by Marisa Michelson

JUNE 2016



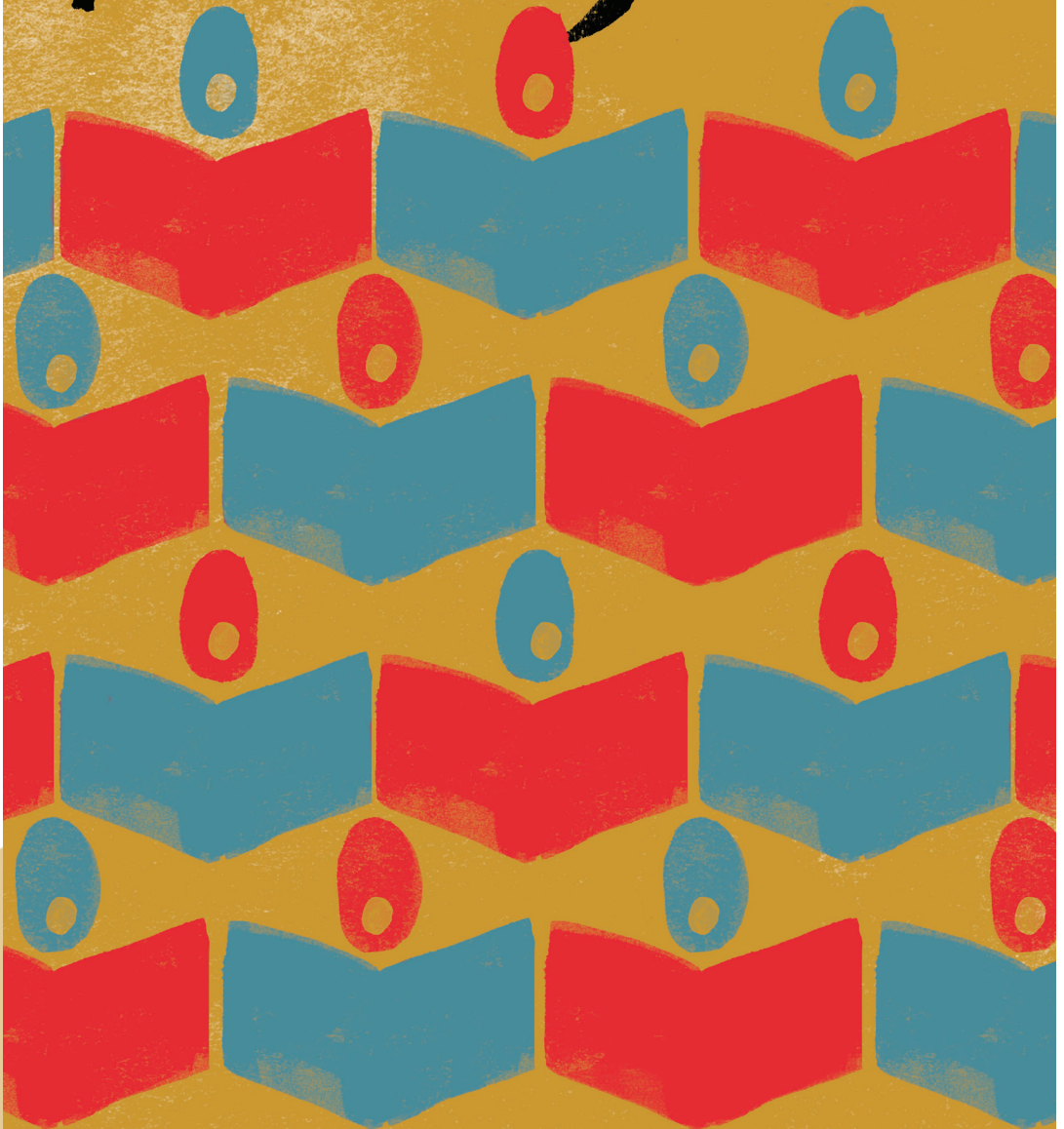
Marisa Michelson

MasterVoices

Ted Sperling, Conductor

Bridges is a new educational outreach initiative aimed at bringing people in a community together to make music, regardless of their abilities or backgrounds. This season, MasterVoices has commissioned composer Marisa Michelson—known for her mesmerizing, inventive, and accessible, but never derivative music—to create a work to highlight the unique sounds and skills of five highly diverse choruses from Lawrence, Long Island. These choruses include the St. John’s Baptist Church chorus, La Iglesia de Nuestra Señora del Buen Consejo chorus, Hebrew Academy of Five Towns chorus, United Chorale Society, and Lawrence High School chorus. Witness the culmination of this year’s program as MasterVoices performs in concert with these choruses from Lawrence in June 2016.

Bridges



MASTERSVOICES AROUND TOWN

MASTERSVOICES AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Performing **Beethoven's Choral Fantasy**
with the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra and Conductor Long Yu

AUGUST 28, 2015

THE LIFE AND DEATH(S) OF ALAN TURING

A workshop of a new opera with music by Justine F. Chen
and libretto by David Simpatico
Presented by American Lyric Theater

OCTOBER 17, 2015

MERKIN CONCERT HALL

For more information and tickets, visit altnyc.org

MASTERSVOICES WITH ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Performing **Mahler's Symphony No. 2**
Conducted by Zubin Mehta

NOVEMBER 5, 2015

CARNEGIE HALL

For more information and tickets, visit carnegiehall.org

MAHLER'S SYMPHONY NO. 2

with the New York Youth Symphony and Conductor Joshua Gersen

MAY 29, 2016

CARNEGIE HALL

For more information and tickets, visit carnegiehall.org



Photo by Li Muzi

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

For 15 years, MasterVoices has made a difference in the lives of young people, equipping them with strong musical tools, expanding their horizons as citizens of the world, and teaching them to become lifelong enthusiastic audiences for the arts. Our education program, often described as “life-changing” by students, parents, and partner teachers, is comprised of four initiatives:

SIDE-BY-SIDE annually offers high school students, many from underserved communities, the opportunity to sing “side-by-side” our experienced chorus members, receiving mentorship, musical training, and invaluable performance opportunities both in New York City and on international tours.

THE COMPLIMENTARY TICKET PROGRAM brings hundreds of students from New York schools and community programs to MasterVoices’ concert programs each year.

THE FAITH GEIER ARTIST INITIATIVE offers transformational opportunities for young and developing soloists to perform at top venues with internationally-renowned artists.

BRIDGES is MasterVoices’ new outreach initiative aimed at bringing people in a community together to make music, regardless of their abilities or backgrounds.



Photo by: Erin Baiano

Photo by: Christopher Duggan

Photo by: Christopher Duggan

“The encouragement I’ve received from MasterVoices has led to my involvement in the most profound musical experiences. I grew up with the ensemble – It is my musical pedigree and, more importantly, my family. I cannot thank them enough.”

Joseph Michael Brent, Side-by-Side alumnus who is currently a tenor at Michigan Opera Theatre’s emerging young artist program, MOT Studio



Photo by: Erin Baiano

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Major funding for MasterVoices' 2015-16 season has been generously provided by The Geier Foundation, the Howard Gilman Foundation, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.



SUPPORT MASTERVOICES

Help MasterVoices provide exceptional programming to the New York City community by making a donation. We are grateful for gifts of all sizes.

FRIENDS

\$250 - \$4,999
donation

MAESTRO'S CIRCLE

\$5,000 +
donation

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL EVENT

Each season, MasterVoices invites its patrons to a **Fall Gala** where guests enjoy a seated dinner and premium concert tickets, and to a **Spring Benefit**, which also features a vastly entertaining live auction. These events allow MasterVoices to continue offering its unique programming and to raise support for its educational activities.

*To request an invitation to an upcoming Gala event, please call **646-202-9623**.*



MAKE A DONATION TODAY

visit mastervoices.org | call 646-202-9623

mail 115 E. 57th Street, Suite 1121, New York, NY 10022

(checks made out to MasterVoices)

LIMITED TIME OFFER

Become a **MasterVoices Member**
and save on tickets!

MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES

20% off full price tickets

for each MasterVoices-produced performance.

tickets for ***The Pirates of Penzance*** and ***Dido and Aeneas*** starting at **\$24**

MEMBERSHIP FEE

\$50

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