

Songs to Warm Us: SongShop Sunday Salon February 28, 2016

directed by Claudia Hommel and singer-pianist Bob Moreen with
Don Hoffman, Lynda Gordon, Raheal Hanna, Ruth Fuerst & Sue Susman

Ruth Fuerst

Consider Yourself Lionel Bart (from *Oliver*)

Lynda Gordon

That Face Mel Brooks, Lew Spence & Alan Bergman
(*The Producers*)

Something New In My Life Michel Legrand, Alan & Marilyn Bergman (*Maude*)
If You Hadn't But You Did Jules Styne, Betty Comden & Adolph Green
(*Two on the Aisle*)

Colored Lights John Kander & Fred Ebb (*The Rink*)

Raheal Hanna

I'll Stand by You Chrissie Hynde, Tom Kelly & Billy Steinberg
Psyché Emile Paladilhe, Pierre Corneille (see translation)

Stars and the Moon Jason Robert Brown
Touch the Hand of Love Blossom Dearie & Mahriah Blackwolf

Don Hoffman

My Time of Day Frank Loesser (*Guys and Dolls*)
How High the Moon Morgan Lewis & Nancy Hamilton
Day by Day Sammy Kahn, Axel Stordahl, Paul Weston
In the Wee Small Hours David Mann, Bob Hilliard
Orange Colored Sky Milton Delugg & Willie Stein

Sue Susman

Natural Woman Carole King, Gerry Gofyn & Jerry Wexler
Since I Fell for You Buddy Johnson
Losing My Mind Stephen Sondheim (*Follies*)
Stuff Like That There Raymond Evans & Jay Livingston

Bob Moreen

Come Back to Me Alan Jay Lerner & Burton Lane (*On a Clear Day*)

Claudia Hommel

Memories, part A —homage to 4853 S. Kenwood
Charles Ives
Flossie Cabanis Edgar Lee Masters (*Spoon River Anthology*)
I Wants to Be a Actor Lady Harry Von Tilzer & Vincent Bryan

Our Performers

BOB MOREEN, pianist and singer, has appeared as soloist, accompanist and ensemble member, working with Dorothy Collins, Peter Palmer, Greta Keller, the Incomparable Hildegarde, and many of Chicago's favorite cabaret singers. The *Chicago Sun-Times* calls him, "A special, eclectic piano player." The *Chicago Tribune* describes him as "the complete entertainer...the quintessential cabaret singer-pianist." His one-man shows *I Won't Dance—the songs of Fred Astaire*, *An Evening with Tom Lehrer*, and *It's D'Lovely—the Many Loves of Cole Porter* sell out. Bob is a founding member of the Chicago Cabaret Professionals, 2009 recipient of the CCP Lifetime Achievement Award, and 2007 recipient of the *After Dark* "Outstanding Cabaret Artist" award.

DON HOFFMAN is a practicing oral surgeon who has always found solace in singing. Don has participated in various singing groups since childhood, studies voice with Mary Ann Beatty. When not sculpting in clay, he gets great satisfaction interpreting the rhythms and lyrics of the American Songbook. He has sung in several SongShop productions, and at Davenport's for CCP's *Strut Your Stuff*.

LYNDA GORDON studied theater at Northwestern, graduated with a BA in Education from U of M and then received an MBA from Loyola. Before returning to her first love—the Stage---she enjoyed being a parent, a travel consultant and a fundraiser for the Children's Research Foundation. Since 2012, she has appeared in several SongShop Live concerts including her solo set *Love Notes—a Musical Memoir*. Lynda has sung in Rotary Club productions at the Polo Café, and in the CCP's *Strut Your Stuff* and *Merry Measures* at Davenport's. In October 2015, she debuted her cabaret show *Strangers in the Night*, accompanied by Bob Moreen at Piano Forte. Her most cherished role is starring as Gramma Lynda when she sings with her grandchildren Louisa and James!

RAHEAL HANNA is delighted to be making her Songshop début. She began classical studies at age eighteen at the Sherwood Conservatory, then vocal studies at South Suburban College with Dr. Betty Kirk and the late Dr. Dimpna Clarin. Earning her BA in 2003, she returned to Chicago, fronting several bands of various genres. After a hiatus, she is again pursuing a singing career, inspired by the insights of a close friend to whom she will always be grateful. Raheal is a member of the Edgewater Singers ensemble, is studying vocal jazz at Northeastern Illinois University with professor Mayo Tiana. Her performance is dedicated to those with dreams and the courage to dust them off and begin again.

RUTH FUERST: Our very own Dr Ruth, is a psychotherapist by day. By night, she dispenses her wisdom on stage. Along with Carol Weston and Arlene Armstrong, Ruth created and appeared in *Life is...* and *Thank You for the Music*, initially at Davenport's, and now performed at senior centers around Chicagoland. Ruth has appeared in several Rotary International Cabarets and Songshop shows at Cyrano's, the Jazz Showcase, etc. She debuted at Davenport's in April 2015 her first solo show *Wake Up and Dream*, under the music direction of Bob Moreen, and is working on a second one—*TMI: The Story of My Life*— also with Bob Moreen, to premier at Davenport's on October 8, 2016. (TMI means Too Much Information...of which this may be one example.)

SUE SUSMAN started singing and playing the ukelele at age eight, performed at camp and had fun. At ten, she learned to play the guitar and performed folk songs whenever she had the chance. In high school, she joined the chorus, and performed the Handel's *Messiah* and other classical and non-classical pieces. She has studied voice with Louise Cloutier. She has sung at Cyrano's, the Jazz Showcase, Buddy Guy's Legends, the Beat Kitchen and the Abbey and added Café Universel in Paris when she joined the Singers Jazz Workshop in 2014. She studies voice with David Edelfelt.

