

SONGSHOP LIVE offers a Valentine Potpourri
Saturday, February 16, 2019 ~ DePaul School of Music Recital Hall

VIVIAN BECKFORD

It's A Grand Night For Singing Richard Rogers & Oscar Hammerstein II
(*State Fair*)

BETH HALEVY

Make Someone Happy Julie Styne, Betty Comden & Adolph Green
Ma, He's Making Eyes At Me Con Conrad & Sidney Clare
You and I Leslie Bricusse

DAVID STEPHENS

Arthur's Theme Burt Bacharach, Carole Bayer Sager,
Christopher Cross and Peter Allen
Them There Eyes William Tracey, Maceo Pinkard & Doris Tauber
Chances Are Robert Allen & Al Stillman

CLAUDIA HOMMEL & PHILIP SEWARD

Promiscuity Samuel Barber & 9th century monk

VIVIAN

What Only Love Can See Christopher Curtis (*Chaplin*)

DREW FASE

My Foolish Heart Victor Young & Ned Washington
Love Like Ours Dave Grusin, Alan & Marilyn Bergman
Valentine's Day James Taylor

CLAUDIA

Valentine to Sherwood Anderson William Flanagan & Gertrude Stein

EVELYN DANNER

The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face Ewan MacColl
My Funny Valentine Richard Rodgers & Lorenz Hart (*Babes in Arms*)
That Old Devil Moon Burton Lane & E.Y. Harburg (*Finian's Rainbow*)

PHILIP

Can I Turn Back Her Heart/Elusive Love Philip Seward & Denise Blank

ELISABETH HOWARD

Love Won't Let Me Wait Vinnie Barrett and Bobby Eli
He Touched Me Milton Schafer & Ira Levin

CLAUDIA

Forbidden Fruit Jerry Bock & Sheldon Harnick

VIVIAN

If I Loved You Richard Rogers & Oscar Hammerstein II
(*Carousel*)

CLAUDIA & PHILIP

You're the One John Farrar

ABOUT OUR PERFORMERS

BETH HALEVY studied voice and acting in New York; performed in regional theatres in Alabama, Chicago, and New York, including leading roles in *The Boyfriend*, *Company*, *Oklahoma*, *Once upon a Mattress*, and *There's a Girl in My Soup*. Beth took a break from the theatre to pursue a career in law, and has now returned to her first love, performing. When not singing, Beth teaches English as a Foreign Language, spends time with friends and family, and explores foreign places.

DAVID M. STEPHENS. After 35 years of being magician and circus clown, David is transitioning to the art of singing. He specializes in jazz/pop/r&b songs and has performed at showcases and open mics around Chicagoland. Come see his debut solo show *The Times of My Life* on March 24 at Davenport's.

DREW FASE has been playing piano since he was six, and performs as wedding musician, church organist, keyboardist for rock and blues bands, and solo artist. For over 20 years Drew has been playing with the 17-piece big band Glen Ellyn Jazz Ensemble which he took over directing in 2004. The GEJE performs in the Glen Ellyn parks during the summer. He also attends Tritone Jazz Camp in Door County at the keys and vocal mic. He continues this practice at open mics around town, *Opportunity Knocks* at Davenport's. He debuted with SongShop in our Mother's Day 2018 concert at PianoForte. His CD *Tonight the Moon Belongs to You* is available at today's concert.

ELISABETH HOWARD is recognized as a pioneer in the pedagogy of Contemporary Commercial Music (CCM), author of the *Teacher's Vocal Power Method Toolkit* and the *Singer's Toolkit* and featured in the National Association of Teachers of Singing publication, *So You Want to Sing Contemporary Commercial Music*, as well as *Training Contemporary Commercial Singers*, published by Compton. A graduate of the Juilliard School with Bachelors and Master's degrees in voice. Founder of the Vocal Power Academy in Los Angeles, she has presented Vocal Power workshops in 11 countries and has certified Vocal Power Trainers on 3 continents. Clients include Paige O'Hara (the voice of Belle in the animated *Beauty and the Beast*), Lionel Richie, The Police, Priscilla Presley and warm-up coach for Sting at the Grammys. Her clients have been on Broadway, national tours, *American Idol*, 10 winners on *Star Search* and *America's Got Talent*. Elisabeth has performed leads in 25 musicals and operas. Her Cabaret act *Op'ra to Pop'ra* was touted by Los Angeles *Music Connection Magazine* as "a talent to be reckoned with." She won the National title, "MS Senior America, 2012." Welcome to Chicagoland! www.vocalpoweracademy.com

EVELYN DANNER. Vocalist/actor/wardrobe mistress/teacher: costumer at the Goodman by day, professional performer by night. Evelyn has been with Chicago's Black Ensemble Theater for more than 25 years, singing, dancing, acting and most recently Miraculous Wardrobe Mistress. With more than 20 musical productions to her credit, Ms. Danner has portrayed the legendary jazz great Ella Fitzgerald in four different productions. Ms. Danner serves in the music ministry of her home church, Covenant Faith Church of God and is a member of Choral Thunder Vocal Ensemble.

VIVIAN BECKFORD is a native of Queens, NY. After graduating from Hunter College with an RN and BS degree, she began her professional life as a nurse. Later, she transitioned into elementary school teaching in the Public School System of New York City for 35 years. She began her formal music training at Singers Forum, then Mannes and The New School of Music, performing arias in opera scenes of Handel's *Orlando*, Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro* and *La Clemenza Di Tito*, Menotti's *The Old Woman and The Thief*. In choral groups, including University of Chicago chorus, she sings Handel's *Messiah*, Brahms' *German Requiem* and solos in Vivaldi's *Gloria*. Spirituals are very much a part of her repertoire. Vivian has enjoyed several years with SongShop.

CLAUDIA HOMMEL. Born in Paris, raised in Detroit, and seasoned in New York, Claudia moved to Chicago to “do the work.” A favorite from the Cabaret Lapin Agile in Paris to Cliff Dwellers Chicago, Claudia specializes in international classical and theatre songs, *chanson* to American Songbook. Projects include *Vocal Canvas* concerts for museums and arts center, the crossover *Jazz Fauré Project*; master classes in song interpretation, and French-based school programs. Claudia invites her fans to join her for Cabaret InTourludes to France. She is a member of the actors’ unions and is on faculty at the DePaul School of Music Community Music Division. Under the Maison Clobert rubric, she has recorded five CDs and the *Vocal Canvas* film. She is proud to have founded the Chicago Cabaret Professionals (CCP) and SongShop with so many like-minded performers. She serves as Executive Director for the not-for-profit performing arts alliance, **Working in Concert**. www.cabaret-paree.com

PHILIP SEWARD, composer, singer, pianist, choral director, is an active performer in Chicago cabaret and theatre. Some of his favorite roles include John Jasper in *Drood*, Cable in *South Pacific*, Harry in *Flora, the Red Menace*, Lysander in *Midsummer Night’s Dream*, and the Prince in Rodgers & Hammerstein’s *Cinderella*. He has appeared at Court Theatre, Drury Lane Oakbrook, Illinois Theatre Center, Theatre Building Chicago, Athenaeum Theatre, Circle Theatre, the Chicago Humanities Festival and Light Opera Works. His New York credits include Merkin Hall and the Kaye Playhouse. He has also appeared in the Edinburgh Fringe and on tours in the US and Europe. His own award winning works as a composer/songwriter have been performed in Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, and in Europe. He is a co-creator and actor in the musical web series *Atonality* which may be seen on YouTube. To listen to his music—or purchase a CD—visit iTunes or philipseward.com.

Follow our SONGSHOP singers for more!
(songshoplive.com/events)

- Friday, March 8** — Celebrating International Women’s Day with **Christine Steyer** and guitarist Brandon Acker, at Hunter’s Restaurant in Elmwood Park.
- Sunday, March 24** — **David M. Stephens’** solo début “The Times of My Life” at Davenport’s at 7 PM
- Sunday, May 5** — **The SongShop annual gala** is “**Over the Sun and the Moon**”. Venue to be determined.
- September 12-22** — Join the **Cabaret Connexion Tour de France!**
www.cabaretconnexion.org

SPECIAL THANKS to our audience, and to:

Susanne Baker, director of DePaul University School of Music, Community Music Division where SongShop is home.
Additional SongShop pianists & coaches: **Bob Moreen, Bobby Schiff, Elizabeth Doyle, Mark Burnell, Phil Caldwell, and Wydetta Carter.**
Your tax-deductible donations provide tuition assistance to singers on limited income to continue their professional development; payable to **Working in Concert**, our 501(c)3 organization. **THANK YOU!**
Do you have a piano at home? Consider becoming a host for a future SongShop salon concert! Talk with us after the show.



**SongShop wants you
to be our Valentine**

Saturday, February 16, 2019

Performed by Beth HALEVY, Claudia HOMMEL,
David M. STEPHENS, Drew FASE, Elisabeth HOWARD,
Evelyn DANNER, Philip SEWARD, Vivian BECKFORD

Directed by Claudia HOMMEL and Philip SEWARD

Claudia Hommel’s award-winning **SongShop** is an ongoing workshop in song interpretation, offering theatre and music students, novices and professionals, the opportunity to strengthen and deepen how they approach, interpret, and communicate meaning in a song.

It’s your turn! SongShop is **open to all singers** and takes place Tuesday evenings at the DePaul School of Music and many Saturday afternoons in Hyde Park. **Find yourself in song** at a place that feels like home.

www.songshoplive.com