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THE JAZZ TOUR AND SINGERS' WORKSHOP June 3 – June 10, 2014

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American-born, Parisienne since 2001, U.S. Cultural Ambassador to Africa. Master's in Jazz Pedagogy from Northwestern Univ. Founder of Jazz Vocal Academy & Arts Embassy International in Paris.



Claudia Hommel

A favorite from Art Institute of Chicago to Musée de Montmartre, Paris born, Chicago-based performer is the co-founder of Chicago Cabaret Professionals and founder/director of SongShop Live.



Maja Savić

Croatian born. Trained in Europe, performing with prominent jazz musician Zé Eduardo in Portugal. Founder JAZZart, the Association for Promoting Jazz Music and Culture. Teaches at Mikrofon Star School in Zagreb.

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SongShop Live
presents

Take the Ride of Your Life



Friday, April 25th
from 7:30pm - 9:30pm
at PianoForte Studios



Saturday, April 26th
from 7:00pm - 9:00pm
at The Venue at Daystar

www.songshoplive.com

Take the Ride of Your Life, Part One

Friday, April 25, 2014

Directed by Claudia Hommel
and pianist Philip Seward

Amy Lechelt-Basta, Arlene Armstrong, Carrie Hedges, Daniel Johnson, Jeff McGowan,
Jo Rainey, Leona Zions, Lynda Gordon, Patricia Salinski, Ruth Fuerst, & Vivian Beckford

Jeff	Magic to Do	Stephen Schwartz (from <i>Pippin</i>)
Dan	In Your Custom-Made RV	Gus Edwards & Daniel Johnson
Ruth	Welcome to Holiday Inn	Cy Coleman & Dorothy Fields
Patricia	Isle of Hope, Isle of Tears	Brendan Graham
Lynda	What More Do I Need	Stephen Sondheim (from <i>Saturday Night</i>)
Arlene	Detour Ahead	Johnny Frigo
Leona	Sentimental Journey	Bud Green, Les Brown & Ben Homer
Amy	Allez-Vous-En Ne me quitte pas	Cole Porter Jacques Brel, Arnie Johnston
Vivian	My Man's Gone Now	George Gershwin
Jo	Follow Me	John Denver
Dan	Big Rock Candy Mountain	Harry McClintock, as performed by Burl Ives & Pete Seeger
Carrie	You Came a Long Way from St. Louis	John Benson Brooks & Bob Russell
Patricia	Lies of Handsome Men	Francesca Blumenthal
Amy	Just One of Those Things	Cole Porter
Arlene	Destination Moon	Roy Alfred & Marvin Fisher
Jeff	In the Wee Small Hours	Bob Hilliard & David Mann
Lynda	On My Way to You	Michel LeGrand, Alan & Marilyn Bergman
Ruth	Good Thing He Can't Read My Mind	Christine Lavin
Carrie	You Belong to Me	Pee Wee King, Chilton Price & Redd Stewart
Leona	Where Do You Start	Johnny Mendel, Alan & Marilyn Bergman
Jo & Philip	Move On	Stephen Sondheim (<i>Sunday in the Park with George</i>)
Vivian	I Could Have Danced All Night	Alan Jay Lerner & Frederick Loewe

Thank You for the Music



RUTH FUERST, ARLENE ARMSTRONG, CAROL WESTON

RUTH FUERST, ARLENE ARMSTRONG, CAROL WESTON with NICK SULA, Music Director
Louise CLOUTIER, Artistic Consultant. Support from SONGSHOP

Friday, May 2 at 8:00 PM
DAVENPORT'S CABARET
1383 N. Milwaukee Ave

Cover: \$12 and 2 drink minimum. RSVPs strongly encouraged
Phone 773-278-1830 or www.davenportspianobar.com

SPECIAL THANKS TO

- Piano Maestro Philip Seward
- Daystar Center's Amanda Neely and staff
- PianoForte's Thomas Zoells and staff
- Assistance by Laley Lippard and Cappy Kidd.
- Additional SongShop pianists & coaches:
• Bob Moreen, Elizabeth Doyle, George
• Howe, Louise Cloutier, and Wydetta
• Carter

About SONGSHOP

- Claudia Hommel's hands-on workshop is an opportunity for theatre and music students, amateurs and professionals, to strengthen and deepen how they approach, interpret, and communicate meaning in a song. - SongShop is open to all singers and takes place Tuesday evenings at DePaul School of Music and Saturday afternoons in the South Loop.
- Find yourself in song at a place that feels like home.

www.songshoplive.com

years of musical madness with Marjorie Eliot's Parlor Entertainment in Harlem. Transplanted to Chicago and found CCP and SongShop. Venues: Davenport's for Opportunity Knocks, CCP's Holiday and *Strut Your Stuff* showcases; Cyrano's Bistrot, DePaul, the Jazz Showcase, and the Venue at Daystar. Catch Leona's solo set *Life in a Nutshell* (debuted 11/16/13) on her FaceBook page. Worth taking a look/listen!

LYNDA GORDON, After a long hiatus, this former Northwestern University theater major, alumna of the University of Michigan School of Education and graduate of the Loyola University MBA program, has returned to her first love: performing and singing. For many years, her gigs featured performances as parent, independent travel consultant, and fund raiser for the Children's Research Foundation. Most recently she appeared in SongShop Live concerts: *Flying, Something to Talk About, Life at Home*, and her solo set *Love Notes—A Musuical Memoir*. She sang in *Broadway on the Cusp* and *Broadway for the Hoi Polloi* at the Polo Cafe for the Rotary Club and at Davenport's in the CCP showcase *Strut Your Stuff*. She is on the Board of the Chicago Cabaret Professionals and stars in her role as Gramma Lynda singing with her grandchildren Louisa and James!

PATRICIA RANGER SALINSKI. Property manager, consultant and guest speaker, Patricia says, "Happy songs, sad songs..... they all make us feel and know we are alive!" She has performed at The Auditorium Theater in the chorus of *Too Hot To Handel*, Symphony Center in *Siamsa naGael*, community theater as Doris McAfee/*Bye, Bye Birdie*, *Cookie/Rumors* and *Trudy/Social Security*. She is an active member of Old St. Pat's Choir and The Irish Heritage Center. She is married to the love of her life, Theodore Salinski and is the mother of six accomplished children and "one perfect grandchild".

RON ANDERSON. After spending 25 years as a folk singer in the haunts of Princeton, Greenwich Village and Liverpool, Ron slung his guitar on his back and headed back to his native Minnesota. Somewhere

along the way he took a wrong turn and ended up in the Cabaret world of Chicago. Ron also sang barbershop for several years and earned a gold medal in international chorus competition in Nashville in 2001 with the Northbrook New Tradition chorus.

RUTH FUERST. Our very own Dr Ruth, a real live psychotherapist by day, is the keeper of a trove of very witty and sometimes wicked lyrics by her late father Jim Fuerst. By night, she's taken to dispensing her wisdom on the stage with Carol Weston and Arlene Armstrong. Their two shows *Life is...* and *Thank You for the Music* played to large and enthusiastic audiences. *Thank You for the Music* will be presented again at **Davenports on Friday May 2, at 8PM.** Ruth has also appeared several times in the Rotary International Fundraiser Annual Cabarets, CCP's *Strut Your Stuff*, Holiday cabarets, and several SongShop shows at Cyrano's, Jazz Showcase, Little Bucharest, and Daystar.

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. In 1999 Vivian began her formal music training at Singers Forum, then Mannes, The New School of Music. Since that time she has performed arias in opera scenes, such as Handel's *Orlando*, Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* and *La Clemenza Di Tito*, Menotti's *The Old Woman and The Thief* to name a few. She also sings in church choirs and choral groups performing oratorios like Handel's *Messiah*, Brahms' *German Requiem* and solos in Vivaldi's *Gloria*. Spirituals are very much a part of her repertoire. Vivian studies voice with Bruce Tammen and is a member of the University of Chicago chorus.

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**visit SONGSHOPLIVE.COM
or call 773-509-9360 to join us.**

Take the Ride of Your Life, Part Two

Saturday, April 26th, 2014

**Directed by Claudia Hommel
and pianist Philip Seward**

Adrienne Minnes, Beth Halevy, Carmen Bodino, Claudia Hommel,
Don Hoffman, Jim Anderson, Kirsten Belzer, & Ron Anderson

Ron	Take Me Home, Country Road	John Denver
Claudia	Mon manège à moi	Noël Glanzberg & Jean Constantin
Don	Bless the Broken Road	Marcus Hummon, Bobby Boyd and Jeff Hanna
Adrienne	Killing Me Softly with his Song	Charles Fox & Norman Gimbel
Carmen	The Duck and the Kangaroo	Edward Lear & Elton Hayes
Beth	Time Heals Everything	Jerry Herman (from <i>Mack and Mabel</i>)
Kirsten	Fast Car	Tracy Chapman
Ron	Long and Winding Road	Lennon & McCartney
Carmen	Detour Ahead	Johnny Frigo, with help by Herb Ellis & Lou Carter
Adrienne	Too Close for Comfort	Jerry Bock, Larry Holofcener & George Weiss
Beth	I'm Flying	Carolyn Leigh & Mark Charlap (from <i>Peter Pan</i>)
Jim	Paris through the Window	Edward Kleban & Glenn Slater
Claudia	Cabdriver's Nightmare	Joseph Kosma & Jacques Prévert, adapted by C. Hommel
Don	The Secret of Life	James Taylor
Kirsten	Look	Beth Nielsen Chapman and Andy Bey
Jim	You Can't Take the Color Out of Colorado	Dick Gallagher & Mark Waldrop
All	<i>Reprise of Country Roads</i>	John Denver

OUR PERFORMERS

CLAUDIA HOMMEL. Singer, actor and coach. Born in Paris, raised in Detroit, and seasoned in New York, Claudia moved to Chicago to “do the work”. She is proud to have founded the Chicago Cabaret Professionals and SongShop with so many like-minded performers. Member of the SAG-AFTRA and Actors’ Equity, on faculty at the DePaul School of Music Community Music Division, she tours nationally and to France with her concerts and masterclasses. Claudia invites you to join Keri Christ, Maja Savić of Croatia, and herself for a Jazz Tour & Singers Workshop in Paris, June 2014! Visit her website cabaret-paree.com.

PHILIP SEWARD has been playing the piano since a small child, joining the cabaret, music theatre, and opera stages as he got older. He has been known to sing a mix of standards and original works in the most intimate of settings. His short opera, *How To Date A Coloratura* was named a finalist in the National Opera Association chamber opera competition and Light Opera Works Second Stage recently premiered his one-act opera *Eve*. To listen to his music or purchase a CD, visit iTunes or philipseward.com.

ADRIENNE MINNES. Teacher by day at Amundsen High School, soulful singer by night, Adrienne’s performances include multiple solo appearances at Northeastern University Black History Month celebration and several SongShop concerts.

AMY LEHELST-BASTA, aka Amy Fabulous, is happy to share the stage again with SongShop! In her much younger ingenue-years, some of her fav roles included, *Morales/A Chorus Line*, *Nancy/Oliver*, and *Cinderella* with the Second City Children’s Theater. Her most coveted current role is that of Grandma! In addition, AF continues to do some acting in industrial films, produces/commentates fashion shows, personal wardrobe styling, and various other musings. Amy has performed at Cyrano’s, Davenports, Jazz Showcase and The Venue at 1550. Mark your calendars for her October 16th cabaret show, *C’est si Bon*, at Davenports!

ARLENE ARMSTRONG. Actor-Director-Musician. A multi-hyphenate before she was out of grade school. As a kid, she was putting on shows in her basement and inviting the neighbors. “I auditioned all the acts, directed, wrote the shows and built the sets.” She lists Mahalia Jackson and Karen Carpenter as influences. She performed her one-woman show *Just a Girl and a Piano* at the Harold Washington Library Center and has shared the stage with Ruth Fuerst and Carol Weston in *Life is...Snapshots in Song* and *Thank You For The Music* at Davenport’s Cabaret. She has appeared in the Chicago Cabaret Professionals Holiday Cabaret, Opportunity Knocks and *Strut Your Stuff* showcases and SongShop Live concerts at the legendary Jazz Showcase, Cyrano’s and Daystar. She is a member of the Chicago Cabaret Professionals.

BETH HALEVY. After working as a corporate attorney and an attorney for the Chicago Public Schools, Beth has returned to her first love—performing. She enjoys doing cabaret because its intimacy lets her develop a link with her audience; and she loves the nurturing atmosphere of SongShop and the interpretive insights and encouragement provided by Claudia Hommel and the other members of the group. When she isn’t singing, Beth teaches English as a Foreign Language, spends time with friends and family, and travels to foreign places (another love).

CARMEN BODINO. Making a difference is what keeps Carmen going. Her musical path flows from The Blessed Sacrament Choir in Manila to Bach in St Louis, Chicago’s Community Renewal Chorus concerts/tours in the Midwest states and socialist countries, The Lofradez Chorale, Holy Name Cathedral Filipino Singers and The Women Schola; member, Chicago Cabaret Professionals; performed at Cyrano’s, DePaul University and Daystar. She made her solo debut with *Here’s To Life* at Davenport’s September 2013.

CARRIE HEDGES retired from her position as a Staff Attorney with the U.S. District Court and joined SongShop in September 2010. Since then, she has appeared in SongShop shows at Cyrano’s Bistrot, the Jazz Showcase, and Daystar Center. Carrie made her debut at

Davenport’s Piano Bar and Cabaret in the Chicago Cabaret Professional’s 2011 Holiday Cabaret. She performed in the Rotary Near South’s benefits *Broadway on the Cusp!* in 2013 and in *Broadway for the Hoi Polloi* earlier this April. In November 2013, Carrie performed her one-woman show, *Songs in the Key of Oz*, at Daystar Center. She also sings in the University of Chicago Chorus. Carrie is President of the International Wizard of Oz Club and serves on the Board of the Chicago Children’s Choir.

DANIEL JOHNSON is a bi-coastal regional theatre actor recently relocated to Chicago. Trained professionally at the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, he performed on the West Coast and on tour before a stint of nearly two decades based in New York City. His musical roles include Franklin in *1776*, Mooney in *Anything Goes* and Charles in *Pippin*. He toured nationally with John Davidson in *The Music Man* and debuted off-Broadway as the comic lead in the 1988 revival of Cole Porter’s *Leave It To Me*. He just completed his third season singing his own Christmas Cabaret: *Santa Songs*. <http://songsfortheseason.wordpress.com/santa-songs/he>

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, and has recently found a great deal of satisfaction in the cabaret venue. Interpretation of the rhythms and lyrics of The American Songbook is quite challenging but most gratifying.

JEFF MCGOWAN has been in the sales/culinary industry for over 16 years, currently for Kraft Foods. He’s performed with the Southern University A&M Chorus and Male Ensemble under the direction of Charles Lloyd, Jr. His passion for music and theater started as a young child when listening and observing his mom Adrienne Minnes singing and performing in the play *Godspell*.

JIM ANDERSON. With a transistor radio tucked under his pillow, Jim often fell asleep listening to Chicago DJ’s “play the hits,”

despite his mother’s efforts to turn him on to the Great American Songbook. He fell under a spell—cast by Claudia Hommel, and her cabaret cadre of SongShoppers. Turns out that Jim really does love standards. Away from the office, he sings with the DePaul University Community Chorus and has appeared in SongShop shows at Cyrano’s, Jazz Showcase, Little Bucharest, and Daystar Center. Jim performed most recently with Jo Rainey at Davenport’s in *Taking A Chance on Love*, and with John Bucchino at Stage 773.

JO RAINEY is the stage name of Joanne Pakieser, packaging expert by day, Diva by night and world traveler whenever she can. A classically-trained musician who also grew up singing to Peggy Lee, Motown and Rock n Roll, Jo loves the cabaret repertoire for the eclectic story-telling mix that allows her to draw from all of her musical loves. She recently performed with Jim Anderson in *Taking a Chance on Love* at Davenport’s Cabaret, and with Philip Seward in *A Weekend in the Country with Sondheim* at the Daystar Center. A member of the Chicago Cabaret Professionals, Jo has performed at Little Bucharest, Cyrano’s Bistrot, the Underground Wonder Bar, the Polo Café, Old Town School of Folk Music and the Jazz Showcase. You can also see her perform Balinese gamelan around the country with the Indonesian Dance of Illinois.

KIRSTEN BELZER. After years of classical singing, Kirsten wants to liven things up and begin cabaret. When she’s not singing, she spends her time as a psychotherapist in the Loop and Hyde Park. Kirsten has been a soloist and member of the Chicago Chorale, Northwestern University Chorale, and has sung with the Grant Park Symphony Chorus and the *Too Hot to Handel Messiah* Chorus.

LEONA ZIONS. First gig happens at 3½ years of age singing “You Must have been a Beautiful Baby” on Horn & Hardart’s radio show! Six years of Glee Club led by Yip Harburg’s pal Charlotte Hochman; seat-mate was mezzo soprano Martina Arroya ... I got the solos, she got the career. Marriage, children and leads in regional *Pajama Game* and *Girl Crazy*. Directed/choreographed *Bye, Bye Birdie* in the Catskills, shades of “Dirty Dancing”. Eight