

productions of *Les Dames à trios...et piano* at the Kaye Playhouse in New York City and the Stages Festival in Chicago; *High Fidelity* at Merkin Hall in New York City and the Chicago Humanities Festival; and the Jeff Award-winning *Hans Brinker*. Dr. Seward is on faculty at Columbia College. [philipseward.com](http://philipseward.com).

**RUTH FUERST:** psychotherapist by day, Ruth joined SongShop in 2012 to dispense wisdom by night. She created with Carol Weston and Arlene Armstrong, *Life is...* and *Thank You for the Music* at Davenport's and senior centers. She has appeared for Rotary International Cabarets and SongShop at the Jazz Showcase, *Cyrano's*, etc. Music directed by Bob Moreen, her first solo show was *Wake Up and Dream*, followed by *The Carousel of Time*, a 50th anniversary love song. She brought *You Gotta Be Kidding*, an unabashedly progressively partisan show, to Davenport's in 2017. With Dan Johnson, *From He and She to Me and Free: a Conversation in Song* premieres April 24 & May 3 at Davenport's.

**VIVIAN BECKFORD**, a native of Queens, NY, Viv graduated from Hunter College with an RNBS, and later transitioned from nursing to teaching elementary school in New York City public schools for 35 years. She began her formal music training in 1999 at Singers Forum, then Mannes and The New School of Music, performing opera scenes from Handel's *Orlando*, Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* and *La Clemenza Di Tito*, Menotti's *The Old Woman and the Thief*. She sings in church choirs and choral groups performing Handel's *Messiah*, Brahms' *German Requiem* and solos in Vivaldi's *Gloria*. Spirituals are very much a part of her repertoire. Vivian has sung with the University of Chicago chorus and has enjoyed several years of singing and performing with SongShop.

### About SONGSHOP

Claudia Hommel's SongShop, an ongoing weekly workshop, offers theatre and music students, novices and professionals, the opportunity to strengthen and deepen how we approach, interpret, and communicate meaning in a song. It's your turn! Join us Tuesday evenings at the DePaul School of Music and many Saturdays in Hyde Park. Call Claudia at 773.509.9360. [www.songshoplive.com](http://www.songshoplive.com)

## Chicago Cabaret Week

March 20-30, 2020  
45 shows  
[www.ChicagoCabaretWeek.org](http://www.ChicagoCabaretWeek.org)

### SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 4 PM

at the Wicker Park home of **Cathy Glickman**  
**Hello! Goodbye!** concludes with **Mark Burnell** at the piano. Featuring Lynda Gordon, Patrick Davis, Evelyn Danner, Leona Zions, with Cathy Glickman, Drew Fase, Teresa McGrath and Joyce Thomas.

### Cabaret Connexion master classes

**March 22:** Jean-Claude Orfali (direct from the Cabaret Lapin Agile)  
**March 29:** Spider Saloff, jazz for singers, with Bobby Schiff  
**April 25:** Angelina Reaux, singing styles  
**May 10:** Clotilde Rullaud (Paris) on finding Vocal Resonances  
**Early June (Date TBD):** Faith Prince

### FUTURE PERFECT—

opera to transcend the human divide— premieres June 24-28 at the Vittum Theatre in the heart of Chicago. Bellissima Opera is a project of Working In Concert.



### SPECIAL THANKS

**Susanne Baker**, director of DePaul School of Music, Community Music Division where SongShop is home  
**Ruth Fuerst**, host of our Saturday sessions and of our wonderful post-show dinner!  
Other SongShop pianists: **Elizabeth Doyle, Mark Burnell, Phil Caldwell**

Do you have a piano at home? Consider hosting a future SongShop salon concert!

Your tax-deductible donations (payable to **Working in Concert**) can be earmarked to the SongShop Scholarship Fund to provide singers with financial aid to continue their professional development and the production of our SongShop Live concerts.



## Hello! Goodbye! a series of SongShop salon concerts

The second of three  
February 9, 2020

Production by **Claudia HOMMEL**  
Music direction by **Philip SEWARD** and **Bobby SCHIFF**  
Hosted by **Ruth FUERST & Jim BLOCK**  
in Hyde Park, Chicago

Benefitting the SongShop Scholarship Fund,  
a project of Working in Concert NFP

[www.songshoplive.com](http://www.songshoplive.com)  
[www.workinginconcert.org](http://www.workinginconcert.org)



**Hello! Goodbye! – A SongShop Live Salon concert**  
**Arlene Armstrong, Carol Weston, Christian Halvorsen, Claudia Hommel, Kimberly Mann, Ruth Fuerst Vivian Beckford, and Carrie Hedges. Bobby Schiff and Philip Seward at the piano**

Ruth <i>Consider Yourself</i>	Lionel Bart ( <i>Oliver</i> )
Vivian <i>Buddy on the Nightshift</i>	Kurt Weill & Oscar Hammerstein
Kim <i>Glitter</i>	Pink, Billy Mann & Michele Mears
Christian <i>Ten Minutes Ago</i>	Richard Rodgers & Oscar Hammerstein
Arlene <i>Misty</i>	Errol Garner
Carrie <i>Shalom</i>	Jerry Herman
Carol <i>Hello Dolly!</i>	Jerry Herman
Vivian <i>Hello? Oh Margaret, it's you!</i>	Gian Carlo Menotti ( <i>The Telephone</i> )
Kim <i>Operator</i>	Jim Croce
Christian <i>Tell Me on a Sunday</i>	Andrew Lloyd Webber & Don Black
Arlene <i>One for my Baby</i>	Harold Arlen & Johnny Mercer
Vivian <i>One More Kiss</i>	Stephen Sondheim ( <i>Follies</i> )
Carol <i>Where've You Been?</i>	Jon Vezner & Don Henry
Claudia <i>Adieu</i>	Gabriel Fauré & Charles Grandmougin (English: C. Hommel)
Arlene <i>Bye Bye Blackbird</i>	Ray Henderson & Mort Dixon
Kim <i>Orpheus</i>	Sara Bareilles
Ruth <i>Some Other Time</i>	Leonard Bernstein & Betty Comden and Adolph Green ( <i>On the Town</i> )

**ABOUT OUR PERFORMERS**

**ARLENE ARMSTRONG.** Actor-Director-Musician before she was out of grade school, she “wrote the scripts, built the set, auditioned all the acts. Ever since I played the Goose That Laid the Golden Egg in a school production of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, the stage was mine.” She sang in the church choir and local gospel groups, and listened to blues and jazz with her family. Her solo shows with Bobby Schiff include *Just a Girl and a Piano*, *Jazz Bird* and *To Carmen, with Love* (a tribute to Carmen McRae). With Ruth Fuerst and Carol Weston, she has appeared in *Life is...Snapshots in Song* and *Thank You for the Music*. A member of Chicago Cabaret Professionals she has performed in CCP and Midwest Cabaret Conference showcases, and in several SongShop Live concerts. Her *Dedicated to Duke: the music of Ellington* will be performed during Chicago Cabaret Week, on March 25 at PianoForte.

**BOBBY SCHIFF**, pianist, is one of the nation’s premiere arrangers and accompanists, recording and producing albums for numerous independent artists, playing with greats like Mel Torme and Peggy Lee, and leading event bands at Chicago-area venues. His CD *Late Game* includes his signature style string arrangements. He has been Music Director for the Women of Southport Jazz Festival in Chicago. Bobby is a recipient of the Dal Segno Award for his inspiring contributions to the field of music and music production, and earned the Musical Achievement Award from The Association of Professional Orchestra Leaders (APOL). As pianist, Bobby performed Gershwin’s *Rhapsody in Blue* with the Mount Prospect Community band; a concert of his arrangements of Christmas music for big band and strings at the Harris Theater; and orchestral arrangements of American classic popular songs sung by Wayne Messmer with the Park Ridge Symphony. He is a principal composer and pianist for *Jazz Passion (churchjazz.com)* and performs with violinist Daniela Bisenius a mixture of Classical Music, Jazz, Tango and Gypsy Music. [www.bobbyschiffmusic.com](http://www.bobbyschiffmusic.com)

**CAROL WESTON** sang and learned to play the piano and violin at a very young age. For many years, she’s been a troubadour with guitar in hand, playing in schools and libraries. She’s also been heard at Davenport’s, Cyrano’s, The Jazz Showcase, or playing the piano bar at the Drake Hotel or the Carlton Club at the Ritz. A founding member of the Chicago Cabaret Professionals, she has performed for its gala

opening hour, and often at Davenport’s. She performs *Life Is...* and *Thank You for the Music* with Arlene Armstrong and Ruth Fuerst, and *I’ll Take Romance* with Don Hoffman.

**CHRISTIAN HALVORSEN.** Born in Staten Island, New York, as a young person, he sang in the Children’s Choir at Our Lady Help of Christians and dabbled in accordion in his teenage years. It wasn’t until he was in his 30s that he found his voice, while working as General Manager of Gentry of Chicago. He is very fond of obscure Broadway show tunes because it’s not a solo if everybody is singing with you. He sang as a featured soloist in Philadelphia at Jack Downey’s with Bob Bush at the piano. Today is his SongShop Salon debut.

**CLAUDIA HOMMEL.** Born in Paris, raised in Detroit, and seasoned in New York, Claudia moved to Chicago to “do the work.” She specializes in international classical and theatre songs and *chanson*. Projects include *Vocal Canvas* concerts (“hear the paintings, see the songs,” with Elizabeth Doyle); the crossover *Jazz Fauré Project*; master classes in song interpretation; and French-based school programs. Claudia invites her fans to France with Cabaret InTourludes and the Cabaret Connexion. Member of the actors’ unions and on faculty at the DePaul School of Music Community Music Division. Her Maison Clobert label has recorded five CDs and the *Vocal Canvas* film. She is proud to have founded the Chicago Cabaret Professionals, SongShop, and the Chicago Paris Cabaret Connexion with so many like-minded performers. She serves as Executive Director of Working in Concert. [workinginconcert.org](http://workinginconcert.org)

**DR. KIMBERLY MANN** spends her days supporting infants and toddlers that become involved in the child welfare system. Several years ago, a desire to achieve better work/life balance led her to explore voice classes through the Beverly Arts Center, and now studies with Greta Pope. Kim has been involved in choirs since her days as an undergraduate at the University of Illinois in Urbana. She joined SongShop in 2015. This is her fourth performance with SongShop and there’s no looking back.

**PHILIP SEWARD** has worked internationally as composer, conductor, pianist, tenor and teacher. His short opera, *How To Date A Coloratura* was named a finalist in the National Opera Association chamber opera competition. Light Opera Works Second Stage premiered his one-act *Eve*. Other compositions include