to Klezmer, Finnish to French, Broadway to Swing, Tango to Ragtime. She has directed children's theatre, composed dance tunes and original show music, and toured with an American Drama Group production in Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Switzerland and Austria. She accompanies ballet classes (on piano) at the Joffrey and Lou Conte studios

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 to his native Minnesota. Along the way he took a turn and ended up in the Cabaret world of Chicago. Ron also sang barbershop for several years, earning a gold medal in international chorus competition in Nashville in 2001 with the Northbrook New Tradition chorus. The folk scene and barbershop world prepared Ron for "Cabaret". He has brought rousing tributes to Johnny Cash and John Denver to the audience at Davenport's

SHARON WALTHAM, usually known as Miss Sharon when she's singing jazz and blues onstage, was born in Chicago. She's been the featured vocalist in several of trumpeter Yves François' bands performing live and can be heard on all his Delmark Records compact discs to date. She became an ensemble member at Prop Theatr in 2012. Co produced performed and contributed original songs and sketches for the annual Catzilla benefit shows for Harmony House cat shelter. A co-founding member of the musical group Improper Behavior. Currently a board member at Labrynth Arts Collective. She is just wild about a certain cat Daddy and lives with him and four and sometimes more cats near Albany Park.

#### **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 online to work on Song Text/Subtext/Context. Call Claudia at 773.509.9360. www.songshoplive.com

# WORKING IN CONCERT A performing arts collaboration Delivering songs and stories Up close and personal.

A not-for-profit performing arts incubator, facilitator, and connector for collaborative projects embracing musical genres—cabaret, opera and classical vocal arts, theatrical and popular song.

Our goal is to reflect on stage and "in the house" the great diversity of Chicago's population and the paths that bring us together.

### Coming in 2021:

**FUTURE PERFECT**—a full-length opera follows a young girl Miranette's journey to discover the world beyond her enclosed and fearful community—premieres June 2021 at the Vittum Theater

**ON CALL-COVID**—a virtual online performance in Spring 2021. *On Call* is a short story of 6 pandemic healthcare workers sharing a Zoom call Theater

CHICAGO PARIS CABARET CONNEXION—4<sup>th</sup> international conference, Chicago, August 23-26, 2021

CHICAGO CABARET WEEK-end

street fest, August 27-29, 2021

# **SPECIAL THANKS**

**Susanne Baker**, director of DePaul School of Music, Community Music Division where SongShop is home
Other SongShop pianists: **Bobby Schiff, Mark** 

Other SongShop pianists: Bobby Schiff, Mar Burnell, Phil Caldwell, Philip Seward

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 third of three August 29, 2020

Production by Claudia HOMMEL
Music direction by Elizabeth DOYLE
Hosted by Claudia Hommel & Cappy Kidd
in Albany Park, Chicago

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

www.songshoplive.com www.workinginconcert.org





Hello! Goodbye! -- A SongShop Live garden concert Barb Smith, Christian Halvorsen, Claudia Hommel, Evelyn Danner, Ron Anderson, and Sharon Waltham. Elizabeth Doyle at the keyboard. Special guests Kamran Al Kareem and Patricia Spaeth

Claudia

**Bonjour Paris** Roger Edens... (Funny Face)

Ron

All of Me John Stephens & Toby Gad

**Roadkill Café** Ron Anderson

Sharon

We've Only Just Begun Paul Williams & Roger Nichols

It's Gonna Take Some Time Carole King & Toni Stern

For All We Know Fred Karlin, Robb Wilson & Arthur James

Kamran's solo

Christian

Never Never Land Richard Rodgers & Oscar Hammerstein

Good Thing Going Stephen Sondheim

Old Friend Gretchen Cryer & Nancy Ford

Kamran's solo

Evelyn

**Good Morning Heartache** Ervin Drake, Dan Fisher, Irene

Higginbotham

Who What When Where Why Ask a Woman Who Knows Rupert Holmes Victor Abrams

Claudia

Les Champs-Elysées Mike Deighan, Mike Wilsh, Pierre Delanoe

(English: P. Spaeth)

Barb

Beautiful City Stephen Schwartz (Godspell)

Walls Tom Petty

Accentuate the Positive Harold Arlen & Johnny Mercer

## **ABOUT OUR PERFORMERS**

BARBARA SMITH's repertoire includes jazz, blues, folk music and cabaret. She has performed at Davenport's, Underground Wonder Bar, Rosa's Lounge, Chief O'Neill's and the Cliff Dwellers Club, and was the winner of the 2018 Skokie Idol Contest. She participated in the Singers Jazz Workshops in 2014 and 2015 in Paris; participated in the first Chicago Paris Cabaret Connexion in 2017, and has been an active volunteer organizer of the Cabaret Connexion ever since. She serves on the board of Working In Concert as a facilitator and communicator.

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. This afternoon is his second SongShop concert.

**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 (with Elizabeth Doyle) for museums and arts centers; 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. Under the Maison Clobert label, she 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

ELIZABETH DOYLE, singer, pianist, lyricist, composer, has performed across the United States and Europe. Her musicals have been widely produced, most recently, Sleepy Hollow this year in California and Burnham's Dream last June in Chicago. Dank Haus in

Chicago has presented her acclaimed solo German shows. She regularly sings and plays with music historian Charles Troy, dramatic book reviewer Jenny Riddle, singer-songwriter Megon McDonough and Parisian chanteuse Claudia Hommel. Elizabeth was a featured guest on the late Marian McPartland's NPR program Piano Jazz and her compositions have been heard on BBC and Dutch radio. New York engagements have included the Metropolitan Room and ASCAP new music showcases. Recent 2019 performances include the Elkhart Jazz Festival with Charles Troy and David Edelfelt, the September Cabaret Connexion Tour de France, the Bart Howard Foundation songwriting workshop and concert in Iowa and Café Sabarsky in NYC with Claudia Hommel. Her two CDs, Elizabeth Doyle and Time Flies are available at cdbaby.com and iTunes. For sheet music and more info: www. elizabethdoylemusic.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. She serves in the music ministry of her home church, Covenant Faith Church of God and is a member of Choral Thunder Vocal Ensemble.

KAMRAN AL KAREEM is a 24 year old Chicago-born and -raised entertainer, and is the only male Classical Oriental dancer from Chicago. A theatre performer for 15 years, he has been dancing and hosting shows professionally for the last 6 years, studying under high-heels pioneer Yanis Marshall, and under Chicago bellydance legends Surayah al Muddaris and Vanessa Oliveira, and with various teachers at Hubbard Street and Gus Giordano schools. Out of his home, Kamran also produces and arranges studio music, and performs A Capella Vocal Live Looping. You can catch Kamran dancing at The Darling Lounge, or as part of Mysteriosa Variety Show every Saturday Night at Alhambra Palace in Chicago.

PATRICIA SPAETH, accordionist, pianist and more, comes to Chicago via Seattle and points between. She plays an encyclopedic array of styles on accordion from Contradance