

OUR PERFORMERS

Ruth Fuerst. Psychotherapist by day, Ruth dispenses wisdom as a cabaret singer by night. Her solo shows include *Stories, Standards and Shtic* and her upcoming *Quirky*.

Christian Halvorsen. Having sung in Staten Island's Children's Choir at Our Lady Help of Christians, he found his own voice while managing the Gentry of Chicago. He favors obscure Broadway tunes because it's not a solo if everybody is singing with you.

Carrie Hedges joined SongShop upon her retirement as Staff Attorney for the US District Court. Past president of the International Wizard of Oz Club, she offers solo shows inspired by the books of Wizard of Oz, songwriters Arlen & Harburg, Rodgers & Hart and more.

Claudia Hommel, singer-actor, is co-founder of Chicago Cabaret Professionals, SongShop, Cabaret Connexion, and the performing arts alliance Working In Concert. She was awarded the *Médaille d'or* for francophone values by the Renaissance Française In 2024.

Daniel Johnson. From West Coast to New York 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 comic lead in 1988 Cole Porter's *Leave It to Me*.

Staci Kelley, singer, actress, director has performed in and directed several productions in the Chicago area. A longstanding member of CCP, she brought her duo show *A Walk through Love* to Davenport's in 2006 and performs for Working In Concert and Opportunity Knocks.

Lauren Lassen grew up performing and producing musicals at home with her older brother and singing in choir. She moved to Chicago to pursue a future on stage. She can be seen in *Purim Shpiel* at Ezra-Habonim in Skokie, music directed by Howie Pfeifer, in early March.

Cristina Marinescu, since moving to Chicago, has been immersed in its eclectic musical scene, embracing Parisian cabaret, Chicago-style jazz, and Bucharest interbellum vaudeville.

Patricia Mosley. From church choir, the a cappella Choral Thunder and the Lakeside Singers, Pat soloed as jazz singer with Bradley Williams's 21st Century Review Orchestra touring Jerusalem Jazz Festival and India. To add to her international career, she also soloed in Dubai.

Howard Pfeifer has worked in Chicago and LA as pianist, composer, arranger, and musical director with an extensive roster from Patti LaBelle to *Hamilton*.

Robin Simon making her cabaret debut Robin has been a choral singer for 50 years and sung with *Too Hot to Handel* (the jazz & gospel-version *Messiah*) since 2008. She sang in a 5-person a cappella/doo wop group in the early 2000s.

Sue Susman has studied voice with David Edelfelt and Jackie Allen among others and performed in many group shows. A published poet, she is working on her first solo show.

Swingin' Sisters: **Carolyn Broquet**, **Tirzah Blomberg** and **Barbara Smith** may not be sisters but they really do swing. **Barbara**, winner of Skokie Idol 2018, started as a folk singer, playing guitar. She is vice-president of Working In Concert. **Carolyn** studied Doo Wop at Old Town School and has harmonized her way ever since with The Mamas and Papas Ensemble, Higher Choir, and more. **Tirzah Joy** is a singer-songwriter with a passion for harmony, creating and performing with others.

Gabriel Valentino, singer-songwriter, is cofounder of Chicago Paralegal Association and creator of social media Umami Memories: "Savoring, Story, Song, & Soul."

SongShop (the art of song interpretation) is a program of the Community Music Division of DePaul School of Music. Singers are invited to join us Tuesday evenings. SongShop Live concerts are an initiative of the nonprofit Working In Concert and help raise funds for the SongShop Scholarship Fund.

songshoplive.com
workinginconcert.org/donate

SongShop Live presents

Fresh Airs

Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 7 PM

Rockwell on the River, Chicago

Howard Pfeifer, Music Director

Claudia Hommel, Director/Producer

Swingin' Sisters	Sway	Pablo Beltran Ruiz
Patricia Mosley	<i>On the Sunny Side of the Street</i>	Jimmy McHugh & Dorothy Fields
Christian Halvorsen	<i>Count Your Blessings</i>	Irving Berlin
Ruth Fuerst	<i>Dream a Little Dream</i>	Fabian Andr, Wilbur Schwant & Gus Kahn
Robin Simon	"A" You're Adorable	Sidney Lippman, Buddy Kaye, & Fred Wise
Daniel Johnson	<i>Have You Seen the Bright Lily Grow</i>	Robert Johnson
Cristina Marinescu	<i>Don't Speak</i>	Eric & Gwen Stefani
Lauren Lassen	<i>I Have Confidence</i>	Rodgers & Hammerstein
Gabriel Valentino	<i>Dream, Miracle Blessing</i>	Gabriel Valentino
Carrie Hedges	<i>Johnny One Note</i>	R. Rodgers & L. Hart
Staci Kelly	<i>Insane</i>	Shaina Taub

INTERMISSION

Sue Susman	<i>Weekend in New England</i>	Randy Edelman
Christian Halvorsen	<i>Old Friend</i>	Gretchen Cryer & Nancy Ford
Ruth Fuerst	<i>My Husband's First Wife</i>	Jerome Kern, Irene Franklin
Daniel Johnson	<i>Greensleeves</i>	Traditional Folk Tune
Patricia Mosley	<i>Mona Lisa</i>	Jay Livingston & Ray Evans
Cristina Marinescu	<i>Sweet Gingerbread Man</i>	Michel Legrand, Alan & Marilyn Bergman
Lauren Lassen	<i>The Ladies Who Lunch</i>	Stephen Sondheim
Swingin' Sisters	<i>Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree</i>	Sam H. Stept, Lew Brown & Charlie Tobias
Staci Kelley	<i>Journey to the Past</i>	Stephen Flaherty & Lynn Ahrens
Gabriel Valentino	<i>Soul in the Morning</i>	Gabriel Valentino