

VOCAL ARTS MASTER CLASS

Isabel Leonard
(PS '98, HonDMA '21),
Classical Voice

Wednesday, January 19, 2022 | 4 PM
William R. and Irene D. Miller Recital Hall

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Djordje Nestic, Vocal Coach/Pianist

PROGRAM

JULES MASSENET
(1842–1912)

“Allez, laissez-moi seul” from *Cendrillon*

Georgina Wu, mezzo-soprano
Beijing, China
Student of Joan Patenaude-Yarnell

SAMUEL BARBER
(1910–1981)

The Desire for Hermitage from *Hermit Songs*, Op. 29

Anna Maria Vacca, mezzo-soprano
Providence, Rhode Island
Student of Catherine Malfitano

FANNY HENSEL
MENDELSSOHN
(1805–1847)

Nach Süden from 5 Lieder, Op. 10

Maia Gonzalez, soprano
Smithtown, New York
Student of Ashley Putnam

KURT WEILL
(1900–1950)

“What Good Would the Moon Be?” from *Street Scene*

Tess Levine, soprano
Birmingham, Alabama
Student of Cynthia Hoffmann

W. A. MOZART
(1756–1791)

“Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön”
from *Die Zauberflöte*

Daniel Espinal, tenor
Sarasota, Florida
Student of Shirley Close

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Isabel Leonard (PS '98, HonDMA '21), mezzo-soprano

Multiple Grammy Award-winning mezzo-soprano Isabel Leonard has graced the stages of the Vienna State Opera, Paris Opera, Salzburg Festival, Bavarian State Opera, Carnegie Hall, Glyndebourne Festival, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Aix-en-Provence Festival, Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, San Francisco Opera, Los Angeles Opera, and Santa Fe Opera in *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Rosina), *La Cenerentola* (Angelina), *Le nozze di Figaro* (Cherubino), *Così fan tutte* (Dorabella), *Don Giovanni* (Zerlina/Donna Elvira), *La clemenza di Tito* (Sesto), *Werther* (Charlotte), *Dialogues des Carmélites* (Blanche de la Force), *Griselda* (Costanza), *La bohème* (Musetta), *Giulio Cesare* (Sesto), and the title roles in *Carmen*, *La Périchole*, *Cendrillon*, *Marnie*, and *Der Rosenkavalier*.

She has appeared with the Cleveland Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Vienna Philharmonic, and San Francisco Symphony, among others. In 2021–22 she returns to the Metropolitan Opera for *Cendrillon* and *Ariadne auf Naxos* (Komponist), Washington National Opera for *Come Home: A Celebration of Return* and *Carmen*, and the Santa Fe Opera for *Carmen*. On the concert stage she returns to the National Symphony Orchestra for a 9/11 commemorative concert conducted by Giancarlo Nosedà and to the University of Connecticut for a solo recital, and makes her debut in Russia in a solo orchestral concert conducted by Marco Armiliato in the Great Hall of the Tchaikovsky Conservatory.

Isabel Leonard is a newly appointed MSM Vocal Arts faculty member.

Djordje Nestic, Vocal Coach/Pianist

Djordje Stevan Nestic's performances have been described as artful, assertive, sensitive, and quietly virtuosic. His recital, concerto, chamber, and collaborative performances, both in the U.S. and internationally, have been highlights of his career. Djordje Nestic makes an effort to promote music that addresses contemporary, social justice, and human rights issues. Upcoming and recent engagements include the Berkshire Opera Festival, Carnegie Hall in NYC, Kolarac Hall in Belgrade, the Prototype Festival in NYC, the KotorArt Festival in Montenegro, the Serbian Cultural Center in Paris, and the Caixa Cultural in Brasilia. With a group of his students from Carnegie Mellon University, he presented four concerts, including the staged premiere of the opera *Svadba* by Ana Sokolovic. Recent recordings include Marc Blitzstein's *The Cradle Will Rock* on Bridge records, Ricky Ian Gordon's *Ellen West* on Bright Shiny Things, and *Opera America Songbook*. Other venues include Lincoln Center, the United Nations General Assembly Hall, the Mann Performing Arts Center in Philadelphia, FUJI TV in Japan, the Aspen Music Festival, Tanglewood Festival, Glimmerglass Opera, Houston Grand Opera, the Greenwich Music Festival, and the Phoenicia Voice Festival. He is a citizen of both the U.S.A. and Serbia. Formerly a faculty member of Carnegie Mellon University School of Music, he currently teaches at Manhattan School of Music and SUNY Purchase Music Conservatory. www.djordjenesic.com/about

ABOUT MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Founded as a community music school by Janet Daniels Schenck in 1918, today MSM is recognized for its 985 superbly talented undergraduate and graduate students who come from more than 50 countries and nearly all 50 states; its innovative curricula and world-renowned artist-teacher faculty that includes musicians from the New York Philharmonic, the Met Orchestra, and the top ranks of the jazz and Broadway communities; and a distinguished community of accomplished, award-winning alumni working at the highest levels of the musical, educational, cultural, and professional worlds.

The School is dedicated to the personal, artistic, and intellectual development of aspiring musicians, from its Precollege students through those pursuing doctoral studies. Offering classical, jazz, and musical theatre training, MSM grants a range of undergraduate and graduate degrees. True to MSM's origins as a music school for children, the Precollege program continues to offer superior music instruction to 475 young musicians between the ages of 5 and 18. The School also serves some 2,000 New York City schoolchildren through its Arts-in-Education Program, and another 2,000 students through its critically acclaimed Distance Learning Program.

Your gift helps a young artist reach for the stars!

To enable Manhattan School of Music to continue educating and inspiring generations of talented students and audiences alike, please consider making a charitable contribution today.

Contact the Advancement Office at 917-493-4434 or visit msmnyc.edu/support

Land Acknowledgment

We want to acknowledge that we gather as Manhattan School of Music on the traditional land of the Lenape and Wappinger past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations.

This calls us to commit to continuing to learn how to be better stewards of the land we inhabit as well.

M Manhattan
School of Music