

A Memorial for Thomas Muraco

Featuring **Mary Dunleavy**, soprano,
Jill Grove, mezzo-soprano,
Raehann Bryce-Davis (MM '12, PS '13), mezzo-soprano,
Peter Winograd, violin,
William Wolfram, piano,
Joseph Li (BM '02, MM '04), piano,
James Maverick, piano,
Jeanne-Minette Cilliers, piano,
and the **American String Quartet**



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SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024 | 7:30 PM
NEIDORFF-KARPATI HALL

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PROGRAM

Welcome **James Gandre**
President, Manhattan School of Music

TRADITIONAL *Too -ra-loo-ra-loo-ral* (Irish Lullaby)
Mary Dunleavy*, soprano
Joseph Li (BM '02, MM '04), piano

Remarks **Thomas Schypior**
Partner of Tom

JERRY HERMAN
(1931–2019) *And I Was Beautiful from Dear World*
(Recorded Performance)
Jill Grove, mezzo-soprano
James Maverick, piano

JULES MASSENET
(1842–1912)

"Méditation" from *Thaïs*
Peter Winograd*, violin
William Wolfram*, piano

Remarks

Lorraine Muraco
Sister of Tom

SPIRITUAL

I Don't Feel Noways Tired
(Recorded Performance)

Raehann Bryce-Davis (MM '12, PS '13), mezzo-soprano
Jeanne-Minette Cilliers*, piano

Closing Remarks

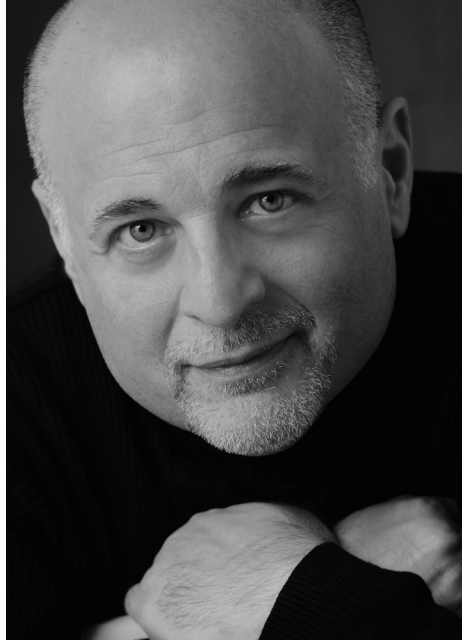
President Gandre

SAMUEL BARBER
(1910–1981)

Adagio for Strings, Op. 11
American String Quartet
Peter Winograd* and **Laurie Carney***, violin
Daniel Avshalomov*, viola
Wolfram Koessel*, cello

REMEMBERING THOMAS MURACO (1949–2024)

Described as “simply one of the finest collaborative artists before the public today” by the *Boston Globe*, Tom Muraco was known for his technical virtuosity and was praised for his interpretations of Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Chopin, Brahms, Wolf, Debussy, Rachmaninoff, and Poulenc. Among the many wonderful singers he partnered with were such greats as Adele Addison, John Aler, Martina Arroyo, Arleen Augér, John Cheek, Phyllis Curtin, Mary Dunleavy (MSM faculty), Faith Esham, Maureen Forrester, Denyce Graves, Ben Heppner, Henry Herford, Ying Huang, Sumi Jo, Susanne Mentzer,



Chris Merritt, Roberta Peters, Hermann Prey, Twyla Robinson, Jennie Tourel, and Benita Valente, as well as instrumentalists John Graham, Robert Mann, Arnold Steinhardt, Zara Nelsova, Ransom Wilson, the Shanghai String Quartet, and MSM Artists in Residence the American String Quartet.

His MSM appearances as pianist include collaborations with violist and fellow faculty member Daniel Avshalomov in the Brahms Sonata in F Minor (February 1995); soprano Olivia Gorra ('97) in works by Carlos Surinach (March 1995); bass-baritone John Cheek ('71) in Schubert's *Die Winterreise* (November 1996); fellow pianist and faculty member Warren Jones in a work by Schubert (October 1997); violinist and fellow faculty member Peter Winograd in a program of works by Beethoven, Grieg, Debussy, and Brahms (February 2000); mezzo-soprano Dolora Zajick (MM '83), who was receiving an honorary doctorate at Commencement, in an aria from Verdi's *Macbeth* (May 2002); fellow faculty members Wolfram Koessel (cello) and Mark Nuccio (clarinet) in an All-Brahms program (January 2015); and baritone Sol Jin (MM '15) at the School's May 2016 Gala. More recently, Tom performed with MSM alumnus Joo Won Kang (MM '11) at Weill Recital Hall in December 2023.

Tom was the music director and conductor for MSM Opera Repertoire Ensemble productions of such standards as *La traviata* by Verdi (February 2020 and April 2001); *Les pêcheurs de perles* by Bizet (February 2019); *Così fan tutte* by Mozart (March 2018); *La vox humaine* by Poulenc (April 2017); *Don Pasquale* by Donizetti (December 2016); *Die Entführung dem Serail* by Mozart (April 2016); *Luisa Miller* by Verdi (December 2015); *Lakmé* by Delibes (May 2015); *La bohème* by Puccini (December 2014); *Capuleti e i Montecchi* by Bellini (May 2014); *Faust* by Gounod (April 2013); *Hänsel und Gretel* by Humperdinck (December 2013); *Lucia di Lammermoor* by Donizetti (April 2012); *Falstaff* by Verdi (April 2011); *Dialogues des Carmélites* by Poulenc (May 2006); *Don Giovanni* by Mozart (May 2005); *Madama Butterfly* by Puccini (April 2004); *Die Zauberflöte* by Mozart (March 2003); and *Carmen* by Bizet (April 2002).

In 2019, for MSM's Orto Center Distance Learning program, Tom presented a voice/collaborative piano master class to students from the Conservatorium van Amsterdam (Netherlands), and in the three years following coached and conducted concerts of the Collaborative Pianists' and Singers' Seminar.

In addition to his 31 years on the faculty at MSM, Tom taught at Cleveland Institute of Music and the State University of New York at Stony Brook as well as on faculty at Dolora Zajick's Institute for Dramatic Voices. Tom presented master classes at the Aspen and Banff Music Festivals and the St. Louis Conservatory and served on the Advisory Board of the Art Song Preservation Society of New York.

Tom conducted *Lakmé* in Tel Aviv for the International Vocal Arts Institute; *La Cenerentola* with Opera San José; *Die Zauberflöte* and *Idomeneo* at Opera McGill; *Faust* at Tri-Cities Opera; and, in Siena, *Orlando* and *Suor Angelica*. Among Tom's many other accomplishments, he assisted in the preparation of performances and a recording of *La bohème* under the direction of Leonard Bernstein.

Alongside his vibrant career at MSM, Tom was a loving partner to Thomas Schypior, brother to Lorraine Muraco, uncle to many nieces and nephews, and companion to his beloved dog, Giacomo. The MSM Community is profoundly grateful for all Tom has done for the School and will cherish our memories of him. His rich and accomplished life and his legacy to opera and the art of collaborative piano remain as a source of joy and inspiration to us all.

ABOUT MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Founded as a community music school by Janet Daniels Schenck in 1918, today MSM is recognized for its more than 1,000 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 Division is a professionally oriented Saturday music program dedicated to the musical and personal growth of talented young musicians ages 5 to 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 giving.msmnyc.edu

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.



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