



Music Across the Pond presents:

Susan Parkes, soprano

Tuesday, 11 June 2024

St. Giles' Church

Masterclass Programme:

SELECTIONS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

"It was a lover and his lass" from *Five Shakespeare Songs*- Roger Quilter

Pastorale- Aaron Copland

"Silent Noon" from *The House of Life*- Ralph Vaughan Williams

"Who is Sylvia" from *Let Us Garlands Bring*- Gerald Finzi

"Heart, we will forget him" from *Twelve Poems of Emily Dickinson*- Aaron Copland

"Ah, Love! But a day" from *Three Browning Songs*- Amy Beach

The Lordly Hudson- Ned Rorem

"Desire for Hermitage" from *Hermit Songs*- Samuel Barber

"Roadside Fire" from *Songs of Travel*, Vaughan Williams

Gregory Martin, piano

ABOUT SUSAN PARKES:



Susan Parkes is an award-winning soprano who held a scholarship at Royal College of Music for both undergraduate and postgraduate opera studies continuing for a short course at National Opera Studio. She made her BBC Proms solo debut with Karl Jenkin's "Armed Man's Mass for Peace" subsequently recording with Virgin Records reaching no 1 in the classical charts. Roles include: Cleopatra, Contessa, Donna Anna, Erste Dame, Fedon, Fiordiligi, Leonore (*Fidelio*), Olga, Santuzza, Maddalena, Mimi, Micheala, Musetta and Cio Cio San to premiering newly composed opera works especially written for her voice. Venues include: Royal Opera House (Lindbury) Royal Albert Hall, Symphony Hall, Kings Place, Sadler's Wells, with companies such as Opera Holland Park, Salzburg International Festival, Classical Opera Company, Charles Court Opera, the English Opera Singers and tours in Italy, Africa and Australia. She won "Best Female Voice" at the 12th Umberto Giordano International Opera Competition held in Italy televised by Rai Due resulting in contracts with many Italian and

French opera companies. During lockdown, her solo livestream opera concert for the Royal Albert Hall "Royal Albert Home" received tens of thousands of viewers. Other sung broadcasts include BBC Radio, films (opera scene in *Mission Impossible*- with Tom Cruise fighting over head) West End plays (*Austenacious!*), giving vocal masterclasses and workshops (Kings College London University, London Philharmonia Orchestra, Trinity Laban (Junior) and Oxford University for CASI and MAP), adjudicating competitions, choral conducting and arranging. Susie is curator of the "Strand International Song Series" a newly launched Lieder festival in central London featuring internationally acclaimed artists such as soprano Nadine Benjamin MBE and collaborative pianist to Sir Bryn Terfel, Annabel Thwaite.

ABOUT OUR PIANIST:



Applauded in London by the Sunday Times for performances of "great panache," pianist **Gregory Martin's** playing has been called "filled with imagination, fire, and lyricism...a virtuoso performance" and praised for its "mature and subtle understanding, all the while handling formidable technical difficulties with ease and fluency." He has been featured throughout the United States, Europe, and Japan as both a soloist and chamber musician, as well as being a prize-winner in various international competitions. Highlight performances have included engagements at Carnegie Recital Hall; collaborations with members of the Chicago, Detroit, Indianapolis Symphonies, the New York Philharmonic, and the Dresden Staatskapelle; and the premieres of unpublished compositions by Ralph Vaughan Williams and Gerald Finzi. He is an active composer, his works having been called "glorious" and "inspired," and in 2014 was named co-artistic director of the Ronen Chamber Ensemble (Indianapolis). He has lectured at the University of Berlin, the Grieg Academy (Norway), and Oxford University, and is Head of Academics and Piano at Music Across the Pond (England). Recent publications are the translation into English of composer Emile Naoumoff's memoirs, and articles on Vaughan Williams, Grieg, and J.R.R. Tolkien. He is a 2017 recipient of a Creative Renewal Fellowship from the Arts Council of Indianapolis, and has recorded for Centaur Records and Toccata Classics, of which *Fanfare* remarked his pianism to be "polished and refined, and sensitive to the varied styles of the works." Martin studied at Indiana University, the University of Cincinnati, and Worcester College, Oxford, and is Assistant Professor at the University of Indianapolis.

ABOUT OUR MAP PERFORMANCE FELLOW:



Katilyn V. Sanders, soprano, is a Texas native who recently secured her master's degree from the University of Missouri Kansas City Conservatory where she performed: Ma Zegner in *Proving Up*, Nella in *Gianni Schicchi*, Geraldine in *A Hand of Bridge*, and chorus in *Magic Flute*. While at UMKC Katilyn twice won the Women's Council

Graduate award, served as soprano section leader for the Conservatory Singers, debuted with the professional choir, Cardinalis, and was a semi-finalist at the Young Texas Artist Music Competition.

Katilyn holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at San Antonio where she performed Dater #9, *Speed Dating Tonight!*, Sister Genevieve in *Suor Angelica*, First Knitter in *A Game of Chance*, and Mother/Grandma in *Little Red-Riding Hood*. While at UTSA Katilyn won the Concerto & Aria Contest, was the recipient of the Benjamin A. Gilman Award and the Professional Development Award, and performed with the San Antonio Master Singers, San Antonio Symphony, and "Opera On The Run".

Katilyn has sung chorus for Amarillo Opera (*La Perichole, Madama Butterfly, Candide, Lucia*) and Opera San Antonio (*La Traviata, Lucia, Faust, Tosca, I Capuletti e i Montecchi, Don Giovanni, Rigoletto*). She's an alumni of the Taos Opera Institute & Crittenden Opera Studio. Katilyn currently serves as soprano section leader at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Kansas City, Missouri.

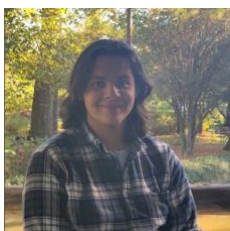
ABOUT OUR MAP YOUNG ARTISTS:



Elijah Adame, tenor, is currently a vocal student of Richard Davis at the University of Rio Grande Valley. Elijah was born and raised in Edinburg, Texas. He served in the Marine Corps from 2019-2023 and had one deployment to Iraq. Elijah is back to studying music with a focus in vocal performance. Elijah competed in the Laffont Competition and advanced to the district rounds. Elijah competed in the National Association of Teachers of Singing competition and placed first in his category. Before joining the Marine Corps, Elijah attended the American Musical Dramatic Academy (AMDA) in New York.



Casey Adams is a Music Education Major going into his junior year at the University of Indianapolis. Originally from Idaho Falls, Idaho, Casey's passion in music started with middle school choir. After a couple years he began to take lessons and perform as a baritone. Casey loves to perform everything from musical theater to Italian art songs, but French chansons are his favorite genre.



Adam Garcia, baritone, was born in San Antonio, Texas, and will be going into his third year as an undergraduate voice student of Dr. David Sadlier at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Some of his accomplishments so far include: participating in shows at Harbor Playhouse in Corpus Christi, Texas, attending an Opera camp with Luke Housner in Houston, and attending last year's Music Across the Pond. One

of the primary areas of interest in his study and practice is the history of literature and theatre, and how these two disciplines interact with music in the act of singing. He hopes to continue his acquisitions of new knowledge so that he might contribute, in some measure, back to the art what it has planted in him.



Gabriel Harlan is a piano performance major approaching his Senior year at the University of Indianapolis. As a pianist, he dedicates most of his time to the works of J.S. Bach, Robert Schumann and Edvard Grieg and appreciates pianists such as Sviatoslav Richter, Murray Perahia, and Lief Ove Andsnes. After completing his undergrad, he plans to pursue a masters in piano performance as well.



Jackson Lee will be starting his senior year at the University of Indianapolis. There he majors in Composition and studies Voice under Dr. Kathleen Hacker. He has performed in numerous concerts at UIndy in both solo and ensemble settings. In addition, he also enjoys performing in musical theater, having starred in *Evil Dead: The Musical* with the University of Indianapolis Theater Department and most recently as Fyedka in *Fiddler on the Roof* at Footlite Musicals in Indianapolis. He also is a composer and has had many of his pieces performed by professional musicians.



Becca Lipsky, mezzo soprano, hails from Pottstown, PA and is a rising senior at Bucknell University, where she majors in Music Education. During the academic year, she engages with a number of ensembles including the Susquehanna Valley Chorale and as a student conductor in the Bucknell University Choir. Some of her favorite repertoire includes the 2022 world premiere of *LOVE* (Payn), Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with full orchestra, and solo performances in *Fern Hill* (Corigliano) and excerpts from *Membra Jesu Nostri* (Buxtehude). She also participates weekly as a choral scholar at

Trinity Episcopal Pro-Cathedral in Williamsport, PA. Beyond choral performance, Becca enjoys performing in operas and musicals. Most recently, she performed the role of Rona Lisa Peretti in the Theatre and Dance Department's production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.



Anna Miles is a junior music therapy major at the University of Indianapolis. Born and raised in Indianapolis, Anna developed her love for music through performing in musicals and has now been in over 30 productions. In school, Anna sings in both the concert and jazz choirs. Anna also serves as the Engagement Coordinator for the Music Therapy Association for Students where she helps to plan and lead guitar nights, drum circles, etc. Beyond her involvement at school, Anna also sings in the choir at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.



Mezzo-soprano, **Ada Sadlier**, is completing her second year pursuing a Bachelor's in Music in Vocal Performance, as well as completing her pre-medical requirements. She attends the University of Missouri-Kansas City and studies with Dr. Maria Kanyova. This past academic year, Ada portrayed the roles of Edith in the *Pirates of Penzance* and Sorella Infermiera in Puccini's *Suor Angelica*. Honored to be a member of UMKC's top ensemble, University Chamber Singers, Ada was recently featured in a solo movement of Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*. Last fall, she was a soloist with the ensemble at the prestigious Kaufmann Center of the Performing Arts in Kansas City, MO. Ada loves music. Her father, David, is a voice teacher and opera singer, and her mother, Lelia, is a classical pianist and composer. Ada also plays the piano, guitar, and ukulele.



Emily Sanders, soprano, is a senior music education major from Ball State University in Indiana where she performs regularly with the BSU Opera Theater. She was most recently seen as "Amahl" in *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and Serafina in *Il Campanello Di Notte*. She studies voice under Dr. Cynthia Smith. Outside of school, Emily teaches classical and rock private lessons piano and voice lessons. She loves studying ethnomusicology and piano pedagogy. She is the undergraduate assistant of music history and sings soprano in the chamber choir. She'd like to say thank you to her family and ROCK ON! Socials @3milysanders



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