

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VOCAL ARTS DC INCREASES 2023-2024 OFFERINGS

Presenting Six Recitals and Five DC-Area Artist Debuts

Washington, DC (April 17, 2023) After a successful return to live performances, Vocal Arts DC announces an expanded 2023-2024 season at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Terrace Theater. By increasing from five recitals to six, Vocal Arts DC renews its commitment to be a vital force in the preservation of art song. With the exception of Anthony Roth Costanzo, the star countertenor who inaugurates our season in September, we are especially delighted that all the other singers on this year's roster will be making their area recital debuts with these appearances under our auspices.

The season opens on September 21, 2023, with countertenor **Anthony Roth Costanzo**, an artist capable of riveting expression and well known as the premier interpreter of the title role in Philip Glass' *Akhnaton*. Vocal Arts DC's Gerald Perman Fund for Emerging Artists Recital features tenor **Jonah Hoskins** who joined the Metropolitan Opera's prestigious Lindemann Young Artist Development Program in 2020 immediately after winning the company's National Council Auditions. Powerhouse mezzo-soprano **Raehann Bryce-Davis**, recently seen as Azucena in Verdi's *Il Trovatore* (Washington National Opera), presents selections by Richard Wagner, Amy Beach, Melissa Dunphy, Maria Thompson Corley, and Peter Ashbourne.

The international standard bearer for excellence in dramatic roles by Verdi and Puccini, tenor **Russell Thomas** also excels at more intimate modes of musical expression. His program includes Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* and Jasmine Barnes' *Love and Light*. Mezzo soprano **Daniela Mack's** sable-colored voice rings effortlessly in music from Handel to contemporary. Her recital includes selections by Gioachino Rossini, Pauline Viardot, and the world premiere of new song cycle by Rene Orth. Soprano **Erin Morley** concludes the season on May 13, presenting a program spanning the Victorian, romantic, and modern musical eras from composers such as Camille Saint-Saëns, Alban Berg, and Ricky Ian Gordon.

To further incentivize subscribers to either renew or buy a first-time subscription, the costs for both full and mini-subscriptions will remain at the same reduced rates from five seasons ago, a considerable savings over the price of single tickets. Subscribers also receive seat selections from among the very best locations in the Terrace Theater, and exceptional personal service in exchanging or adding seats.

"The song continues at Vocal Arts DC both for our artists and our audiences, truer and more eloquent than ever, as we leave the pandemic behind. We are thrilled to expand our season in a realm where diversity and artistic excellence thrive."

Full subscriptions to the series of six recitals are priced at \$240 each. It is possible to order a "mini-subscription" containing a minimum of three concerts in the series, with each recital priced at \$45 per ticket. Subscriptions are available for purchase online via the Vocal Arts DC website (vocalartsdc.org/)

[subscribe](#)), by mail (download, print, complete and return the order form [here](#)) or by phone (202-669-1463). Single tickets, priced at \$50 each, will go on sale through the Kennedy Center Box Office at a date to be announced in July 2023.

MORE ABOUT THE 2023-2024 ARTISTS

Anthony Roth Costanzo

With his hauntingly plangent, immediately recognizable sound and riveting expression, Anthony Roth Costanzo has redefined what it means to be a countertenor star in the 21st century. Whether inhabiting the title character in the Metropolitan Opera's Grammy Award-winning production of Philip Glass' *Akhnaten*, introducing world premieres of works composed for him by composers including John Corigliano and Gregory Spears at Santa Fe Opera and the New York Philharmonic, or starring in operas by Handel and other Baroque composers worldwide, Costanzo brings stylistic and communicative authenticity to all music he sings. Costanzo's program includes selections by Antonio Vivaldi, Gabriela Lena Frank, Joel Thompson, Giuseppe Verdi, and a set of songs by Barbra Streisand.

Jonah Hoskins

This young tenor with a sunny, boyishly extroverted personality and a voice to match joined the Metropolitan Opera's prestigious Lindemann Young Artist Development Program in 2020 immediately after winning the company's National Council Auditions as a college senior that same year. Having already appeared with the Met in the iconic leading role of Nemorino in Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore* this season, he reprises it for his San Francisco Opera debut this coming fall, and makes his European debut in Rossini's *Il viaggio a Reims* at Dresden's Semper Oper. Hoskins' program includes selections by Jake Heggie, Lee Hoiby, and Erik Satie.

Raehann Bryce-Davis

Powerhouse mezzo Raehann Bryce-Davis has been making waves in the last few seasons through her high-octane portrayals of such heroines as Azucena in Verdi's *Il trovatore* (Washington National Opera, Glimmerglass Festival) and Baba the Turk in Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* (the role of her 2022 Metropolitan Opera debut). A champion of new works, she has premiered song cycles by composers including Melissa Dunphy and Maria Thompson Corley. The coming 2023-2024 season sees both her role debut as Fricka in Wagner's *Das Rheingold* with the Los Angeles Philharmonic led by Gustavo Dudamel and a return to the Met for the company premiere of Anthony Davis' *X: The Life and Times of Malcom X*. Bryce-Davis' program includes selections by Richard Wagner, Amy Beach, Melissa Dunphy, Maria Thompson Corley, and a set of Jamaican songs by Peter Ashbourne.

Russell Thomas

The international standard bearer for excellence in dramatic roles by Verdi and Puccini for over a decade, tenor Russell Thomas also excels at more intimate modes of musical expression, including recital programs at London's Wigmore Hall and an evening of curated new works at the Colburn School as part of his Artist in Residency with Los Angeles Opera this season. Thomas' program includes Samuel Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*, Jasmine Barnes' *Love and Light*, and selections by Henri Duparc and Richard Strauss.

Daniela Mack

Born in Buenos Aires and trained at San Francisco Opera Center, mezzo Daniela Mack lavishes the same effortless charisma and sable-colored instrument on music from Handel to contemporary. Her current season opened with a rare mounting of Rossini's *Otello*, co-starring as Desdemona with tenor Lawrence Brownlee at Opera Philadelphia, and concludes as Frida Kahlo in the premiere at San Francisco Opera of Gabriela Lena Frank's *El Último sueño di Frida y Diego*. She returns to the Met next season for the company premiere of John Adams' *El Niño* led by Marin Alsop. Mack's program includes

selections by Gioachino Rossini, Pauline Viardot, and Reynaldo Hahn; Argentinian songs by Carlos Guastavino, Alberto Ginastera, and Astor Piazzola; and a world premiere by Rene Orth.

Erin Morley

American lyric coloratura soprano Erin Morley is one of the most in-demand artists of her generation at venues worldwide, a favorite of top-notch international conductors and audiences alike on two continents. Recent past highlights include the title character in the critically acclaimed Metropolitan Opera premiere of Matthew Aucoin's *Eurydice*, Pamina in the Met's new production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, the first commercial recording of Giacomo Meyerbeer's rarely performed *Robert le Diable* led by Marc Minkowski and her Washington Concert Opera debut last spring as the title character in Delibes' *Lakmé*. Morley's program includes selections by Johannes Brahms, Camille Saint-Saëns, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, Sergei Rachmaninov, Alban Berg, Alexander Zemlinsky, Darius Milhaud, Sir Arthur Sullivan, Michael Head, and Ricky Ian Gordon.

Vocal Arts DC 2023-2024 Season at a Glance

- Anthony Roth Costanzo, *countertenor* and Bryan Wagorn, *pianist*: Thursday, September 21 @ 7:30pm
- Jonah Hoskins, *tenor* and William Woodard, *pianist*: Wednesday, December 13 @ 7:30pm
- Raehann Bryce-Davis, *mezzo soprano* and Jeanne-Minette Cilliers, *pianist*: Wednesday, January 24 @ 7:30pm
- Russell Thomas, *tenor* and Lucas Nogara, *pianist*: Wednesday, February 14 @ 7:30pm
- Daniela Mack, *mezzo soprano* and Keun-A Lee, *pianist*: Thursday, April 18 @ 7:30pm
- Erin Morley, *soprano* and Gerald Martin Moore, *pianist*: Monday, May 13 @ 7:30pm

These performances are external rentals presented in coordination with the Kennedy Center Campus Rentals Office and are not produced by the Kennedy Center.

All recitals are scheduled for the Kennedy Center Terrace Theater, 2700 F St. NW, Washington, DC 20566. All dates, programs and artists are subject to change.

COVID-19 SAFETY INFORMATION

Masks are now optional in all Kennedy Center spaces for visitors and staff. If you prefer to wear a mask, you are welcome to do so. We ask that you respect others' choices, and alert a staff member if you have any concerns. Visit www.Kennedy-Center.org/COVIDsafety to review the full policy details and check regularly for policy updates.

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Vocal Arts DC presents a full season of classical song recitals by some of the world's finest singers at the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater. Our performances are supplemented by educational and social events that foster personal contacts between performers, composers and audience members. Typically showcasing a single classically-trained singer and a world-class pianist unaided by amplification, our concerts cover a wide range of the world's great song literature, increasingly including newly composed works commissioned by our performers or by Vocal Arts DC itself.

<https://vocalartsdc.org/>