

Merkin Hall at Kaufman Music Center

Sunday, April 3, 2022 at 5:00 pm

Mirror Visions Ensemble
presents

Midnight Magic

Mireille Asselin, *soprano*; Abi Levis, *mezzo-soprano*; Daniel McGrew, *tenor*;
Mischa Bouvier, *baritone*; Max Hammond, *piano*

COMPOSER	PIECE	TEXT
HAROLD ARLEN, arr. ANDREW GERLE*	That Old Black Magic	Johnny Mercer
CLAUDE DEBUSSY	Clair de lune	Paul Verlaine
GILBERT & SULLIVAN	My Name Is John Wellington Wells (<i>The Sorcerer</i>)	William Schwenck Gilbert
RUTH CRAWFORD SEEGER	White Moon	Carl Sandburg
ADAM GUETTEL	Saturn Returns	Adam Guettel
HAROLD MELTZER*	Midnight Vocalise	
SERGEI RACHMANINOFF	В молчаньи ночи тайной	Afanasy Fet
OTTORINO RESPIGHI	Pioggia	Vittoria Aganoor Pompilj
BOB TELSON	Calling You	Bob Telson
W.A. MOZART	Papageno / Papagena duet (<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>)	Emanuel Schikaneder

Steinway is the official piano of Merkin Hall

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FELIX MENDELSSOHN	Neue Liebe	Heinrich Heine
HUGO WOLF	Nachtzauber	Josef von Eichendorff
BENJAMIN BRITTEN	Midnight on the Great Western	Thomas Hardy
STEPHEN SONDHEIM	Last Midnight (<i>Into the Woods</i>)	Stephen Sondheim
MARGARET BONDS	Winter Moon	Langston Hughes
RICKY IAN GORDON	Harlem Night Song	Langston Hughes
CARLOS SIMON*	Dreams	Langston Hughes
FLORENCE PRICE	Hold Fast to Dreams	Langston Hughes
FRED HERSCH	Little Midnight Nocturne	
RUSSELL PLATT*	A Clear Midnight	Walt Whitman
ROBERT SCHUMANN	In der Nacht	Emanuel Geibel
TRADITIONAL, arr. GRIFFIN STROUT*	Midnight Special	

*Mirror Visions Ensemble commission

To view Kaufman Music Center's COVID-19 current health and safety protocols, please visit [KaufmanMusicCenter.org/Covid](https://www.KaufmanMusicCenter.org/Covid).

Mirror Visions Ensemble (MVE) was founded from a desire to explore the relationship between music and text, initially through the creation of “mirror visions” — settings of the same text to music by different composers. The group’s passion for storytelling has produced thematic concerts on surprising subjects leading to the revitalization of art song programming.

Now in its 30th season, Mirror Visions Ensemble has fostered the work of new composers through the commissioning of over 105 works by more than 35 composers. The ensemble has presented its programs, residencies, and masterclasses both in the U.S. and abroad at concert halls, schools, libraries, and museums such as Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Merkin Concert Hall at the Kaufman Music Center, Le Poisson Rouge, California State University at Fullerton, University of Southern California, New York University, Yale University, Welshpool Music Club (Wales), Pollok House Arts Society (Scotland), and France’s Musée Carnavalet, Musée des Arts Décoratifs, and American University of Paris. MVE’s concerts are often free and open to the public, continuing the ensemble’s tradition of providing access to the arts.

Founder and Executive Director **Tobé Malawista** was named Chevalier of the Legion of Honor in 2008. MVE’s discography includes *Américain à Paris* (Albany 2003), *Secrets* (Albany 2004), *Cosmic and Domestic Matters* (Albany 2008), and *The Three-Paneled Mirror* (Centaur 2015).

Soprano **Mireille Asselin** enjoys a diverse, international career spanning concert, opera, and recital work. To date, Mireille has sung five seasons at the Metropolitan Opera, where she debuted as Poussette in *Manon*. She made her European operatic debut in 2014 at the Royal Opera of the Palace of Versailles in Lully’s *Persée* and her Carnegie Hall concert debut in 2012. Ms. Asselin is a graduate of the Canadian Opera Company Studio, Yale University, and the Royal Conservatory of Music.

Baritone **Mischa Bouvier** has appeared with many leading orchestras and ensembles including Orchestra of St. Luke’s at Stern Auditorium and the New York Live Arts Theater, New York Festival of Song, Musica Sacra at Lincoln Center, the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood, the Boston Pops at Symphony Hall, TENET Vocal Artists, and has offered recitals throughout the United States and in Asia. Mischa holds degrees from Boston University and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

Mezzo-soprano **Abi Levis** is enjoying a flourishing career on opera and concert stages, both domestic and international. Operatic credits, among others, include: Romeo in *I Capuletti e i Montecchi* in Estonia; Annio in *La clemenza di Tito* in France; Dido in Berlin; Cherubino in *Le nozze di Figaro* all over the USA. This exciting artist has been celebrated by critics and competition judges alike and has been a core member of the Mirror Visions Ensemble since 2016. When not singing, she enjoys knitting, cooking, eating, and traveling the world as @tessitourist.

Tenor **Daniel McGrew**'s upcoming engagements include the world premiere of songs by John Harbison, the American premiere of George Benjamin's *Lessons in Love and Violence*, a residence at the Marlboro Music Festival, and appearances with Gamut Bach Ensemble. A winner of the 2021 Young Concert Artist auditions, Daniel will make his solo recital debuts in NYC and Washington D.C. in December 2022. He holds degrees from Oberlin College, Yale School of Music, and the University of Michigan.

Max Hammond is a solo and collaborative pianist who has been in the winner's circle of many local, regional, national, and international piano competitions. Awards, among others, include 1st place in the Lansum International Open Piano Competition, and in the California Association of Professional Music Teachers statewide Honors Competition (three times). Max has performed as a soloist with the Pasadena Community Orchestra, the Yale Symphony Orchestra, and others. Max is currently a junior at Yale University.

Credits

Program conceived by Richard Lalli

Mirror Visions Ensemble is: Justine Aronson, soprano, Mireille Asselin, soprano, Abi Levis, mezzo-soprano, Scott Murphree, tenor, Daniel McGrew, tenor, Jesse Blumberg, baritone, Mischa Bouvier, baritone, Gary Chapman, piano, Alan Darling, piano, Margaret Kampmeier, piano, Grant Wenaus, music director and piano, Richard Lalli, artistic director, Tobé Malawista, executive director

Technical Crew: Oliver Weston, Alexander Ronneburg (supertitles), Loren Stata (AV), Paul Hudson (Lighting), Kevin Bourassa (AV)

Board of Directors: Tobé Malawista, Joanne Blanck, Emilie de Brigard, Catherine K. Forrest, Katherine A. Hinds, Barbara K. Stowe, Scott Wheeler.

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