



BROOKLYN

ART SONG SOCIETY

MICHAEL BROFMAN ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

SEASON

2021-2022

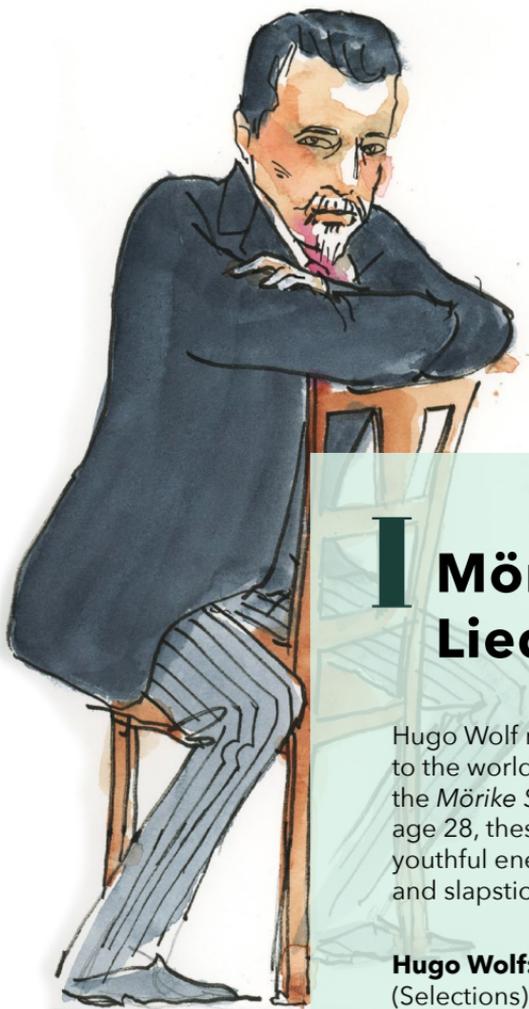
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Beginnings, Middles, and Ends

Beginnings, Middles, and Ends explores the moments that make up our lives in song. Works that bookend careers, meditate on mortality, and follow the course of a lifetime to show us what it means to live a life.



I Mörike Liederbuch

Hugo Wolf made his genius known to the world with his first major work, the *Mörike Songbook*. Composed at age 28, these songs are teeming with youthful energy, passionate drama, and slapstick humor.

Hugo Wolf: Mörike Liederbuch
(Selections)

Amy Owens, soprano
Sarah Nelson Craft, mezzo soprano
Daniel McGrew, tenor; Tyler Duncan, baritone
Spencer Myer, Erika Switzer, piano

Friday, October 1, 2021 - 7:30PM

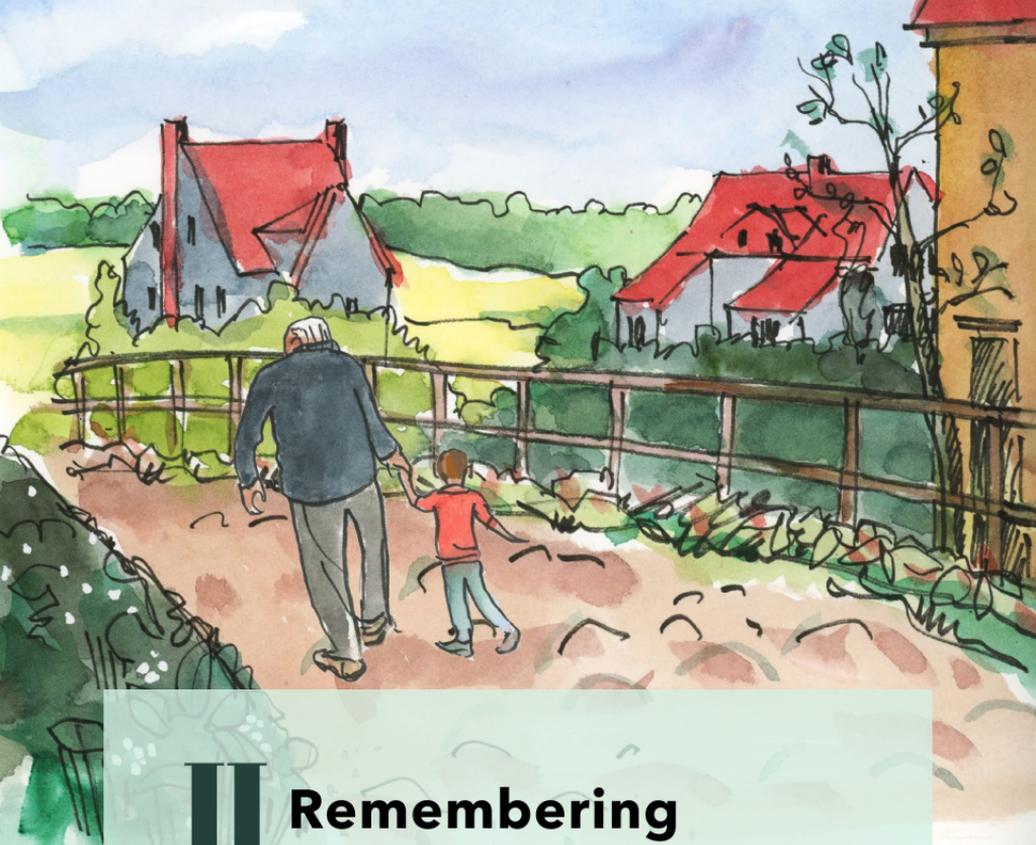
First Unitarian Church of Brooklyn

119 Pierrepont St, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Pre-concert lecture at 7:00PM by Marilyn McCoy (Columbia University)

Monday, October 18, 2021

Digital Release



Remembering

Two monumental British song cycles explore the fleeting wonder of youth. Finzi's *A Young Man's Exhortation* is filled with the tenderness of first love, while Vaughan Williams' *Songs of Travel* looks back at youth with bittersweet wisdom.

Gerald Finzi: *A Young Man's Exhortation* Op. 14
Ralph Vaughan Williams: *Songs of Travel*

*Dominic Armstrong, tenor; Joshua Conyers, baritone
Mike Brofman, Brent Funderburk, piano*

Friday, November 5, 2021 - 7:30PM

First Unitarian Church of Brooklyn
119 Pierrepont St, Brooklyn, NY 11201
Pre-concert lecture at 7:00PM by Erik Gray (Columbia University)

Monday, November 22, 2021

Digital Release



Mortality Mansions

Two titans of American vocal music, Tom Cipullo and Herschel Garfein, explore the final stages of life through some of their most ambitious and poignant works.

Tom Cipullo: Of a Certain Age

Herschel Garfein: The Luminous Particular*,
Mortality Mansions, A Tuesday Spot*

*Laura Strickling, Marnie Breckenridge, soprano
Keith Phares, baritone; Mike Brofman, Dimitri Dover, piano*

**World Premiere*

Friday, December 3, 2021 - 7:30PM

First Unitarian Church of Brooklyn

119 Pierrepont St, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Pre-concert discussion at 7:00PM with composer Herschel Garfein

Monday, December 20, 2021

Digital Release

IV Evidence of Things Not Seen

Ned Rorem's magnum opus explores the entire breadth of life in this evening-length song cycle. *Evidence of Things Not Seen* captures everything that makes up the human experience in song.

Ned Rorem: Evidence of Things Not Seen

Lucy Fitz Gibbon, soprano
Kristin Gornstein, mezzo soprano
Joseph Tancredi, tenor
Mario Diaz-Moresco, baritone
Spencer Myer, Ryan McCullough, piano



Friday, January 7, 2022 7:30PM

Center for Brooklyn History

128 Pierrepont St, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Pre-concert lecture at 7:00PM by Nick DiBerardino (Curtis Institute)

Monday, January 24, 2021

Digital Release



V Testaments

Britten's *Songs and Proverbs of William Blake* ponders the infinite; Shostakovich's *7 Romances by Aleksander Blok* stares down mortality; Hugo Wolf's *Michelangelo-Lieder* is the composers' final testament before losing his mind.

Benjamin Britten: *Songs and Proverbs of William Blake*
Dimitri Shostakovich: *7 Romances by Aleksander Blok*
Hugo Wolf: *Michelangelo-Lieder*

Alexandra Nowakowski, soprano
Michael Kelly, Brian Mextorf, baritone
Mike Brofman, Renate Rohlfing, piano
Stanichka Dimitrova, violin; Sofia Nowik, cello

Friday, February 4, 2022 7:30PM

Center for Brooklyn History

128 Pierrepont St, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Pre-concert lecture at 7:00PM by Patricia Mainardi (CUNY)

Monday, February 21, 2021

Digital Release



VI Fin-du-Siècle

Brahms' final 4 *Serious Songs* gives a tragic finality to his life and work. Berg's 7 *Early Songs* and Strauss's 4 *Last Songs*, though written 40 years apart, look back on Late Romanticism with aching nostalgia.

Alban Berg: 7 frühe Lieder

Johannes Brahms: 4 ernste Gesänge Op. 121

Richard Strauss: 4 letzte Lieder

Tami Petty, Laquita Mitchell, soprano

Gregory Feldmann, baritone

Mike Brofman, Nana Shi, Miori Sugiyama, piano

Friday, March 4, 2022 - 7:30PM

Center for Brooklyn History

128 Pierrepont St, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Pre-concert lecture at 7:00PM by Larry Wolff (New York University)

Monday, March 21, 2022

Digital Release



The Dichter Project: Friedrich Rückert

The Dichter Project returns with a program of some of the most well-known and beloved lieder on texts by Friedrich Rückert.

Johannes Brahms: Gestillte Sehnsucht Op. 91, No. 1

Gustav Mahler: Kindertotenlieder

Franz Schubert: Du bist die Ruh, Sei mir gegrüsst

Clara Schumann: 3 Lieder Op. 12

Robert Schumann: Selected Songs

Elisabeth Marshall, soprano; Blythe Gaissert, mezzo soprano

Nils Neubert, tenor; Mario Diaz-Moresco, baritone,

Chieh-Fan Yiu, viola; Mike Brofman, Spencer Myer, piano

Saturday, March 19, 2022 - 7:30PM

Brooklyn Conservatory of Music

58 7th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11215

Regular: \$50 Premium*: \$125

**Includes reception with the artists.*

An abstract painting with a textured, expressive style. The background is a mix of light and dark blue. There are large, dark red or maroon shapes, possibly representing mountains or abstract forms. A bright orange circle is visible in the upper right quadrant. The overall mood is dramatic and emotional.

NEW VOICES FESTIVAL

Confessions

The second New Voices Festival explores our most deeply felt emotions. Works by 15 composers, three of them world-premieres, demonstrate the power of song to lay bare our innermost feelings.



I Eve Beglarian's *Closer to the Heart* explores "a certain kind of female unhappiness" through the poetry of Anne Sexton, Audre Lorde, Adrienne Rich, and excerpts from her own mother's journals. Reinaldo Moya's new work on poetry by Rubén Darío explores our darkest emotions. Searing works by some of today's best young composers round out this program.

Eve Beglarian: Only Your Dolls are Cheerful*

Shawn Jaeger: Resignation

Missy Mazzoli: Lorca in the Bronx

Reinaldo Moya: Nocturnos*

Carlos Simon: Dead Fires, Nightfall

Sarah Kirkland Snider: How Graceful Some Things
Are, Falling Apart

Nina C. Young: Swan Song

Mary Bonhag, soprano

Devony Smith, Kate Maroney, mezzo soprano

Jesse Blumberg, baritone

Joel Harder, Danny Zelibor, Mike Brofman, piano

*World Premiere

Friday, April 1, 2022 - 7:30PM

Center for Brooklyn History

128 Pierrepont St, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Pre-concert discussion at 7:00PM with composer Eve Beglarian

Monday, April 18, 2022

Digital Release



This program of vocal chamber music includes the world premiere of Lembit Beecher's *After the Fires*, based on interviews with his own family and their community. Also on the program, David Ludwig's epic cycle about North Carolina's Bleeding Pines and works for strings and voice by some of today's best composers.

Marcos Balter: Ear Skin and Bone Riddles

Lembit Beecher: After the Fires*

Amy Beth Kirsten: Yes I said Yes I will Yes

David Ludwig: Songs of the Bleeding Pines/
Songs of the Spirit of Turpentine

Jessica Meyer: The Last Rose of Summer

Jessie Montgomery: Loisaida, I Love You

Jane Sheldon: Kakagi

*Kristina Bachrach, Sarah Brailey, Charlotte Mundy, soprano
Annie Rosen, mezzo soprano; Jorell Williams, baritone
Michael Brofman, piano; members of PhiloSonia*

*World Premiere

Friday, May 6, 2022 - 7:30PM

Center for Brooklyn History

128 Pierrepont St, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Pre-concert discussion at 7:00PM with composer Lembit Beecher

Monday, May 23, 2022

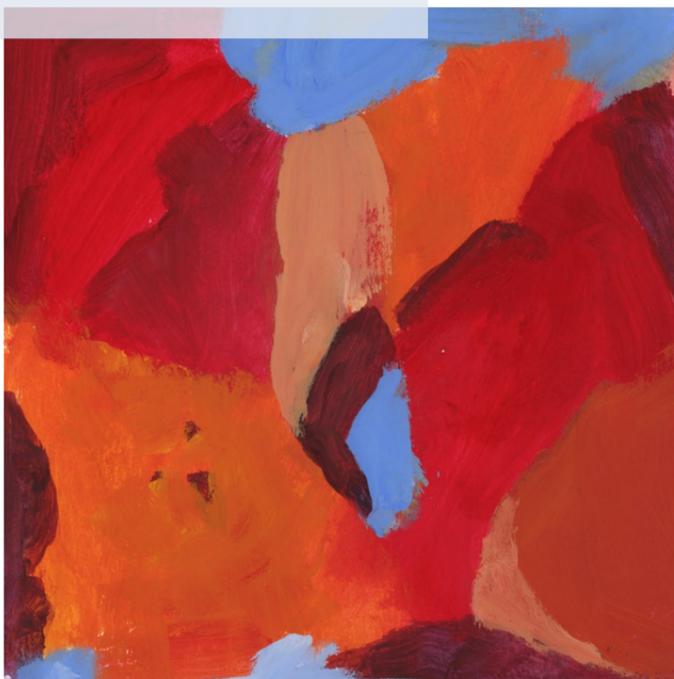
Digital Release



The Art of Song is an evening-length "cornucopia of song" from Daron Hagen, one of today's most important American composers. A work at once epic and intimate - a landmark in 21st-century American art song.

Daron Hagen: The Art of Song

Justine Aronson, Gilda Lyons, soprano
Meg Bragle, Elisa Sutherland, mezzo soprano
James Reese, tenor; Steven Eddy, baritone
Laura Ward, Mike Brofman, piano



Friday, June 3, 2022 - 7:30PM

Center for Brooklyn History
128 Pierrepont St, Brooklyn, NY 11201
Pre-concert discussion at 7:00PM with composer Daron Hagen

Monday, June 20, 2022

Digital Release

TICKETING INFORMATION:

In Person Concerts:

Brooklyn Art Song Society's 2021-2022 season is free admission.* RSVP required. Visit www.brooklynartsongsociety.org to reserve. Tickets for individual concerts become available 21 days before each concert. Seating is first come, first serve.

**Excluding the Dichter Project.*

Digital Concert Hall:

Annual Subscriptions: \$99.99/year or \$9.99/month

Includes:

- Unlimited on demand viewing of BASS's entire season.
- Complete programs, notes, texts and translations, and a bonus listening guide made available before each concert.
- Exclusive access to full episodes of Song and Wine, BASS's hit web series.

<https://brooklynartsongsociety.vhx.tv>

Brooklyn Art Song Society's programs are supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council

NYC Cultural Affairs

and by

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The New Voices Festival made possible in part by support from the National Endowment for the Arts

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the **ARTS**
arts.gov

Brooklyn Art Song Society's 2021-2022 season is presented as part of the Brooklyn Public Library's public programming.

Bklyn
Public Library

Artwork by Joan Chiverton | For more info, visit www.joanchiverton.com