

2024 Gala

Saturday, September 21 at 5pm Soma Grille 731 Hopmeadow Street Simsbury, CT

featuring Schauntice Shepard, Soprano Julie Rumbold, Mezzo-Soprano Daniel Juárez, Tenor Luke Scott, Bass-Baritone Alexis Zingale, Piano



5:00 pm

COCKTAIL & SOCIAL TIME

Get a drink, enjoy the appetizers, meet the performers, and visit the silent auction station

5:30 pm WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, & MUSIC

"**Pays merveilleux ... Ô paradis...**" From *L'Africaine* by Giacomo Meyerbeer Mr. Juárez

"**Stride la vampa!...**" from *Il Trovatore* by Giuseppe Verdi Ms. Rumbold

"**Porgi amor...**" from *Le nozze di Figaro* by W. A. Mozart Ms. Shepard

"L'aborrita rivale... Gia i sacerdoti adunansi..." from *Aïda* by Giuseppe Verdi Ms. Rumbold & Mr. Juárez

5:55 pm BREAK

6:10 pm MUSIC

"In un coupè?... Oh Mimì, tu più non torni..." from La bohème by Giacomo Puccini Mr. Juárez & Mr. Scott

"Viens, Mallika, ... Dôme épais..." from *Lakme* by Léo Delibes Ms. Shepard & Ms. Rumbold

"Votre toast, je peux vous le rendre..." from *Carmen* by Georges Bizet Mr. Scott

6:30 pm BUFFET DINNER

7:30 pm MUSIC

"Soave sia il vento..." from Così fan tutte by W. A. Mozart Ms. Shepard, Ms. Rumbold & Mr. Scott

"**Nessun dorma...**" from *Turandot* by Giacomo Puccini Mr. Juárez

"**Madamina, il catalogo è questo...**" from **Don Giovanni** by W. A. Mozart Mr. Scott

"**Mon cœur s'ouvre à ta voix..."** from *Samson et Dalila* by Camille Saint-Saëns Ms. Rumbold

7:50 pm BREAK

8:05 pm MUSIC

"Libiamo, libiamo ne' lieti calici..." from La traviata Ms. Shepard & Mr. Juárez

"Lippen schweigen..." from *The Merry Widow* by Franz Lehár Ms. Rumbold & Mr. Scott

"Summertime..." from *Porgy and Bess* by George Gershwin Ms. Shepard

"If ever I would leave you..." from *Camelot* by Frederick Loewe Mr. Scott

"Un dì, si ben rammentomi ... Bella figlia dell' amore..." from Rigoletto Ms. Shepard, Ms. Rumbold, Mr. Juárez & Mr. Scott

8:30 pm

WRAP-UP

Silent Auction, Door Prizes, Closing Remarks

Our Performers



District of Columbia native, **Schauntice Shepard** (soprano), has a golden gift to touch and warm your heart. It is said her voice is a refreshing sense of wholeness for the spirit and soul. Schauntice has been a featured soprano with various choral groups and opera companies performing in France, England, Normandy, Germany, West Indies, and the United States. As a featured soloist for Grammy winner Robert Schafer, she has been showcased on many platforms. Her

flexibility to sing various styles and genres has awarded her the ability to be featured throughout the east coast in places such as: D.C., Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and Connecticut.

Schauntice obtained her bachelor of music from Shenandoah Conservatory, and a graduate professional diploma in vocal music from University of Hartford – Hartt School of Music - graduating in May 2013. Since then, she continues to perform primarily in Connecticut as the soprano soloist at Asylum Hill Congregational Church, and has performed in the Berkshire Opera Festival since 2019. Schauntice has been featured as a soprano soloist with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, was Ahmal in *Ahmal and the Night Visitors,* Susanna from *Le Nozze di Figaro,* Zerlina in *Don Giovanni,* Baby Doe in *The Ballad of Baby Doe,,* and Yum Yum in *The Mikado, Tituba in the* Crucible, and works frequently with both the Hartford Opera Theater (HOT) and Berkshire Opera Festival (BOF).



Julie Rumbold (Mezzo-Soprano) has been described by artistic and music directors as enthusiastic and extremely talented with a solid vocal technique. She has been seen featured in Operas, Operettas and Concerts throughout Southern New England. Julie has performed with Modern Vintage Opera, Berkshire Opera Festival, CT Lyric Opera, Madison Lyric Stage, The Whitney Center for the Arts MA, Lollipop Opera, Greylock Opera MA, Contemporary Theater Company RI, Simsbury Light Opera Company and CT Gilbert and Sullivan Society. She has studied and performed with New England Opera Intensive in Boston and at the International Music Festival in Vols am Schlern, Italy. This year she made her debut with Opera Magnifico in New Jersey. A few operatic credits include La Zia Principessa in *Suor Angelica*, Charlotte in *Werther*, Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, Eboli in *Don Carlo*, Maurya in *Riders to the Sea*, Marie-Thérèse in the premier of the opera *The Weeping Woman*, Elle in *La voix humaine*, Cornelia in *Giulio Cesare*, Hansel in *Hansel and Gretel*, Prince Orlofsky in *Die Fledermaus* and the title roles in *Princess Ida* and *Iolanthe*. julierumbold.com



Daniel Juarez (Tenor) is well-known to New England opera audiences, having appeared with Opera Connecticut, Connecticut Lyric Opera, Opera Theater of Connecticut, MassOpera, Western CT State University Opera Studio, Yale Opera, Modern Vintage Opera and in various recital and concert venues throughout the region. His operatic credits include Radames in Verdi's *Aïda*, Canio in Leoncavallo's I *Pagliacci*,

Cavaradossi in *Tosca*, Don José in Bizet's *Carmen*, the title role in Gounod's *Faust*, Rodolfo in Puccini's *La Bohème*, The Italian Singer in Strauss' *Der Rosenkavalier*, Pinkerton in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, and Erik in Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman*. Daniel has also been regularly featured in various oratorio and concert performances. Daniel is a graduate of the Yale University School of Music and onetime finalist in the Southwest Region Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions. daniel-juarez.com



Described by the New York Times as "the robustvoiced baritone" Luke Scott has performed leading roles with Orchestras and Opera companies in Canada and the US. A graduate of The Hartt School of Music and Bel Canto Foundation Scholarship grant winner his opera credits include Figaro in (Le Nozze di Figaro) Opera on the Avalon, Malatesta in (Don Salt Marsh Pasquale) Opera. Peter in (Hansel und Gretel) Opera Theater of CT,

Taddeo in (L'Italiana in Algeri) Taconic Opera, Count Almaviva in (Le Nozze di Figaro) Martina Arroyo foundation, Argante in (Rinaldo) Boston Opera Collaborative, and Leporello in (Don Giovanni) Opera Western Reserve. Mr. Scott has received awards from the Martina Arroyo Foundation, the American Prize in opera, Bel Canto Scholarship Foundation, Chautauqua Inst., Amici Foundation. Shreveport Opera Singer of the Year, Violetta Dupont Foundation, and Gerda Lissner Foundation. lukescottbassbaritone.com



Zingale (Pianist) has performed Alexis throughout the U.S. and Canada as soloist and collaborator in a variety of venues, winning numerous awards in both roles. She is the creator of The Southern Italian Piano Project, neglected bringing works of southern Italian composers from the Baroque to the present day to the concert stage; more information can be found at www.southernitalianpiano.com. Ms. Zingale

has recorded for Peer Music Classical and the Charles Ives Society, and her performances have been broadcast on Connecticut Public Radio. Ms. Zingale is an adjunct professor of piano and chamber music at the University of Bridgeport, vocal accompanist at Southern Connecticut State University, piano faculty member and staff accompanist at the Suzuki Music Schools of Westport and Orange, piano faculty member at Neighborhood Music School in New Haven, and the accompanist of the New Haven Oratorio Choir. She freelances extensively throughout the Northeast as a soloist and collaborative pianist. alexiszingale.com

2024 Business Donors

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Thanks to the CT Office of the Arts

Upcoming Events

November 1, 2024 at 7PM CONCERT (location to be announced)

November 30, 2024 at 5PM MUSIC SELECTIONS at Simsbury Celebrates

Spring 2025 (date/time to be announced) CONCERT

June 2025 (dates/times to be announced) OPERAS Bastien und Bastienne and Cavalleria Rusticana

Thank You!

Proceeds from tonight's Gala and from your generous donations will be used to fund MVO's 2025 productions.

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