

Lincoln Center's

February–May 2017

American Songbook

Lead Support provided by PGIM

The Program

Thursday, February 2, 2017, at 8:30 pm

John Ondrasik of Five for Fighting

Melissa Tong, *Violin*

Katie Kresek, *Violin*

Chris Cardona, *Viola*

Dave Eggar, *Cello*

This evening's program is approximately 75 minutes long and will be performed without intermission.

Please make certain all your electronic devices are switched off.

This evening's performance is dedicated to Marlene Roseman in gratitude of Cindy and Richard Leibovitch's support of Lincoln Center.

Major support for Lincoln Center's American Songbook is provided by Amy & Joseph Perella.

Endowment support provided by Bank of America

This performance is made possible in part by the Josie Robertson Fund for Lincoln Center.

The Appel Room

Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall

Additional support for Lincoln Center's American Songbook is provided by Meg and Bennett Goodman, Rita J. and Stanley H. Kaplan Family Foundation, Inc., The DuBose and Dorothy Heyward Memorial Fund, Jill & Irwin B. Cohen, The Shubert Foundation, Great Performers Circle, Chairman's Council, and Friends of Lincoln Center.

Public support is provided by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature

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Artist catering provided by Zabar's and Zabars.com

UPCOMING AMERICAN SONGBOOK EVENTS IN THE APPEL ROOM:

Friday, February 3, at 8:30 pm

Okkervil River

Saturday, February 4, at 8:30 pm

Heather Headley

Wednesday, February 15, at 8:30 pm

Liz Callaway Sings Maltby & Shire

Thursday, February 16, at 8:30 pm

Laura Mvula

Friday, February 17, at 8:30 pm

Jamie Lidell & The Royal Pharaohs

Saturday, February 18, at 8:30 pm

Santino Fontana

Wednesday, February 22, at 8:30 pm

Indie.Arie

Thursday, February 23, at 8:30 pm

Buffy Sainte-Marie

The Appel Room is located in Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall.

For tickets, call (212) 721-6500 or visit AmericanSongbook.org. Call the Lincoln Center Info Request Line at (212) 875-5766 or visit AmericanSongbook.org for complete program information.

Join the conversation: #LCSongbook

We would like to remind you that the sound of coughing and rustling paper might distract the performers and your fellow audience members.

In consideration of the performing artists and members of the audience, those who must leave before the end of the performance are asked to do so between pieces. Flash photography and the use of recording equipment are not allowed in the building.

John Ondrasik



JEREMY COWART

Singer/songwriter John Ondrasik, who goes by Five for Fighting (a five-minute penalty in hockey for on-the-ice fisticuffs), burst onto the scene some 15 years ago with his Grammy-nominated hit “Superman (It’s Not Easy).” It went platinum, as did the album, and reached No. 1 on Billboard’s Adult Top 40 list. He has had three No. 1 singles and sold over 2.5 million albums, which include *Battle for Everything* (2004) and its dou-

ble-platinum single, “100 Years.”

A Los Angeles native, Mr. Ondrasik signed his first record deal in 1997 with *Message for Albert*, but it was his follow-up, *American Town*, that really took flight. Other hits have included “The Riddle,” “World,” “Chances,” and “What If.” His music has been featured in numerous films, including *The Blind Side*, TV shows such as *Hawaii Five-O*, and advertisements. He has also written tunes for such artists as Josh Groban and the Backstreet Boys.

Using his music in service of others, Mr. Ondrasik has given away a million copies of a compilation album featuring himself and other artists that he created for U.S. military troops. He has also performed regularly for the USO. An initiative created off his song “World,” in which fans uploaded videos to the Web showing their respective interpretations of a better world, raised more than \$250,000 for five designated charities: Augie’s Quest, Autism Speaks, Fisher House Foundation, Save the Children, and Operation Homefront.

Mr. Ondrasik has been a featured speaker at TED talks and the Salk Institute. He has appeared at the Kennedy Center, performed for world leaders and presidents, and contributed a special performance for NASA to commemorate the conclusion of the space shuttle missions.

Melissa Tong

Melissa Tong (violin) is quickly gaining a reputation for her finesse and versatility, performing everywhere from Boston’s Symphony Hall with Savion Glover and Lincoln Center to one of the last remaining juke joints in Mississippi. Recent performances have found her on the airwaves with Sara Bareilles, on the road with Five for Fighting, and opening for the late Leon Russell with Riley Etheridge, Jr. Additionally, Ms. Tong has worked with Young the Giant, Rihanna, Lucius, The Lone Bellow, The Album Leaf,

Wakey!Wakey!, The Dig, San Fermin, Sufjan Stevens, Vienna Teng, Elizabeth and the Catapult, Delta Rae, Ari Hest, and The Spring Standards, among others. She spent several years as piano accompanist to Grammy-winning violinist Mark O'Connor. Reflecting her educational philosophy of fostering a love of community, Ms. Tong recently founded StringJams!, a series of jam sessions for students, and String It On!, a series of workshops designed to broaden the musical horizons of young string players.

Katie Kresek

Born into a family of artists, writers, and musicians, Katie Kresek (violin) enjoys a diverse career making and sharing music all over the world. Based in New York City, Ms. Kresek performs with a variety of orchestras in the metropolitan area and in the Broadway productions of *Hamilton*, *On the Town*, *Matilda*, and many others. She has recorded with Paul Simon, James Taylor, Norah Jones, Lenny Kravitz, Alicia Keys, and Jay-Z, and has also performed with Steve Martin and Edie Brickell, Beyoncé, Kanye West, Lana Del Rey, Rufus Wainwright, Elbow, and Diana Krall. Her television credits include performances on *Saturday Night Live*, *The Late Show with David Letterman*, *American Idol*, *Today*, *The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon*, and most recently as concertmaster of the largest orchestra to perform inside the Ed Sullivan Theater on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*. A graduate of Columbia University and the Mannes School of Music, Ms. Kresek most recently toured Europe and North America with Adele.

Chris Cardona

Violinist and violist Chris Cardona (viola) has kept life interesting by exploring as many different playing opportunities as can find him. He has recorded, performed, and worked on projects with such artists as Philip Selway of Radiohead, U2, Ray Lamontagne, Dolly Parton, Bon Jovi, Sheryl Crow, Sharon Jones, John Pizzarelli, Keith Jarrett, Hall & Oates, Foo Fighters, Dixie Chicks, and John Ondrasik. Mr. Cardona has also had an active and varied career playing Broadway shows as well as recording for television and film. He was cast as the Fiddler in the 2004 Broadway revival of *Fiddler on the Roof* and has played in many other Broadway shows, including *Caroline, or Change*; *9 to 5: The Musical*; the original production of *Ragtime*; and most recently *Spiderman: Turn Off the Dark* and *Tuck Everlasting*. After finishing his studies at The Juilliard School, he spent two seasons playing in the Orquesta Ciutat de Barcelona before returning to the U.S. to make New York his home.

Dave Eggar

Four-time Grammy nominee Dave Eggar (cello) has performed throughout the world as a solo classical cellist and pianist, including engagements at Carnegie

Hall, The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the Hollywood Bowl, London's Barbican Centre and Queen Elizabeth Hall, Paris Opera, and Aspen Music Festival. As an arranger and soloist, he has collaborated with artists such as Paul Simon, Frank Ocean, Zayn Malik, Evanescence, Breaking Benjamin, Train, OAR, Bebel Gilberto, Josh Groban, Foreigner, and Tony Bennett. Mr. Eggar currently tours as a regular member of Phillip Phillips's band, and with Five for Fighting and singer Amy Lee. He has scored over 30 films, including the upcoming release *Blind*, starring Alec Baldwin and Demi Moore. In collaboration with actor Robert Redford and visual artist Bylle Redford, he also created the evening-length theater work *The Way of the Rain*. Mr. Eggar has received awards from Sony Records, National Endowment for the Arts, the Leonard Bernstein Foundation and ASCAP for his work in contemporary music.

American Songbook

In 1998, Lincoln Center launched American Songbook, dedicated to the celebration of popular American song. Designed to highlight and affirm the creative mastery of America's songwriters from their emergence at the turn of the 19th century up through the present, American Songbook spans all styles and genres, from the form's early roots in Tin Pan Alley and Broadway to the eclecticism of today's singer-songwriters. American Songbook also showcases the outstanding interpreters of popular song, including established and emerging concert, cabaret, theater, and songwriter performers.

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc.

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (LCPA) serves three primary roles: presenter of artistic programming, national leader in arts and education and community relations, and manager of the Lincoln Center campus. A presenter of more than 3,000 free and ticketed events, performances, tours, and educational activities annually, LCPA offers 15 programs, series, and festivals including American Songbook, Great Performers, Lincoln Center Festival, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Midsummer Night Swing, the Mostly Mozart Festival, and the White Light Festival, as well as the Emmy Award-winning *Live From Lincoln Center*, which airs nationally on PBS. As manager of the Lincoln Center campus, LCPA provides support and services for the Lincoln Center complex and the 11 resident organizations. In addition, LCPA led a \$1.2 billion campus renovation, completed in October 2012.

Lincoln Center Programming Department

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Luna Shyr, *Senior Editor*

Olivia Fortunato, *Programming Assistant*

For American Songbook

Rocky Noel, *Lighting Design*

Scott Stauffer, *Sound Design*

Angela M. Fludd, *Wardrobe Assistant*

Janet Rucker, *Company Manager*

Rocky Noel

Lighting designer Rocky Noel returns to Lincoln Center's American Songbook after recently completing two weeks on Broadway with Kristin Chenoweth in *My Love Letter to Broadway*. Mr. Noel calls New York City home and has worked extensively with artists such as Liza Minnelli, Barbra Streisand, Alan Cumming, Chita Rivera, Christine Ebersole, Elaine Paige, Stephanie J. Block, and Joel Grey, among countless others.

Scott Stauffer

Scott Stauffer has been the sound designer for Lincoln Center's American Songbook since 1999. His Broadway design credits include *A Free Man of Color*, *The Rivals*, *Contact* (also in London and Tokyo), *Marie Christine*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Jekyll & Hyde*. Off-Broadway Mr. Stauffer has worked on *Subverted*, *Promises, Hereafter*, *A Minister's Wife*, *Bernarda Alba*, *Third*, *Belle Epoque*, *Big Bill*, *Elegies*, *Hello Again*, *The Spitfire Grill*, *Pageant*, and *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. His regional credits include productions at the Capitol Repertory Theatre, University of Michigan, Hanger Theatre, Berkshire Theatre Festival, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, and Alley Theatre. His concert credits include many Lincoln Center galas, as well as the Actors Fund concerts of *Frank Loesser*, *Broadway 101*, *Hair*, and *On the Twentieth Century*. At Carnegie Hall he has worked with Chita Rivera and Brian Stokes Mitchell. As a sound engineer, Mr. Stauffer has worked on *The Lion King*, *Juan Darién*, *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*, *Carousel*, *Once on This Island*, and the original *Little Shop of Horrors*.