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Syracuse University Opera Workshop Presents: "Vignettes: Ellis Island Coming Home" A Staged Song Cycle by Alan Louis Smith; Kathleen Roland-Silverstein, Director; Kathleen Haddock, Pianist and Coach

Syracuse University Opera Workshop, Setnor School of Music

Kathleen Roland-Silverstein
Syracuse University

Kathleen Haddock

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SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
OPERA WORKSHOP

Lindsey Bartlett, Jada Crawford, Hannah Lambertz, Alexandra Manzano,
Laura McCall, Sara Mitnik, Claire Nolan, Tara Sandlin, Danielle Shubsda,
Katerina Skafidas, Diana Slater, Hannah Williams

Director	Kathleen Roland-Silverstein
Rehearsal Pianists	Kathleen W. Haddock Dan Sato
Assistant Stage Directors	Hannah Lambertz Laura McCall
Budget Administrator	Megan Carlsen
Scenic Design	Lisa Kendrick
Photographic Images	Maranie Rae
Costumes	<i>Pierre's Costumes</i>
Costume Manager	Elaine Taylor
Costume Coordinators	Claire Nolan Tara Sandlin Danielle Shubsda
Props Coordinators	Lindsey Bartlett Danielle Shubsda Sara Mitnik Diana Slater
Make-up & Hair Coordinators	Jada Crawford Sara Mitnik Hannah Williams Alexandra Manzano
Program Manager	Katerina Skafidas

Special thanks to Michelle Taylor

*We acknowledge with respect the Onondaga Nation,
firekeepers of the Haudenosaunee, the indigenous people
on whose ancestral lands Syracuse University now stands.*

*Please turn off all electronic devices and refrain from making extraneous noise, taking
flash photographs, or moving about the auditorium during the performance. Thank you.*



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SETNOR
SCHOOL OF
MUSIC

Syracuse University
Opera Workshop Presents:

Vignettes: Ellis Island
Coming Home

A staged song cycle by
Alan Louis Smith

Oral Histories from Ellis Island
Collected and Excerpted by Paul Segrist, Jr.,
Director, Ellis Island Oral Histories Project,
Ellis Island Immigration Museum

Kathleen Roland-Silverstein, *director*

Kathleen W. Haddock, *pianist & coach*

Setnor Auditorium
December 4th, 2019
7:00 pm

Syracuse University
College of Visual and Performing Arts

Vignettes: Ellis Island
A Song Cycle in Six Parts

Oral Histories from Ellis Island

“This song cycle was actually the brainchild of Paul Sigrist, Jr., Director of the Ellis Island Oral History Project. In 1997, he sent me a large number of excerpts from interviews he had conducted with persons who had passed through Ellis Island on their immigration to America. He specifically chose excerpts in which ‘the use of language, narrative description of emotional content’ struck him ‘as being inherently musical in some way.’ He selected specific quotes with music in mind.

I selected and ordered passages from the excerpts so that they tell a progressive story from the preparation to leave for America through settlement in the United States. Since the excerpts are taken from the lives of many individuals, the journey of the cycle, like the journey of the immigrants, tells a collective tale appropriate to America’s ‘melting pot.’

The songs were written for mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe and were originally intended to be sung all by one voice; however, the songs could be divided between or among singers in several ways.”

Alan Louis Smith, composer

Faculty

Kathleen Weaverling Haddock (*Pianist and Vocal Coach*) received a Master's degree in Piano Performance from Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University, and a Masters in Vocal Coaching and Accompanying from Boston University. She was a fellow at Tanglewood for two years, and an Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia faculty member (lieder instructor) This was followed by nearly ten years playing and assisting Kappellmeisters in preparing opera and choral works in Germany, while participating in master classes and performances in Europe. She has been a pianist /coach for past Syracuse Opera and Syracuse Symphony rehearsals, and has played for Civic Morning Musicals recitals, and various other projects. She is currently an adjunct professor at Syracuse University, and enjoys her ensemble classes, and especially all her students at SU and at home who continuously teach her many things and inspire her to do better.

Dan Sato (*Rehearsal Pianist and Vocal Coach*) is fueled by a mad, yet pure, love for the art of piano-playing, Dr. Dan Sato enjoys a colorful career as a concert artist, scholar, educator, and chamber musician in high demand. His passion for the repertoire can be seen in his eclectic programs that are rendered with "exuberant spontaneity, deep conviction, and serious compositional understanding." Over the years, he has been rewarded with ovations at the New Orleans Piano Institute, Brevard Music Center, Chautauqua Music Festival, Garth Newel Music Center, and Taconic Music's Summer Festival. Other appearances include the Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition and the Quartet Program as one of their official pianists, and he has served as an artist-faculty member of the Perlman Music Program. 2019 began with his European recital debut presenting the complete Chopin Études in honor of his mentor, Dr. Frank Heneghan, and later in the spring, he took part in the critically-acclaimed complete cycle performance of George Crumb's Makrokosmos organized by the Kaleidoscope MusArt Series in Miami, FL. In addition to these appearances, an album of transcriptions for saxophone and piano ("Deviations") was released in collaboration with Dr. Diane Hunger, and with cellist, Leah Plave, he recorded the complete works for cello and piano by Henriette Bosmans. As a specialist in piano transcriptions, he recently completed his solo piano version of Ravel's Introduction and Allegro, and in the near future, he will be presenting a solo recital program featuring orchestral literature associated with the major repertoire of the Ballets Russes.

Kathleen Roland- Silverstein (*Director*) is a highly regarded concert soloist and specialist in the music of the 20th and 21st century. She has been a featured singer with many music festivals, including the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, the Britten-Pears Institute and the Tanglewood Music Festival. She has appeared frequently with the Grammy award-winning Southwest Chamber Music Society of Los Angeles, and with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra at Disney Hall and the Hollywood Bowl. Dr. Roland is a Fulbright senior scholar, and an American Scandinavian Foundation grantee. In 2012, she joined the faculty of the Setnor School of Music at Syracuse University. She is

the music reviewer for the NATS Journal of Singing, assistant editor of NOA's Opera Journal, and is the author of an anthology of Swedish art song, *Romanser: 25 Swedish Art Song with Guide to Lyric Diction*. She is thrilled to be working with this talented bunch of Setnor students!



PROLOGUE / ON THE SHIP – COMING TO AMERICA

Emma Schmid Schwarz *Sara Mitnik*
born 1907, emigrated from Germany in 1926 at age 18

Anna Zagar Klarich *Lindsey Bartlett*
born 1902, emigrated from Yugoslavia in 1920 at age 18

Manny Steen *Danielle Shubsda*
born 1906, emigrated from Ireland in 1925 at age 19

Martha Kallens Reininger *Hannah Lambertz*
born 1911, emigrated from Germany in 1924 at age 13

Clara Storz Schmidt *Lindsey Bartlett*
born 1905, emigrated from Germany in 1923 at age 18

Theresa Gavin Duffy *Hannah Lambertz*
born 1892, emigrated from Ireland in 1912 at age 19

Kaj Sorenson *Jada Crawford*
born 1909, emigrated from Denmark in 1923 at age 14

Angelo Vacca *Tara Sandlin*
born 1896, emigrated from Italy in 1909, at age 12

INTERVIEWS, MANY YEARS LATER

Max Mason *Katerina Skafidas*
born 1912, emigrated from the Ukraine at age 8

Mary Cox Harney *Claire Nolan*
born 1903, emigrated from Ireland at age 23

Regina Sass Tepper *Danielle Shubsda*
born 1908, emigrated from Poland in 1923 at age 14

Elizabeth Coyle Scott
born 1892, emigrated from Ireland in 1915 at age 22
Tara Sandlin, Alexandra Manziano, Diana Slater

ON THE SHIP – IN THE HARBOR

Dora Heller Rich *Laura McCall*
born 1896, emigrated from Austria-Hungary in 1909 at age 15

Estelle Schwarz Belford *Jada Crawford*
born 1900, emigrated from Romania in 1905 at age 5

Max Schnapp *Tara Sandlin*
born 1904, emigrated from Romania, at age 19

Martha Kallens Reininger *Diana Slater*
born 1911, emigrated from Germany in 1924 at age 13

INTERVIEWS, MANY YEARS LATER

Kaj Sorenson *Hannah Williams*
born 1909, emigrated from Denmark in 1923 at age 14

Allan Gunn *Alexandra Manziano*
born 1916, emigrated from Scotland in 1925 at age 9

Irena Leonidoff Spross *Lindsey Bartlett*
born 1920, emigrated from Russia via France in 1929 at age 8

Max Schnapp *Laura McCall*
born 1904, emigrated from Romania, at age 19

BECOMING CITIZENS

Morris Schneider *Sara Mitnik*
born 1910, emigrated from Poland in 1920 at age 10

Jack Tellalian *Hannah Williams*
born 1913, an Armenian who emigrated from Turkey in 1921 at age 7

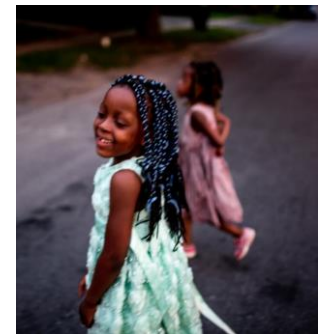
Catherine Gaetano Gallippi *Claire Nolan*
born 1914, emigrated from Italy in 1922 at age 8

Anna Zagar Klarich *Katerina Skafidas*
born 1902, emigrated from Yugoslavia in 1920 at age 18

**Immigrants:
Coming Home, Yesterday and Today**

Today, Syracuse is home to many immigrants, with more than 13,000 arriving here between 2000 and 2016. They come from countries as far away as Africa, Burma, Iraq, Somalia, and Cuba, and are assisted by organizations such as Catholic Charities of Onondaga County, Hopeprint: Refugee Alliance, Interfaith Works of CNY, and Refugee Immigrant Self-Empowerment, who give compassionate aid to refugees settling in the area.

The work of photographer Maranie Rae (maranierae.com), graduate student at Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University, has been featured in The Atlantic, the New York Times, The Guardian, the Esquire, The Observer, CNN, and Reuters. Her work captures and communicates the humanity of the immigrants and refugees who have found a home here in our community. The photographs included here are from Rae's collections, The Geography of Belonging and La Cruel Realidad.



Cast & Crew

Lindsey Bartlett (*Anna Zagar Klarich, Irena Leonidoff Spross, Clara Storz Schmidt*) is a first-year graduate student at Syracuse University in Vocal Performance, where she studies with Dr. Kathleen Roland-Silverstein. She completed her Bachelor of Music Cum Laude in Vocal Performance at Eastern New Mexico University, where she studied with Dr. Travis Sherwood. She has previously performed the roles of Ida Straus in *Titanic the Musical* (2019), *Pirate/ Officer* in *Pirates of Penzance* (2017), and took part in a scenes program, performing most notably as *La Ciesca* from *Gianni Schicchi* (2018). She has also won a number of awards, including first place in TEXOMA Regional NATS competition in the senior women division (2019), first place in the New Mexico Vocal Artistry Competition (2018), and runner up in the ENMU Friends of Music Competition (2016 - 2018). She is also featured in composer Gwyneth Walker's website as a soloist for her piece, "Weave No Cloak Against Tomorrow". Lindsey aspires to perform all around the world and eventually have her own private voice studio. In her free time, she enjoys cooking, reading, poetry, art, and spending time with her two cats.

Jada Crawford (*Kaj Sorenson, Estelle Schwarz Belford, Interviewer*) is a sophomore Sound Recording Technology major from New York City. She is a mezzo-soprano and performed in opera workshop's production of *Le Nozze di Figaro* in the spring semester of 2019. In addition to classical singing, she also plays guitar, bass, and steel pan and is a singer-songwriter.

Hannah Lambertz (*Martha Kallens Reininger, Theresa Gavins Duffy/Assistant Director*) is a soprano who hails from the flat lands of Yankton, South Dakota, where she was brought up on corn, music, and theatre. She holds a B.M. in Voice Performance from the University of South Dakota, and is currently working on master's degrees in both Voice Performance and Voice Pedagogy at Syracuse University. Actively performing both musicals and opera, some notable performances Ms. Lambertz has had the pleasure of working on are *Susanna* in *The Marriage of Figaro* (Syracuse University), *Laurie Moss* in *The Tender Land* (University of South Dakota Opera), and *Veronica Sawyer* in *Heathers: The Musical*. In a concert setting, she has performed as a soprano soloist in *Gounod's St. Cecilia Mass*, has given several solo recitals, and performs weekly at St. Paul's Episcopal Church with their choir. Ms. Lambertz is a student of Dr. Kathleen Roland-Silverstein.

Alexandra Manziano (*Allan Gunn, Elizabeth Coyle Scott*) is a junior at Syracuse University, studying illustration at the School of Visual and Performing Arts. This is her first performance at Syracuse University, however, she has performed in many shows in high school, including *Funny Girl*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *The Sound of Music* in high school. She also took part in *Select Chamber Voices Choir*, *New Jersey Regions Choir*, and *New Jersey All-State Choir*. Alexandra is extremely excited to perform in *Vignettes: Ellis Island*.

Cast & Crew

Laura McCall (*Dora Heller Rich, Max Schnapp/Assistant Director*) is a frequently featured soprano soloist in the Syracuse, New York area. Last season, she performed with the Auburn Chamber Orchestra, and was the soprano soloist for the Central New York debut of Dan Forrest's *Lux: The Dawn from on High* with MasterWorks Chorale of Central New York. Other past solo performances include *Handel's Messiah*; *Haydn's Missa brevis in F*; *Mozart's Vesperae Solennes de confessore*; *Humperdinck's Hansel and Gretel*; *Second Lady* from *Mozart's The Magic Flute*; *Hodel in Fiddler on the Roof*. Most recently, Laura has presented recitals featuring the music of Scandinavian composers *Sibelius*, *Fruerier*, and *Stenhammar*. This coming spring, Laura looks forward to performing *Sibelius' Luonnotar*. Laura is a student of Dr. Kathleen Roland-Silverstein, and is working towards a master's degree in vocal pedagogy at Syracuse University. She holds a masters of music degree in vocal performance from Ithaca College and a bachelors in vocal performance from Roberts Wesleyan College.

Sara Mitnik (*Emma Schmid Schwarz, Morris Schneider*) is delighted to return to the Setnor stage in this production of *Vignettes: Ellis Island*. As an emerging young mezzo soprano, she looks forward to performing with such an incredible cast. She is a student of the Setnor School of Music, pursuing a double degree in music and psychology, with a minor in forensic science. As she approaches the end of her senior year, Mitnik is preparing to audition for graduate school to pursue a master of music degree. She is also involved in the Syracuse All-Steel Pan Orchestra and is the music director of The Mandarins acapella group. She enjoys performing across multiple genres of music, with past roles in *The Marriage of Figaro* (*Marcellina*), *Starmites* (*Diva*), and a performance this past summer with the world renowned steel band, *Skiffle*, in Washington D.C. She hopes to continue her classical training, as well as to explore other styles in order to share her music with all.

Claire Nolan (*Mary Cox Harney, Catherine Gaetano Gallippi*) is a voice performance major with minors in drama (directing) and music history and cultures. Miss Nolan enjoys singing new music and considers herself a budding experimentalist. She would like to thank Dr. Roland for considering this work - the relevance of immigration in this production is something we cannot ignore. It is so rewarding to step into the shoes of an Irish immigrant, not unlike her own maternal great-grandmother, who had a similar experience immigrating to America.

Tara Sandlin (*Angelo Vacca, Elizabeth Coyle Scott, Max Schnapp*) is a freshman vocal performance major from Memphis, Tennessee, who is incredibly excited to be making her Syracuse debut in this production. Previously, she has been seen as *Phyllis* in *Iolanthe* (Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts) and *Second Spirit* in *The Magic Flute* (Opera Memphis). She is also a member of *Crouse Chorale* and the *Hendricks Chapel Choir*. She would like to thank the cast, Dr. Roland, Professor Haddock, and all involved in this production for the opportunity to be part of it.

Cast & Crew

Danielle Shubsda (*Manny Steen, Regina Sass Tepper*) is a mezzo-soprano from Liverpool, NY. Now in her senior year at Syracuse University, she is studying Music Industry with Vocal Performance Honors in the Setnor School of Music. She is a student of Dr. Kathleen Roland-Silverstein. During her time at Setnor, Danielle has been involved in many ensembles including Oratorio Society, University Singers, and Hendricks Chapel Choir. Danielle is an active member of the Sigma Iota chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, a music fraternity on campus. Over the summer, Danielle interned for Neva Pilgrim at the Society for New Music, where she stage managed an opera and helped to promote new music concerts. Currently, she is interning for Dr. Anne Laver at Setnor to help with the organization of the Music and Message series held at Hendricks Chapel. After graduation, Danielle hopes to attend grad school, then ultimately to have a career in arts administration within the music industry.

Katerina Skafidas (*Max Mason, Anna Zagar Klarich*) a Syracuse native, is a soprano in the studio of Professor Janet Brown at the Setnor School of Music, with a voice performance major, and minors in drama and music history. At Syracuse University, she has spent all four years in University Singers and the University Opera. She has also worked with various local and student composers on premiering their new music, particularly through the Society for New Music. Kat represents her senior class well as a Class Marshal of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, having spent her time as a VPA peer advisor, music theory tutor, and work-study in Setnor Operations as a house manager. Kat is a sister of Sigma Alpha Iota, the international music fraternity for women, as well as Pi Kappa Lambda, the National Music Honor Society. Outside of SU, she currently sings in the Syracuse Opera chorus, teaches voice lessons, and is the soprano section leader and soloist at Plymouth Church in downtown Syracuse. This past January, she performed the role of the Contessa in SU's production of *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and portrayed the same role in the New York Lyric Opera's production this past June. Recently, she received the Neva Pilgrim Award in the younger division of the Civic Morning Musicals Vocal Competition, and the Donna Z. Miller Award for Voice Performance.

Diana Slater (*Elizabeth Coyle Scott, Martha Kallens Reininger*) is a junior vocal performance major at Syracuse University, where she studies with Professor Janet Brown. Originally from Pittsburgh, she hopes to continue her studies and have a career in performance. She sings with University Singers and Hendricks Chapel Choir at Syracuse, and recently performed as Barbarina in the 2019 production of *Le Nozze di Figaro*. Diana currently holds a position as an intern for the Music and Message series at Hendricks Chapel, and serves as music chair in SAI. Outside of Syracuse University, she has performed with Oswego Opera Theatre as Ida/Sally in *Die Fledermaus* in 2018, and with the Syracuse Opera Chorus in their 2017 production of *Carmen*. She also frequently cantors for Our Lady of Hope Parish at St. James Church and St. Joseph's Church. She is grateful for these opportunities and hopes for more in the future!

Hannah Williams (*Kaj Sorenson, Jack Tellalian*) is a sophomore at Setnor School of Music with a major in classical voice performance. She is local to Syracuse and grew up in Cicero. She is

currently a member of University Singers, and *Ellis Island* will be her first opera production at college. She has been studying voice with Dr. Kathleen Roland Silverstein since she started at Syracuse University. She is thrilled to perform with such a talented group of unique women. She wants to thank everyone for coming out to see *Ellis Island*!

Immigrants:

Coming Home, Yesterday and Today

From 1892 to 1954, over twelve million immigrants entered the United States through the portal of Ellis Island, a small island in New York Harbor. "Despite the island's reputation as an "Island of Tears", the vast majority of immigrants were treated courteously and respectfully, and were free to begin their new lives in America after only a few short hours on Ellis Island." www.libertyellisland.org

The narrative represented here in these early photographs tells the stories of the brave souls who endured great hardship to come to America.

