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9-18-2015

### Celebration in Honor of Patti Thompson and Donna Miller

Setnor School of Music

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**Celebration in Honor of  
Patti Thompson and Donna Miller**

**Barnes Hiscock House  
September 18, 2015 7:30PM**



*Please be sure to turn off all electronic devices, and please refrain from making extraneous noise, talking, taking flash photographs, or moving about the auditorium during the performance. It is important for performers and audience members to have the best possible concert-going experience in Setnor Auditorium. Thank you.*

Welcome Remarks

I Love Teaching Voice

Ben Moore  
(b.1951)

Psyché

Emille Paladilhe  
(1844-1926)

*Janet Brown, soprano*  
*Ida Tili-Trebicka, piano*

*Alexandria Turner, soprano*  
*Sabine Krantz, piano*

Reflections

Gregory Sheppard

Go, Lovely Rose

Roger Quilter  
(1877-1953)

Musica proibita

Stanislao Gastaldon  
(1861-1939)

*Nicholas Godzak, tenor*  
*Sabine Krantz, piano*

*Richard Crawley, tenor*  
*Ida Tili-Trebicka, piano*

Amorosi miei giorni

Stefano Donaudy  
(1879-1925)

*Megan Murphy, soprano*  
*Ida Tili-Trebicka, piano*

Reflections

Neva Pilgrim

Reflections

Christine Klemperer and Jon Davies

Elfenlied  
Der Gärtner

Hugo Wolf  
(1860-1903)

A Word on my Ear

Flanders and Swann  
(1922-1975) and (1923-1994)

*Julie McKinstry, soprano*  
*Ida Tili-Trebicka, piano*

Donna Miller joined the voice faculty at Onondaga Community College in 1976. In the fall of 1982 she became a member of the voice faculty at SU. She taught two Vocal Pedagogy courses, one for Voice majors and one for Music Ed majors, as well as studio voice.

For many years Donna was very active in the National Association of Teachers of Singing, and served two terms as president of the CNY Finger Lakes chapter.

Donna sang professionally with Tri-Cities Opera, Syracuse Opera, Syracuse Symphony, The Society for New Music, Syracuse Camerata, Skaneateles Music Festival, and Civic Morning Musicals, as well as church soloist for 36 years.

She sang the role of Portia in “The Obtaining of Portia”, an opera by Brian Israel, a composition professor in the music department. In 1986 she performed Israel’s “Symphony No. 6” commissioned for Soprano, Bass and Chamber Orchestra by the Syracuse Camerata. The concert was in the old Crouse Auditorium with Donald Miller, bass and Ronald Schweitzer, conductor. Israel heard the recording that day and died 3 days later of leukemia. The Symphony was later performed with the Syracuse Orchestra, Kazuyoshi Akiyama, conductor.

Donna performed new works by Christopher Keyes and Burrill Phillips, sponsored by the Society for New Music.

She was an active recitalist and member of Partners in Song with Jean Loftus. She has fond memories of recitals and concerts with Robert Kopelson, Will Headlee and Joseph Downing at the keyboard, to name several SU professors.

Conductors with whom she worked include Kazuyoshi Akiyama, Christopher Keene, Peyton Hibbitt, Calvin Custer, James Caraher, Gregg Smith and Ronald Schweitzer.

Kentucky-born soprano, Patti Thompson received her musical education in the United States and her professional "seasoning" in Europe. Raised in an extremely musical family, her first training began with the piano and her initial public solo singing at the age of ten. She was granted a full scholarship to the famed Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. Upon graduation with honors from Curtis, she won two Fulbright Scholarships for further study in Rome, Italy at the Teatro del Opera. While concertizing throughout Italy and developing her operatic repertoire with Maestro Luigi Ricci and Ricardo Picozzi, Ms. Thompson was also accepted for study at the Academia of Santa Cecilia in Rome and upon completion, was awarded an Academia's diploma.

Her extensive operatic repertoire of over fifty roles includes the title role of MADAMA BUTTERFLY, Konstanze in the ABDUCTION FROM THE SERAGLIO and all three female leads, in each performance, in THE TALES OF HOFFMANN.

Winner of the National Federation of Music Clubs Student Auditions, the coveted Philadelphia Orchestra Young Artist's Auditions, two Rockefeller Grants for both Germany and the United States, Ms. Thompson was engaged as a leading Soprano with the Osnabruck Opera Company and toured with that company in Northern Germany and Holland.

Among the opera companies with which she has performed in the United States are the Mobile Opera Association, Chautauqua Opera, Central City Opera, Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, Opera Theater of Syracuse, Syracuse Opera Company, Tri Cities Opera, and the Art Park Festival.

This versatile singer has performed over two hundred performances at Radio City Music Hall and in numerous "pops" concerts as well as musical theater shows. She sang also with numerous orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, St.

Louis Symphony, Washington National Symphony, Buffalo Philharmonic, Long Island Symphony and the Norfolk Symphony.

In 1966, sponsored by a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts, Ms. Thompson was selected by founding conductor Karl Kritz to be a resident artist with the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra. Her appointment lasted for two seasons after which she returned to Europe to continue performing.

In 1970 Patti Thompson married Stephen W. Buechner and made her permanent home in Syracuse, New York where they raised their two magnificent children, Karl and June.

She soon developed a large private studio of voice which she still maintains. At first, she taught at Onondaga Community College and then began teaching in the School of Music at Syracuse University in 1977. Eventually the school became known as the Setnor School of Music. Ms. Thompson's association with Syracuse University lasted until the end of the spring semester in 2014. You don't need to count. It's thirty seven years! Her association with the University and her respected colleagues was long, treasured and a great learning experience for her. The students were a wonderful source of inspiration with their youthful enthusiasm and passion for the art form which has so possessed her ever since she can remember.