

LIEDER ALIVE!

RE-INVIGORATING THE TEACHING, PERFORMANCE AND APPRECIATION OF GERMAN LIEDER

Maxine Bernstein, Director

Media Contact:

Chris Wybenga, (562) 413-7416

chris@liederalive.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 21, 2014

LIEDER ALIVE! presents

“Männer-Lieder”

An evening of Lieder with

Kirk Eichelberger, bass

Simona Snitkovskaya, piano

Featuring the World Premiere of

Jaegermeisterlieder: A Song Set for Manly Men

By Kurt Erickson

Saturday, June 14 at 8:00 pm

(Doors open at 7:30 pm)

The Music Salon at Salle Pianos

1632C Market Street, San Francisco

Full calendar listing below

San Francisco – The fourth and final concert in **LIEDER ALIVE!’s 2014 Liederabend Recital Series** will be presented on Saturday, June 14, and will feature acclaimed **bass Kirk Eichelberger** in an evening of song that celebrates masculinity and the male voice. A commanding performer of both opera and Lieder, the New York-based vocalist has been praised for “commanding the stage at every turn” (San Francisco Chronicle) and for his “resonant bass and riveting stage presence” (Dayton City Paper.) For this – his third – Liederabend recital, Mr. Eichelberger will perform the **complete *Dichterliebe (The Poet’s Love)* song cycle of Robert Schumann, *Drei Lieder* by Richard Strauss**, and the **World Premiere of *Jaegermeisterlieder: A Song Set for Manly Men* by Composer-in-Residence Kurt Erickson**. These songs were composed expressly for Mr. Eichelberger as part of **LIEDER ALIVE!’s Neue Lieder Commissioning Program**, and represent an important part of our **Neue Lieder Songbook**. Mr. Erickson is widely sought-after as a composer; his recent commissions have included works for tenor Brian Asawa, the San Francisco Opera Ballet, and the San Francisco Girls Chorus. **Pianist Simona Snitkovskaya**, an accomplished collaborative musician and Russian opera coach with Opera San Jose, joins Mr. Eichelberger in the recital. The recital will take place at **The Music Salon at Salle Pianos** – an intimate and convivial performance space perfectly suited to the tradition of *Liederabend* – located in the City’s lively Performing Arts District. The program will be followed by a reception with the artists.

About the Series

The annual Liederabend Series (“Evenings of Song”) was inaugurated by LIEDER ALIVE! in 2012 to increase audience awareness and appreciation of the wonderful musical genre of Lieder. Recitals – which are from time to time offered as brunch performances at “mittag” – are presented in the intimate setting of the Salle Music Salon in San Francisco, and feature performances by some of the most outstanding professional musicians in the Bay Area and beyond; past programs have included sopranos Heidi Moss and Erin Johnson; mezzo-sopranos Kindra Scharich and Katherine Tier; bass Kirk Eichelberger; and collaborating pianists John Parr (LIEDER ALIVE!’s Master Coach), Steven Bailey, Bryan Baker, George Fee, Peter Grünberg, and Simona Snitkovskaya. The 2012/13 season closed with a performance by Ms. Scharich with violist Paul Yarbrough (of the award-winning Alexander String Quartet) and Mr. Parr; in his San Francisco Classical Voice review, critic Jason Victor Serinus wrote: “[The] performance was so beautiful, and so honored the essence of love and longing at the heart of Brahms’ music, that I wanted it to go on and on.” The setting, at Salle Music Salon, is another key feature of the series: Mr. Serinus concluded his review by saying, “If there is a more refreshing setting for a lieder recital in the Bay Area, let alone a less stuffy, more respectful audience composed of people of all ages, please point me to it.”

About the Artists



KIRK EICHELBERGER (bass) is an ardent interpreter of both Lieder and opera. He was heard in recital last season with LIEDER ALIVE! in a performance of Brahms’s Vier ernste Gesänge (Four Serious Songs) as well as An die Musik, Der Tod und das Mädchen, and other songs by Schubert. Mr. Eichelberger has sung major operatic roles throughout the U.S. and Canada, including performances with the Sacramento Opera, Opera Santa Barbara, Monterey Opera, Opera Memphis, Sorg Opera, Trinity Lyric Opera, the Washington National Opera, Nevada Opera, Opera Birmingham, Dayton Opera, the Virginia Opera, Cincinnati Opera, and Spoleto Festival USA. He was most recently seen as The Emperor in Tan Dun’s *Tea: A Mirror of Soul* with the Opera Company of Philadelphia; as Mephistophélès in *Faust* with Opera Grand Rapids; as Sparafucile in *Rigoletto* with the Vancouver

Opera; as Karenin in *Anna Karenina* with Opera San Jose; as Bottom in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* with Festival Opera; and Ferrando in *Il Trovatore* with Opera Manitoba. On the concert stage, Mr. Eichelberger has performed as a principal soloist with the Oakland East Bay Symphony, the San Francisco Choral Society, the Redwood Symphony, the Peninsula Symphony, the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, the San Francisco Concert Choral, Masterworks Chorale, Symphony Silicon Valley, and the Choral Arts Society of Washington. Mr. Eichelberger participated in the Merola Opera Program in 2000; he was a national finalist in the 1999 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and won the 1999 MacAllister Award for Opera Singers.



SIMONA SNITKOVSKAYA (piano) was born and raised in St. Petersburg, Russia. She studied at the St. Petersburg Conservatory until 1994 earning the equivalent of Bachelor’s, Master’s and Post Graduate degrees in piano performance and chamber music. She stayed on in St. Petersburg, working as an accompanist for the Conservatory as well as the Marinsky Theatre until 2001 when she moved to the U.S. During the 1990’s she won numerous awards in major international competitions, vocal performance accompaniment, and chamber music ensemble performance. Since coming to America, Ms. Snitkovskaya has worked as a coach accompanist for Opera San Jose on over 25 operatic productions, and

has performed many concerts as a soloist and vocal accompanist in and around the Bay Area. She is also a private teacher and a vocal coach.

About LIEDER ALIVE!

LIEDER ALIVE! was founded in 2007 to reinvigorate the teaching, performance, and appreciation of Lieder, an intimate and radiant art form that is generally described as 19th and early 20th Century songs with piano, set to Romantic German poetry. One of our core programs is our Vocal Master Workshop series, which has included master classes by baritone Thomas Hampson, mezzo-soprano Marilyn Horne, soprano June Anderson, and baritone Håkan Hagegård. LIEDER ALIVE!'s educational programming also includes The Lieder Institute, directed by Master Coach John Parr (recently appointed Head of Music Staff at Deutsche Oper Berlin); "Bringing Lieder to Life!," a collaboration with soprano Heidi Moss aimed at novice and experienced singers alike; and year-round coaching and consulting by LIEDER ALIVE!'s founder, Maxine Bernstein. Our public programs include the Liederabend Series, which includes performances by some of the most outstanding professional singers in the Bay Area and beyond; "Hausmusik," presented in collaboration with pianist Peter Grünberg and his organization, SongStage; and "For the Love of Lieder," an occasional series for advanced pre-professional singers. In 2013 LIEDER ALIVE! named Kurt Erickson our Composer-in-Residence and launched the Neue Lieder Commissioning Program. The only organization of its kind in America that is so thoroughly devoted to the performance, training, and appreciation of German Lieder, LIEDER ALIVE! is dedicated to continuing to present outstanding master artists and exceptional singers and instrumentalists who share our unwavering commitment to keeping Lieder where it belongs—alive!

CALENDAR INFORMATION

- WHO: LIEDER ALIVE! presents an evening of Lieder with bass Kirk Eichelberger and pianist Simona Snitkovskaya
- WHAT: "Männer-Lieder," a celebration of masculinity and the male voice
- PROGRAM: *Dichterliebe* by Robert Schumann
Jaegermeisterlieder: A Song Set for Manly Men by Kurt Erickson (World Premiere)
Drei Lieder by Richard Strauss
- WHEN: Saturday, June 14 at 8:00 pm (doors open at 7:30 pm)
- WHERE: The Music Salon at Salle Pianos
1632C Market St, San Francisco (between Franklin and Gough)
- TICKETS: \$35 donation in advance, \$40 at the door (includes wine reception)
[Buy Tickets through Eventbrite](#) or call 415.561.0100

Please note: High-res jpegs are available at the [LiederAlive.com media page \(LIEDER ALIVE! Media Page\)](#)

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