

LIEDER ALIVE!

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

Maxine Bernstein, Director

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LIEDER ALIVE! Presents

“Neue Lieder, Neues Jahr”

Our Second Biennial Neue und Alte Liederfest
featuring

Heid Moss Erickson, soprano

Kindra Scharich, mezzo-soprano

Ronny Michael Greenberg, piano

Performing New Works by

Mark Carlson, Kurt Erickson, and Luna Pearl Woolf

In Dialogue with Works by Beethoven, Brahms, Mendelssohn,
Mollicone, Reger, Schubert, Schumann, Strauss, and Wolf

Sunday, January 14 at 5 PM

(Doors open at 4:30 PM)

Noe Valley Ministry

1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco

Full calendar listing below

San Francisco – LIEDER ALIVE! will present the second biennial Neue und Alte Liederfest titled “**Neue Lieder, Neues Jahr**” (New Songs, New Year) on Sunday, January 14. This concert—the third recital in the organization’s 7th Annual Liederabend Series—will include the **World Premieres** of commissioned works by **Kurt Erickson** (LIEDER ALIVE!’s Composer-in-Residence since 2013), and by two other extraordinarily gifted composers, **Mark Carlson**, and **Luna Pearl Woolf**. These works will be performed by soprano **Heidi Moss Erickson** and mezzo-soprano **Kindra Scharich**—two of LIEDER ALIVE!’s most accomplished contributing artists—in collaboration with pianist Ronny Michael Greenberg, and presented in dialogue with other songs, principally masterworks from the Late Romantic period. The concert will take place at 5:00 pm at the **Noe Valley Ministry**, an intimate performance space perfectly suited to the tradition of Lieder performance. The program will be followed by a reception with the artists.

Neue Lieder, Neues Jahr

What better way to start a new year than with new music? While the majority of LIEDER ALIVE!'s programming is focused on the great body of repertoire that already exists for this wonderful art form, we realize that if we are truly to keep Lieder "alive," it is essential that the outstanding composers of our time have the opportunity to contribute to the canon with their own vital new work. We are advancing this innovative notion through the "Neue und Alte Liederfest," a unique program conceived by soprano **Heidi Moss Erickson** and composer **Kurt Erickson**. Kurt was appointed Composer-in-Residence at LIEDER ALIVE! in 2013, and since then has written numerous "neue Lieder" for premiere on the annual Liederabend Series.

For the second biennial "Neue und Alte Liederfest," Kurt has commissioned two exemplary American composers, **Mark Carlson** and **Luna Pearl Woolf**, to create new work. Mark is a versatile composer, whose approximately 100 works include art songs, chamber music, choral music, concertos and other large ensemble works, and songs for musical theater; he is currently working on an opera based on *The Scarlet Letter*. Luna has been commissioned by Carnegie Hall and the Washington National Opera, among others; her works have been performed by such artists as Joyce DiDonato, Frederica von Stade, the Brentano String Quartet, Matt Haimovitz, Christopher O'Riley, and many more. Kurt—whose commissions include Festival Opera, the San Francisco Girls Chorus, the Sacramento Philharmonic, and the late, highly acclaimed American countertenor, Brian Asawa, to name only a few—will also compose a new work for the concert program, a duet to be performed by Heidi with mezzo-soprano **Kindra Scharich**.

Of course, there is more to a "Neue und Alte Liederfest" than "neue" Lieder. What makes LIEDER ALIVE!'s biennial festival distinctive is the combination of "Neue und Alte," that is, the old and the new, in close dialogue. Interesting combinations abound for the two singers, e.g., Woolf's commissioned piece, *Traum durch die Dämmerung*, was written in response to Richard Strauss's work of the same name, and will be performed by Heidi with the Strauss and another work set to the same text by Max Reger. Kindra will perform a set that joins Brahms' *Die Mainacht* with two works titled *Mondnacht*, one by Robert Schumann and the other by Erickson (the latter piece was commissioned by LIEDER ALIVE! in 2013.) Additionally, Heidi will perform two works titled *Nähe des Geliebten*, the original by Schubert, followed by that of Henry Mollicone; notably, Mollicone's piece was commissioned for the 2015 Neue und Alte Liederfest and was voted "Audience Favorite." Finally, we are very excited to be presenting duets, both *neue und alte*, for the singers, including works by Brahms, Mendelssohn, and Schumann, along with Erickson's *Wie war so schön doch Wald und Feld!* and Carlson's *An die Geliebte*, the latter two in their World Premiere performances. The entire program will be performed in collaboration with pianist **Ronny Michael Greenberg**.

The contributing composers are excited beyond measure about this program, as are the performers. Heidi said, "This truly showcases the timelessness and relevance of the art song, and we are hoping it inspires future composers to experiment in this genre."

LIEDER ALIVE!'s "Neue Lieder, Neues Jahr" concert is made possible with support from the **Ross McKee Foundation** and the **Musical Grant Program**, which is administered by **InterMusic/San Francisco**.

About the Liederabend Series

LIEDER ALIVE!'s annual Liederabend Series ("Evenings of Song") was inaugurated in 2011 to increase audience awareness and appreciation of the wonderful musical genre of Lieder. The recitals are presented in intimate settings and over the years have featured performances by some of the most outstanding professional musicians in the Bay Area and beyond. In 2013, critic Jason Victor Serinus wrote in SF Classical Voice: "[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."

About the Artists



Composer **MARK CARLSON**'s lyrical, emotionally powerful, and stylistically unique music has earned him the admiration of audiences and musicians throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Europe. A versatile composer, his approximately 100 works include art songs, chamber music, choral music, concertos and other large ensemble works, and songs for musical theater. He is currently working on an opera on *The Scarlet Letter* with librettist Bruce Olstad. The recipient of more than 50 commissions, he has been commissioned by the National Shrine in Washington, DC, and the New West Symphony, among other organizations, as well as by many individual musicians and private parties.



Soprano **HEIDI MOSS ERICKSON**, noted for her "rich and radiant soprano" (Edward Ortiz, Sacramento Bee) has performed with area companies such as West Edge Opera, Opera Parallele, West Bay Opera, Pocket Opera, Livermore Opera, Fremont Symphony, Oakland Symphony, Sacramento Choral Society, and the San Francisco Lyric Opera. She has been recognized in major vocal competitions, including the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions (New York District First Place Winner and Regional Finalist), Liederkrantz Awards, and the MacAllister Awards. In 2012, she was featured in a Festival Opera project entitled "About Face," which aimed to increase awareness of facial paralysis and other afflictions.



Composer **KURT ERICKSON** has received awards from ASCAP, American Composers Forum, and the Seaver Institute, and commissions from Festival Opera, Lone Star Lyric Theater Festival (Houston), San Francisco Girls Chorus, Sacramento Philharmonic, choreographer Lawrence Pech, and many others. His recent projects include *Andalusian Love Songs*, commissioned by the late countertenor Brian Asawa; a new work for guitar and mandolin for the German duo Ahlert & Schwab; and the expansion of Festival Opera's 2012 commission, *Mister Merrick*, based on the story of the so-called "Elephant Man." He has served as Composer-in-Residence at LIEDER ALIVE! since 2013, and has premiered numerous works on the Liederabend Series.



Pianist **RONNY MICHAEL GREENBERG** has performed as a soloist with the Montreal Symphony, and in concerts at the Canadian Museum of Civilization for the Glenn Gould Exhibit, Steinway Hall as part of Yale in New York, and Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall as part of the Worldstrides Heritage Performance Programs. After finishing his studies at the Manhattan School of Music under the tutelage of Warren Jones, Mr. Greenberg was a coach apprentice at the 2014 Merola Opera Program, and was subsequently selected for an Adler Fellowship at San Francisco Opera, where he is currently on staff. Recent engagements include performances with LINES Ballet at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts and for the Silicon Valley League of the San Francisco Symphony.



Mezzo-soprano **KINDRA SCHARICH** has been praised by the San Francisco Chronicle for her "noble, vocally assured singing, with stately grace and deep-rooted pathos." A versatile musician, she has sung over 25 roles in the lyric mezzo repertoire, and is equally at home on the operatic or concert stage. Engagements have been with Opera San Jose, Opera Parallèle, Haymarket Opera (Chicago), West Edge Opera, the Santa Rosa Symphony, and the San Francisco Choral Society, among others. Ms. Scharich has presented recitals for the American Composer's Forum in Los Angeles, LIEDER ALIVE!, the Wagner Society Northern California Chapter, and the Yehudi Menuhin Seminar in San Francisco. She was recently named Artist-in-Residence at LIEDER ALIVE!



The music of composer **LUNA PEARL WOOLF** has been praised for its “psychological nuances and emotional depth,” by the New York Times. She has been commissioned by Carnegie Hall and the Washington National Opera, among others, collaborating with such artists as Joyce DiDonato, Frederica von Stade, Russian National Orchestra, Brentano String Quartet, Julian Wachner, Matt Haimovitz, Christopher O’Riley, Academy Award-winner Jeremy Irons and author Cornelia Funke. Woolf is the featured composer in the Washington Chorus’ New Music for a New Age series and recipient of Opera America’s 2014 Discovery Grant. Her recorded music is available

internationally on the [Oxingale](#) and PENTATONE labels.

About LIEDER ALIVE!

LIEDER ALIVE! is the only organization of its kind in America that is so thoroughly devoted to the performance, training, and appreciation of German Lieder. Our principal program is the Liederabend Series, which was inaugurated in 2012 and offers recitals by some of the most accomplished singers in the region and around the world. In 2013, as part of this series, LIEDER ALIVE! launched the Neue Lieder Commissioning Program, bringing the marriage of German Romantic poetry and music into the 21st Century; this program is overseen by Composer-in-Residence, Kurt Erickson. LIEDER ALIVE! was founded by Maxine Bernstein in 2007; programming was initiated the following year with a Vocal Master Workshop series that has included master classes by baritone Thomas Hampson, mezzo-soprano Marilyn Horne, soprano June Anderson, and baritone Håkan Hagegård. Since then, our educational programming has expanded to include The Lieder Institute, directed by Master Coach John Parr (Head of Music Staff at Deutsche Oper Berlin); “Bringing Lieder to Life!,” aimed at novice and experienced singers alike; and year-round artistic consultations by Ms. Bernstein. LIEDER ALIVE! is wholeheartedly dedicated to keeping Lieder where it belongs—alive!

CALENDAR LISTING

Neue Lieder, Neues Jahr

LIEDER ALIVE!’s Second Biennial Neue und Alte Liederfest

Sunday, January 14, 5pm

Artists

Heidi Moss Erickson, soprano

Kindra Scharich, mezzo-soprano

Ronny Michael Greenberg, piano

Performing works by Johannes Brahms, Ludwig von Beethoven, Mark Carlson, Kurt Erickson, Felix Mendelssohn, Henry Mollicone, Max Reger, Franz Schubert, Robert Schumann, Richard Strauss, Hugo Wolf, and Luna Pearl Woolf

(full concert program provided below)

Ticket Information

Tickets are \$35 in advance through Eventbrite, or \$40 at the door; premium reserved seats are available for \$75. Tickets may be purchased at [Eventbrite](#), or by calling (415) 561-0100. For more information, visit our website, www.liederalive.org.

Venue Information

Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez, between 23rd Street and Elizabeth, San Francisco [[map](#)]. Doors open a half hour prior to the performance time.

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

“Neue Lieder, Neues Jahr”
LIEDER ALIVE!’s Second Biennial Neue und Alte Liederfest
Sunday, January 14, 5pm
Full Concert Program

JOHANNES BRAHMS: Die Schwestern
ROBERT SCHUMANN: An den Abendstern
Erste Begegnung

Heidi Moss Erickson, soprano
Kindra Scharich, mezzo-soprano
Ronny Michael Greenberg, piano

BRAHMS: Die Mainacht
SCHUMANN: Mondnacht
KURT ERICKSON: Mondnacht
Scharich, Greenberg

FELIX MENDELSSOHN: Abschiedslied der Zugvögel
ERICKSON: Wie war so schön doch Wald und Feld! (World Premiere)
Moss Erickson, Scharich, Greenberg

-INTERMISSION-

SCHUMANN: Ich denke dein
Moss Erickson, Scharich, Greenberg
FRANZ SCHUBERT: Nähe des Geliebten
HENRY MOLLICONE: Nähe des Geliebten
Moss Erickson, Greenberg

RICHARD STRAUSS: Traum durch die Dämmerung
MAX REGER: Traum durch die Dämmerung
LUNA PEARL WOOLF: Traum durch die Dämmerung (World Premiere)
Moss Erickson, Greenberg

LUDWIG VON BEETHOVEN: An die Geliebte
HUGO WOLF: An die Geliebte
Scharich, Greenberg
MARK CARLSON: An die Geliebte (World Premiere)
Moss Erickson, Scharich, Greenberg

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