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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tickets & Info: www.nyfos.org (NEW WEBSITE!)

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NEW YORK FESTIVAL OF SONG (NYFOS)

Steven Blier, Artistic Director • Michael Barrett, Associate Artistic Director

opens 2011-12 season with

“IN THE MEMORY PALACE”

Featuring Gabriel Kahane’s song cycle *The Memory Palace*

[Watch the preview video [here](#)]

and music by Heitor Villa-Lobos, William Sterndale Bennett, Frank Bridge,
Manuel Oltra, Enrique Granados, Stephen Sondheim, Smokey Robinson

All sung by beloved NYFOS favorites:

soprano MICHELLE AREYZAGA / mezzo-soprano REBECCA JO LOEB

tenor PAUL APPLEBY / baritone ANDREW GARLAND

STEVEN BLIER & MICHAEL BARRETT, pianists

Tuesday, October 25 at 8:00PM

Thursday, October 27 at 8:00PM

No intermission

Post-concert meet-the-artists wine reception open to all

Merkin Concert Hall (129 West 67th St.)

\$40–\$55 for single tickets; student tickets \$15

New this year: Real Deal Tickets – \$25 Advance Purchase/“Pot Luck” Seating

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NYFOS takes this program to the Dorothy Betts Marvin Theatre in Washington, D.C.

Saturday, October 22, 7:30PM under the auspices of Vocal Arts D.C.

Steven Blier talks about *In the Memory Palace*:

“*Memory Palace* reunites us with one of today’s greatest songwriters, Gabriel Kahane, who combines a refreshingly modern sensibility with the refinement and compositional skill of his greatest forbears: Elvis Costello mated with Gabriel Fauré.

We’ll also be exploring several other composers whose music has fascinated us over the past years: the rarely-heard Frank Bridge, who was Benjamin Britten’s teacher and an alluringly sensual, multi-faceted songwriter in his own right; Enrique Granados, whose classic song cycle *Tonadillas* combines high-voltage charm with startling emotional depths; and Heitor Villa-Lobos, whose *Forest of the Amazon* songs are like an instant immersion (eco-friendly, of course) into the exotic, passionate sounds of the Brazilian jungle.”

NEW YORK FESTIVAL OF SONG—the group that “charms audiences with programs that combine meticulous research with an infectious strain of vocal hedonism” (*The New York Times*)—opens its 2011-12 season with *IN THE MEMORY PALACE* on **Tuesday and Thursday, October 25 and 27 at 8:00PM** at Merkin Concert Hall.

On the heels of **Gabriel Kahane’s** [acclaimed new album](#) *Where are the Arms*, NYFOS showcases the

young songwriter's *The Memory Palace*. In this song cycle, Kahane's haunting music and mordant lyrics guide the listener along his own private East Coast route—a quirky and touching roadtrip dotted with personal landmarks. Assembled from five of Kahane's previously self-performed works, the composer has fashioned his songs into a new cycle for the concert stage. Baritone **Andrew Garland**, whose 2010 NYFOS performance, which included Kahane's "playfully outrageous" *Craigslustlieder*, earned him high praise for his "robust voice, lively dramatic skills" and "commanding intensity" (*The New York Times*), performs Kahane's newest cycle.

Kahane's delicately remembered scenes of love and longing culminate a series of cycles and quartets by other composers, following the theme of desire. Joining Garland in this task are three other exceptional singers. Tenor **Paul Appleby**, a National Winner of the 2009 Met Opera National Council Auditions and the co-star of last season's opening NYFOS concert *Beginner's Luck*, performs songs by **Frank Bridge**, while mezzo-soprano **Rebecca Jo Loeb** sings the music of **Enrique Granados**. Soprano **Michelle Areyzaga** showcases a rare cycle by Brazilian composer **Heitor Villa-Lobos** and rounds out the ensemble in quartets by **William Sterndale Bennett**, **Stephen Sondheim**, **Manuel Oltra**, and **Smokey Robinson**.

NYFOS has earned critical acclaim for its outside-the-box programming, high artistry and warm, informal atmosphere. Led by founders [Steven Blier](#) and [Michael Barrett](#), armed with just two pianos, gorgeous voices, a sense of humor, and a love of words and music—not to mention a deep knowledge of musical culture savvy enough to find the 19th-century gem that speaks to today's sensibilities—NYFOS plunders music's most remote precincts to create evenings of the deepest pleasure.

Program for *IN THE MEMORY PALACE*

The Company

HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS:

Canção da folha morta

Michelle Areyzaga, soprano

HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS:

from *The Forest of the Amazon*:

Canção de amor

Cair da tarde

Melodia sentimental

The Company

WILLIAM STERNDALE BENNETT:

Come live with me

Paul Appleby, tenor

FRANK BRIDGE:

Go Not, Happy Day

Goldenhair

When You Are Old and Gray

Dweller in My Deathless Dreams

Love Went A-Riding

The Company

MANUEL OLTRA:

Eco

Rebecca Jo Loeb, mezzo-soprano

ENRIQUE GRANADOS:

from *Tonadillas*:

El tra-la-lá y el punteado

La maja dolorosa

El majo tímido

Amor y odio

El mirar de la maja

Callejeo

The Company

STEPHEN SONDHEIM:

Two Fairy Tales (written for *A Little Night Music*)

Andrew Garland, baritone

GABRIEL KAHANE:

The Memory Palace

Underberg

7 Middagh

Merritt Pkwy

North Adams

Rochester

The Company

SMOKEY ROBINSON:

You've Really Got a Hold on Me

LINKS

Paul Appleby, tenor

http://www.nyfos.org/bios/Appleby_Paul.php

Michelle Areyzaga, soprano

<http://www.michelleareyzaga.com/Welcome.html>

Michael Barrett

http://www.nyfos.org/bios/Barrett_Michael.php

Steven Blier

http://www.nyfos.org/bios/Blier_Steven.php

Andrew Garland, baritone

<http://andrewgarland.com/>

Rebecca Jo Loeb, mezzo-soprano

<http://www.caramoor.org/whatsnew/blog/post/rebecca-jo-loeb-shares-her-experience-with-caramoor-s-vocal-rising-stars>

Gabriel Kahane

<http://www.imgartists.com/?page=artist&id=734>

Merkin Concert Hall

<http://kaufman-center.org/merkin-concert-hall>

New York Festival of Song

<http://nyfos.org/>

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“Reading a season flier for the New York Festival of Song is like examining the product of some mad mapmaker’s brain, where Spain lies right next to Harlem and borders on Norway.” — Newsday

“New York Festival of Song reinvented the song recital.” — The New Yorker

“Evenings that can feel like dream dinner parties—the kind where a group of fascinating strangers come together to have wonderfully unexpected conversations.” — Opera America

“An entirely new recipe for the recital.” — Opera News

“Every detail was designed to give the evening seamless coherence, and you left the hall feeling enriched, enlightened, entertained and grateful for the experience.” — The Washington Post

UPCOMING NYFOS SHOWS AT MERKIN CONCERT HALL:

Thursday, November 17, 2011

MANNING THE CANON: Songs of Gay Life
(Back by Popular Demand!)

Two centuries of songs by and about gay men

Poulenc, Tchaikovsky, Griffes, de Falla, Bernstein, Cole Porter, Blitzstein, Schubert, Saint-Saëns
Scott Murphree, tenor • Jesse Blumberg, Timothy McDevitt, baritones • Matt Boehler, bass

Tuesday, November 29 and Thursday, December 1, 2011

A GOYISHE CHRISTMAS TO YOU! Yuletide Classics by Jewish Songwriters

Who else is gonna write our favorite Christmas tunes?

Music by Frank Loesser, Styne and Cahn, Mel Tormé, Irving Berlin and many others

Lauren Worsham, soprano • Mary Testa, vocalist • Joshua Breitzer, tenor

John Brancy, Joshua Jeremiah, baritones • Alan Kay, clarinet

Tuesday, February 14 and Thursday, February 16, 2012

A MODERN PERSON'S GUIDE TO HOOKING UP AND BREAKING UP

"The awkwardness, pain, lust and perversity of contemporary relationships" (The New York Times)

Music by Irving Berlin, Stephen Sondheim, The Bobs, William Bolcom, Noël Coward, and Ed Kleban

Anne-Carolyn Bird, soprano • Liza Forrester, mezzo-soprano

Alex Mansoori, tenor • Jesse Blumberg, baritone

Sunday, March 11, 2012, Rosen House, Caramoor

Tuesday, March 13, 2012, Merkin Concert Hall

NEW YORK TO PARIS, PARIS TO PARADISE:

New Yorkers and Parisians at Home and Traveling the World

Music by Rorem, Charles Trenet, Milhaud, Roussel, Gershwin and many others

Introducing members of Caramoor's 2012 Vocal Rising Stars

**AND DON'T MISS THE NEW-MUSIC MINI-SERIES NYFOS NEXT,
AS IT RETURNS FOR ITS 2nd SEASON:**

Mary Flagler Cary Hall at the DiMenna Center for Classical Music

450 West 37th Street betw 9th and 10th Avenues

FREE

Tuesday, November 18, 2011, at 7:00PM

NYFOS Next: Joseph Thalken & Friends

Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at 7:00PM

NYFOS Next: Russell Platt & Friends

Paul Appleby appears with the cooperation of The Metropolitan Opera Lindemann Young Artist Development Program.

The NYFOS Merkin Hall Concert Series is made possible, in part, with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency, and from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

For further information, press tickets, photos, and to arrange interviews,
please contact Aleba Gartner Associates at 212/206-1450 or a@alebgartner.com.

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