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NEW YORK FESTIVAL OF SONG (NYFOS)

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

presents

NYFOS NEXT: CARLA KIHLESTEDT & FRIENDS

November 13, 2012 at 7:00PM

**Featuring music by CARLA KIHLESTEDT, LISA BIELAWA,
MATTHIAS BOSSI, SARAH KIRKLAND SNIDER, EDEN MACADAM-SOMER,
SUSAN BOTTI, NILS FRYKDAHL, ERROLLYN WALLEN,
NICOLA LEFANU, LAUTARO MANTILLA**

Performers include

violinist-vocalist CARLA KIHLESTEDT

keyboardist and drummer MATTHIAS BOSSI

violinist-vocalist EDEN MACADAM-SOMER

cellist NICHOLAS CANELLAKIS

members of ROOMFUL OF TEETH

NYFOS Associate Artistic Director and pianist MICHAEL BARRETT

Mary Flagler Cary Hall at the DiMenna Center for Classical Music
450 West 37th Street between 9th and 10th Avenues

Admission \$10 (free for NYFOS subscribers) • Reservations are required
646-230-8380 or info@nyfos.net

Hour-long concert / No intermission / Complimentary beverages

"If confidence and creativity are the cornerstones of sexy, then violinist/vocalist Carla Kihlstedt is the sexiest woman in the avant-garde—she conveys power with her world-class instrumental technique, compositional vision, and stage presence." — San Francisco Weekly

From Carla Kihlstedt:

"I put this program together to reflect the broader way that musicians define themselves today, whether they're composers, performers, or both. I grew up studying violin in the classical cannon, and like many of my peers (and all of my students), was pulled off of that path by the undeniable instinct to explore other musical ideas and processes: improvising, composing and songwriting to name a few. In fact, most of the things I'm interested in and

involved with fall somewhere in the spaces between these things.”

On **Tuesday, November 13 at 7:00pm**, [New York Festival of Song](#) (NYFOS) opens a new season of its contemporary music mini-series *NYFOS Next* with **CARLA KIHLMSTEDT & FRIENDS** at **Mary Flagler Cary Hall** in the **DiMenna Center for Classical Music**.

Collaborative composer, singer, and violinist **Carla Kihlstedt**—a veteran of folk/pop, contemporary classical, improvised and experimental music and founding member of several pioneering and iconic music projects including Sleepytime Gorilla Museum, Rabbit Rabbit, and Tin Hat—hosts and curates an hour of music showcasing the work of a diverse range of mostly female artists and composers: **Lisa Bielawa, Sarah Kirkland Snider, Susan Botti, Errollyn Wallen, Nicola Lefanu, Eden MacAdam-Somer, Lautaro Mantilla, Nils Frykdahl, Matthias Bossi**, as well as her own intriguing works.

Several of the composers will perform their own works including Kihlstedt and her husband Matthias Bossi, who together form the duo **Rabbit Rabbit**, as well as fellow violinist-vocalist Eden MacAdam-Somer.

Kihlstedt returns to the *NYFOS Next* series following her acclaimed appearance last season on Russell Platt’s program. “Kihlstedt’s pure tone and the match of her voice with the bowing of her violin were exquisite in the Kafka-as-composer mode Lisa Bielawa created. She stretched the limit of Kihlstedt’s vocal and violin technique and Kihlstedt stepped up and vanquished the challenge, even as she celebrated it,” wrote Sherri Rase in *Q on Stage*. After making such an impression in the series, NYFOS Artistic Directors Steven Blier and Michael Barrett ensured her quick return.

ABOUT “NYFOS NEXT”

Now in its third season, *NYFOS Next* spotlights today’s composers and interpreters of the modern song. In an intimate venue with a relaxed salon atmosphere, audiences enjoy an up-close encounter with the creative process, where freshly-minted songs are shared among creative companions—some for the first time. This year’s series, expanded to three evenings, will also feature the “exhilarating and “compelling” (*The New York Times*) works of Pulitzer Prize-winner Kevin Puts, and the “expert vocal writing” (*The New Yorker*) of rising star Mohammed Fairouz. With an emphasis on spontaneity, novelty, and collaboration, *NYFOS Next* pioneers an experimental venue for song, paralleling the New York Festival of Song’s celebrated concert series in Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Center.

CARLA KIHLMSTEDT TALKS ABOUT THE PROGRAM

“**Eden MacAdam-Somer** and **Lautaro Mantilla** have both been students of mine in the Contemporary Improvisation Department at the New England Conservatory in Boston. Eden’s roots in classical violining, folk fiddling and songwriting combine in to make a truly nuanced but visceral music all her own. Lautaro’s pieces always consider not only the sounds emanating from his performers, but the staging, the psychological aspects of the performance, and the larger story that they are telling. I have included them in this program because I find the creative questions that they pose for themselves and the answers they are finding to be truly unique, engaging and inspiring.

Errollyn Wallen and **Sarah Kirkland Snider** both walk between the worlds of art song and pop song, sometimes with both feet planted on one side or the other, but often holding firm to both territories. (Look up Sarah's beautiful song cycle for Shara Worden *Penelope*.)

I've also included pieces by two fierce and rigorous composers, **Susan Botti** and **Nicola Lefanu**. Their artistic point of departure is more squarely in the realm of what we call contemporary classical music. They both write music that is wonderfully inventive, focused and dramatic (also check out Lefanu's *The Old Woman of Beares*). In keeping with our sub-theme of composer/performers, we're lucky to have Susan performing her own music.

This program would not be complete without **Lisa Bielawa**'s unmistakable compositional voice. Our friendship goes back many years and is loosely outlined by our tandem musical endeavors: She was the first person to write for me as a soloist, both singing and playing (check out her remarkable *Kafka Songs* on her CD *Handful of World* out on Tzadik) and in doing so expanded my own notions of what I can and can't do. On this program we present a brand new piece of hers based on a poem by Goethe.

You may have noticed that all of these composers, save for Lautaro Montilla and Matthias Bossi, are women. As far as we have come in terms of gender equality in our culture, the world of classical presenters lags woefully behind."

Admission to NYFOS Next is \$10, or free for NYFOS' Merkin Hall subscribers. Reservations are required and may be made by calling 646-230-8380, emailing info@nyfos.net, or paying by credit card at www.nyfos.org/next.

THE SONGLIST

Sarah Kirkland Snider: *How Gracefully Some Things Are, Falling Apart*

Performers TBA

Eden MacAdam-Somer: *Rumi Songs*

Eden MacAdam-Somer, violin and voice

Lisa Bielawa: *The Houri and the Poet*

Nicholas Canellakis, cello

Pianist and soprano TBA

Carla Kihlstedt: *Hush, Hush*

Rabbit Rabbit:

Carla Kihlstedt, violin and voice

Matthias Bossi, keyboard and drums

Carla Kihlstedt & Matthias Bossi: *Tiny Invasion; The Curious One*

Rabbit Rabbit:

Carla Kihlstedt, violin and voice

Matthias Bossi, keyboard and drums

Matthias Bossi & Nils Frykdahl (words by Michelle Carter): *Nothing to Say*

Rabbit Rabbit:

Carla Kihlstedt, violin and voice
Matthias Bossi, keyboard and drums

Errollyn Wallen: *North; Peace*

Performers TBA

Nicola Lefanu: *I am Bread*

Performers TBA

Susan Botti: *Words 2*

Nicholas Canellakis, cello; Soprano TBA

Lautaro Mantilla: *Bravement*

For 12 female voices (four from Roomful of Teeth) and light bulbs

WATCH AND LISTEN

The Curious One by Carla Kihlstedt & Matthias Bossi

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-lwci_rqJIE

Necessary Monsters by Carla Kihlstedt

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qflb3-CKnWk>

Album: Niagara Falling: Tales for the Stage, III

<http://kihlstedtbossi.bandcamp.com/album/niagara-falling-tales-for-the-stage-iii>

Album: Rabbit Rabbit Radio – Vol. 1

<http://kihlstedtbossi.bandcamp.com/album/rabbit-rabbit-radio-vol-1-2>

The Lotus Eaters by Sarah Kirkland Snider

<http://vimeo.com/16319487>

Chance Encounter by Lisa Bielawa

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2WBvqpnrjr8>

Eden MacAdam-Somer

<http://www.fiddlegarden.net/pages/music>

FallingHD by Errollyn Wallen

<http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x8p9d8>

Gates of Silence by Susan Botti

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=db-CWEtnv9I>

CARLA KIHSTEDT

Composer, violinist and vocalist **Carla Kihstedt** is a founding member of several pioneering and iconic musical projects, including Sleepytime Gorilla Museum, Rabbit Rabbit, and Tin Hat, with whom she just released a record of songs based on the poetry of e.e.cummings called *the rain is a handsome animal* (New Amsterdam Records).

A veteran of folk/pop, contemporary classical, improvised and experimental music, Carla has been commissioned by the International Contemporary Ensemble, ROVA Saxophone Quartet, Bang on a Can All-Stars, the Brooklyn Philharmonic, and the Brecht Forum. She has also written a song cycle with poet Rafael Osés for eight performers called *Necessary Monsters*, based on Jorge Luis Borges' *Book of Imaginary Beings*.

She has performed at many festivals in North America and Europe, including Armenian Gallery Festival, the Vancouver, San Francisco, and Saalfelden Jazz Festivals, and the Ojai, Caramoor and Other Minds Music Festivals. She has received grants from the MAP Fund, the Gerbode Foundation, and the Zellerbach Family Fund, and has contributed to the recordings of Tom Waits, Fred Frith, Mr. Bungle, Tracy Chapman and Madeleine Peyroux.

Most recently, Rabbit Rabbit (her song-writing duo with her partner Matthias Bossi) launched a subscription site called Rabbit Rabbit Radio (www.rabbitrabbitradio.com). On the first of each month they release a new song to subscribers along with films, photographs, writings and other evidences of their creative process.

Carla also teaches curious and broad-minded young musicians in the Contemporary Improvisation Department of the New England Conservatory.

LINKS

Michael Barrett

http://www.nyfos.org/barrett_bio.html

Lisa Bielawa

<http://www.lisabelawa.net/>

Steven Blier

http://www.nyfos.org/blier_bio.html

Susan Botti

<http://www.susanbotti.com>

Matthis Bossi

<http://matthiasbossi.com>

Nicholas Canellakis

<http://www.nicholascanellakis.com>

DiMenna Center for Classical Music
<http://www.oslmusic.org/dimenna-center>

Nicola Lefanu
<http://nicolalefanu.com>

Eden MacAdam-Somer
<http://www.fiddlegarden.net>

New York Festival of Song
<http://nyfos.org>

Carla Kihlstedt, composer, violinist
<http://www.carlakihlstedt.com/>

Sarah Kirkland Snider
<http://sarahkirklandsnider.com>

Errollyn Wallen
<http://www.errollynwallen.com>

UPCOMING NYFOS EVENTS

Tuesday, December 4, 2012, 8:00pm
Women

Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Center

Wednesday, January 16, 2013, 8:00pm

A Night at the Operetta

NYFOS@Juilliard

Alice Tully Hall

Tuesday, February 5, 2013, 7:00pm

NYFOS Next: Kevin Puts & Friends

Kevin Puts, host and curator

DiMenna Center for Classical Music

Tuesday, February 19, 2013, 8:00pm

Jacques Brel and Charles Trénet Revisited

Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Center

Thursday, February 21, 2013, 8:00pm

Jacques Brel and Charles Trénet Revisited

Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Sunday, March 10, 2013, 4:00pm

Song of the Midnight Sun

Music Room, Rosen House, Caramoor Festival of Arts, Katonah, NY

Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 8:00pm

Song of the Midnight Sun

Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Center

Monday, April 8, 2013, 7:00pm

Spring Gala

Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall

Tuesday, April 30, 2013, 7:00pm

NYFOS Next: Mohammed Fairouz

Mohammed Fairouz, host and curator

DiMenna Center for Classical Music

Monday, May 13, 2013, 7:30pm

NYFOS's 25th Anniversary Celebration

DiMenna Center for Classical Music

"New York Festival of Song is the most important nucleus of contemporary song in the world."

— Ned Rorem

The 2012-2013 NYFOS Next concerts at the DiMenna Center are funded, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and by 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 & Co. at 212/206-1450 or aleba@alebaco.com.

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