

The 2003 Lotte Lenya Competition for Singers

Kilbourn Hall, Eastman School of Music
22 March 2003

The Kurt Weill Foundation wishes to thank The University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music for generously agreeing to host this audition. Special thanks are due to Andrew Green and Julia Ng at the Eastman Concert Office



The Kurt Weill Foundation for Music, Inc., is a non-profit, private foundation chartered to preserve and perpetuate the legacies of the composer Kurt Weill (1900–1950) and his wife, singer-actress Lotte Lenya (1898–1981). Established in 1962, the Foundation served initially as an advisory group to assist Lenya in her desire to bring Weill's music to a larger public. Following Lenya's death, the Foundation expanded its mission to promote greater understanding of the lives and accomplishments of Weill and Lenya through research and performance. In pursuit of this goal, the Foundation awards grants and prizes to support excellence in research and performance, sponsors a broad range of print and on-line publications, maintains the Weill-Lenya Research Center, and administers Weill's copyrights.

The sixth Lotte Lenya Competition for Singers is open to artists born after 31 December 1970. From regional auditions in Cincinnati, Chicago, Rochester, and New York City, fifteen finalists were selected by judges Teresa Stratas, Joyce Castle, Eric Stern, and Richard Pearlman. At today's final competition, the judges are Teresa Stratas, world-renowned singer and interpreter of Weill; Theodore S. Chapin, President and Executive Director of The Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization; and Ted Sperling, Broadway musical director, arranger, stage director, and actor. Prizes of \$7500, \$5000, and \$3000 will be awarded, and winners will also be presented in a 15 May concert at the Lincoln Center Library for the Performing Arts in New York City.

In the first round of today's competition, each finalist will have a maximum of twelve minutes to present a program of four selections. To insure that each contestant has the opportunity to sing his/her complete program, **please withhold applause until the conclusion of the final selection of each contestant.**

The second round, which will present all the finalists in concert, begins at 7:30 pm. The audience is invited to return at that time. Competition winners will be announced at the end of the concert.

Competition Schedule

11:00 am	Jennifer Brennan-Hondorp, soprano (Holt, MI) Kris Bezuidenhout, piano	
	"Je ne t'aime pas"	Weill
	"Mr. Right," from <i>Love Life</i>	Weill
	"Juliet's Lament," from <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Hoiby
	"Bill," from <i>Showboat</i>	Kern
11:15 am	Kelli Harrington, soprano (Downers Grove, IL) Kris Bezuidenhout, piano	
	"Mi tradi quell'alma ingrata," from <i>Don Giovanni</i>	Mozart
	"J'attends un navire," from <i>Marie Galante</i>	Weill
	"That's Him," from <i>One Touch of Venus</i>	Weill
	"You Gotta Get a Gimmick," from <i>Gypsy</i>	Styne
11:30 am	Jeffrey Behrens, tenor (Pittsburgh, PA) Jennifer Snyder, piano	
	"De' miei bollenti spiriti," from <i>La Traviata</i>	Verdi
	"Lonely House," from <i>Street Scene</i>	Weill
	"Bring Him Home," from <i>Les Misérables</i>	Schonberg
	"Lotterieagents Tango," from <i>Der Silbersee</i>	Weill
11:45 am	Casey Cole, mezzo-soprano (New York, NY) Andrew Byrne, piano	
	"Surabaya Johnny," from <i>Happy End</i>	Weill
	"Goodbye, Emil," from <i>Romance Romance</i>	Herrman
	"Non so piu, cosa son," from <i>Le Nozze di Figaro</i>	Mozart
	"Here I'll Stay," from <i>Love Life</i>	Weill
12:00 noon	Elaine Alvarez, soprano (Brooklyn, NY) Jennifer Snyder, piano	
	"Nannas Lied"	Weill
	"Stay Well," from <i>Lost in the Stars</i>	Weill
	"Qui la voce," from <i>I Puritani</i>	Bellini
	"He's No Good," from <i>The Life</i>	Coleman

12:15 pm **Peter McGillivray, baritone** (Toronto, ON)
Kris Bezuidenhout, piano

"Vy mne pisali," from <i>Eugene Onegin</i>	Tchaikovsky
"Wouldn't You Like to be on Broadway?," from <i>Street Scene</i>	Weill
"The New Suit," from <i>New York Opera</i>	Blitzstein
"Der Song von Mandelay," from <i>Happy End</i>	Weill

12:30 pm **Stephanie Tennill, soprano** (New York, NY)
Jennifer Snyder, piano

"Je ne t'aime pas"	Weill
"That's Him," from <i>One Touch of Venus</i>	Weill
"Donde lieta," from <i>La Boheme</i>	Puccini
"Stars and the Moon," from <i>Songs for a New World</i>	Brown

12:45 pm **Melissa Schiel, mezzo-soprano** (Toronto, ON)
Jennifer Snyder, piano

"My Ship," from <i>Lady in the Dark</i>	Weill
"Je ne t'aime pas"	Weill
"What More do I Need?," from <i>Marry Me a Little</i>	Sondheim
"Chacun a son gout," from <i>Die Fledermaus</i>	Strauss

BREAK

2:00 pm **Nathan Morgan, tenor** (New York, NY)
Kris Bezuidenhout, piano

"Juan's Lied," from <i>Der Kuhhandel</i>	Weill
"Not While I'm Around," from <i>Sweeney Todd</i>	Sondheim
"How Much I Love You," from <i>One Touch of Venus</i>	Weill
"Una furtiva lagrima," from <i>L'elisir d'amore</i>	Donizetti

2:15 pm **Misty Ann Sturm, soprano** (Rochester, NY)
Amber Shay, piano

"Es regnet"	Weill
"I'm a Stranger Here Myself," from <i>One Touch of Venus</i>	Weill
"Batti, batti," from <i>Don Giovanni</i>	Mozart
"Meadowlark," from <i>The Baker's Wife</i>	Schwartz

2:30 pm **Aubrey Srednicki, soprano** (Webster, NY)
Jennifer Snyder, piano

"Is It Him or Is It Me?," from <i>Love Life</i>	Weill
"Wie lange noch?"	Weill
"O mio babbino caro," from <i>Gianni Schicchi</i>	Puccini
"Buddy, Beware," from <i>Anything Goes</i>	Porter

2:45 pm **Michael McKinsey, baritone** (Brooklyn, NY)
Jennifer Snyder, piano

"Oh the Rio Grande," from <i>Johnny Johnson</i>	Weill
"Das Lied von der harten Nuss," from <i>Happy End</i>	Weill
"Vecchia zimarra," from <i>La Boheme</i>	Puccini
"Some Girls," from <i>Once on this Island</i>	Flaherty

3:00 pm **Siri Vik, soprano** (Cincinnati, OH)
Kris Bezuidenhout, piano

"Barbara Song," from <i>Die Dreigroschenoper</i>	Weill
"Is It Him or Is It Me?," from <i>Love Life</i>	Weill
"Monica's Waltz," from <i>The Medium</i>	Menotti
"Not a Day Goes By," from <i>Merrily We Roll Along</i>	Sondheim

3:15 pm **Amy Van Looy, soprano** (Philadelphia, PA)
Kris Bezuidenhout, piano

"I'm a Stranger Here Myself," from <i>One Touch of Venus</i>	Weill
"Wie lange noch?"	Weill
"Maritza's Entrance Aria," from <i>Gräfin Maritza</i>	Kalman
"Someone to Watch Over Me," from <i>Oh, Kay!</i>	Gershwin

3:30 pm **Richard Todd Adams, tenor** (New York, NY)
Michael Baitzer, piano

"Taking Flight," from <i>Allison in the Stars</i>	Goldrich
"Lonely House," from <i>Street Scene</i>	Weill
"Juan's Lied," from <i>Der Kuhhandel</i>	Weill
"E la solita storia del pastore," from <i>L'Arlesiana</i>	Cilea

Judges of the Competition

Theodore S. Chapin is President and Executive Director of The Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization. A native of New York City and graduate of Connecticut College, his career in the theatre began as production or directorial assistant for the Broadway productions of *Follies*, *The Rothschilds* and *The Unknown Soldier and His Wife*, as well as Bernstein's *Mass* at the Kennedy Center, and *Candide* at the Los Angeles and San Francisco Civic Light Operas. (Mr. Chapin's observations on *Follies* will be the subject of a book he is writing for Alfred A. Knopf, to be published in late 2003.) Mr. Chapin served as Associate to Alan Arkin, where his credits included Neil Simon's *The Sunshine Boys* (Broadway and National Company); the CBS telecast of *Twigs* starring Carol Burnett; *Rubbers & Yanks 3 Detroit 0 Top of the Seventh*; and Neil Cuthbert's *The Soft Touch*. Mr. Chapin was also Musical Director for the National Theatre of the Deaf's production of *Four Saints in Three Acts*, Associate Director of the National Theater Institute, and Producer of the Musical Theatre Lab at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. before joining R&H in 1981. Mr. Chapin serves on the Board of the American Theatre Wing, and has been chairman of the Advisory Committee for New York City Center's Encores! Great American Musicals in Concert series since its inception. He served as a Tony Awards nominator for two seasons, and is currently a member of the Tony Administration Committee.

Ted Sperling is currently the Associate Artistic Director of the Prince Music Theater in Philadelphia, where he has directed four productions: *Charlotte: Life? or Theater?* (world premiere), *Lady in the Dark* (starring Andrea Marcovicci), *Peter Pan and Wendy* (US premiere), and *Striking 12* (world premiere). He has also directed evenings at Joe's Pub, The Cooper Union, and Lincoln Center, featuring Audra McDonald, Lauren Flanagan, Victoria Clark, Malcolm Gets, Theresa McCarthy, and Ricky Ian Gordon. Broadway credits as music director include *The Full Monty* (also in London and two national tours), *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, and *My Favorite Year*; he also conducted the incidental music for *Angels in America*. Off-Broadway credits include *A Man of No Importance*, the workshop production of Stephen Sondheim's *Wise Guys*, Adam Guettel's *Floyd Collins* and *Saturn Returns*, and William Finn's *A New Brain*, *Falsettoland*, and *Romance in Hard Times*. Ted conducted the world premiere recording of *Ragtime*, and two songs for the animated film *Anastasia*, one of which was nominated for an Academy Award. Ted has been performing with soprano Audra McDonald for four years, including engagements with symphony orchestras around the country, the Donmar Warehouse in London, Joe's Pub, and a sold-out debut concert at Carnegie Hall. Their most recent recording is "Happy Songs" on the Nonesuch label. Ted made his professional acting debut as bandleader Wallace Hartley in the original Broadway cast of *Titanic*. His next project is "The Light in the Piazza" by Adam Guettel and Craig Lucas.

Teresa Stratas made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera in 1959 in Massenet's *Manon*. By the time she was 25, she was an international star, singing in all the major opera houses in the world, including a Mimi at Covent Garden, a Violetta in Munich, a Butterfly at the Met. During the next three decades, she sang 41 roles in 382 performances at the Met alone, including seven new productions mounted for her. Other career highlights include the world premiere of the three-act version of *Lulu* under Boulez in Paris, the role of Marie Antoinette in Corigliano's *The Ghosts of Versailles*, the lead role in the Broadway musical *Rags*, and the role of Julie in the landmark recording of *Show Boat*. She has made more than two dozen opera films, won three Grammy Awards, an Emmy, a Gemini, a Drama Desk Award, a Tony nomination, and an Academy Award citation. In 1997 the NYSTA awarded her its "American Artist Citation," and the Canadian government bestowed upon her its highest civilian honor, "Officer of the Order of Canada," followed in 2000 with the "Governor General's Performing Arts Award." She holds five honorary doctorates from several institutions, including the University of Rochester, as well as the Kurt Weill Foundation's Distinguished Achievement Award. Stratas's involvement with the music of Kurt Weill began in 1979, when she played Jenny in *Mahagonny* at the Met. Lotte Lenya dubbed Stratas "her dream Jenny" and gave her a collection of unpublished material which Stratas recorded in 1981 as *The Unknown Kurt Weill*, which garnered a fistful of awards. She followed with *Stratas Sings Weill*, appeared in Peter Sellars's film of *Die sieben Todsünden*, and two music videos in *September Songs: The Music of Kurt Weill*. Ms. Stratas has served as a judge at each annual Lenya Competition.