

The 2008 Lotte Lenya Competition

Kilbourn Hall, Eastman School of Music
Saturday, 12 April 2008



On the occasion of the centenary of Lotte Lenya in 1998 (and the arrival at Sibley Music Library of Weill's European holograph scores), Kim Kowalke (President of the Kurt Weill Foundation and a professor at the University of Rochester) founded the Lotte Lenya Competition to encourage and recognize young singer/actors who are outstanding, both dramatically and musically, in their performance of theater music by Weill and other composers. The competition has grown from its original conception as a contest open only to Eastman Students to a truly international event in scope.

Fifteen finalists will compete in today's competition, chosen from regional auditions in Rochester, Lawrence, KS, and New York City, and from video submissions. In the first round, from 11:00am to 3:15pm, each finalist will have thirteen minutes in which to present a program of four selections, as listed in the program. 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 audience is invited to return for the second round, beginning at 8:00pm, where each contestant will sing one number, selected by the judges. At the end of the evening concert there will be a short intermission, after which competition winners will be announced. Prizes totalling at least \$25,000 will be awarded, including one or more special Lys Symonette Prizes.

The judges for today's competition are Theodore S. Chapin, Victoria Clark, and James Holmes. Carolyn Marlow, David Runzo, and Joyce Castle judged regional competitions.

The Kurt Weill Foundation thanks The University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music for hosting today's competition as well as the regional round in Kilbourn Hall.

