

BOSTONLYRICOPERA

STREET STAGE

AT THE ROSE KENNEDY GREENWAY

SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

12:30PM - 1:30PM

FEATURING

Carley DeFranco, Soprano
Fred C. VanNess, Jr.*, Tenor
Brendon Shapiro[^], Pianist



Street Stage is supported by the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture and the City of Boston through the Neighborhood and Downtown Activation Grant. The

2024 Street Stage season is sponsored by HarborOne Bank. This Street Stage concert was also made possible through the generosity of The Greenway BID.

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*Jane & Steven Akin Emerging Artist
[^]Jane & Steven Akin Emerging Artist Alum

Musical Program

“I Could Have Danced All Night” from *My Fair Lady*

Music by Frederick Loewe

Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner

“Kuda, Kuda” from *Eugene Onegin*

Music by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Libretto by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky and Konstantin Shilovsky

“O mio babbino caro” from *Gianni Schicchi*

Music by Giacomo Puccini

Libretto by Giovachino Forzano

“23rd Psalm” from *Omar*

Music by Rhiannon Giddens and Michael Abels

Libretto by Rhiannon Giddens

“Caro elisir” from *L'elisir d'amore*

Music by Gaetano Donizetti

Libretto by Felice Romani

“Think of Me” from *Phantom of the Opera*

Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

Lyrics by Charles Hart and Richard Stilgoe

“Dein ist mein ganzes Herz” from *Das Land des Lächelns*

Music by Franz Lehár

Libretto by Ludwig Herzer and Fritz Löhner-Beda

“If I Loved You” from *Rodgers & Hammerstein’s Carousel*

Music by Richard Rodgers

Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

“Make them hear you” from *Ragtime*

Music by Stephen Flaherty

Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

“Tonight” from *West Side Story*

Music by Leonard Bernstein

Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Artist Bios



**Carley
DeFranco**
Soprano

Boston-based soprano **Carley DeFranco's** upcoming engagements include *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* and Mahler's *Symphony No. 4* with Symphony NH; *La bonne chanson*, Emmanuel Music; and concerts of German Baroque music with Musicians of the Old Post Road. She has performed with Boston Lyric Opera numerous times since 2021. Her 2023/24 season included performances of *Messiah*, The Worcester Chorus; Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*, Lexington Symphony; *St. Matthew Passion*, Emmanuel Music; *Giunone*, Back Bay Chorale; Mozart's *Requiem*, Falmouth Chorale; *Il tramonto*, Monadnock Music; selections from Bolivian Mission Baroque music, Sarasa Ensemble; *The Anonymous Lover*, Boston Lyric Opera; and her German debut at Bachfest Leipzig with Emmanuel Music. Other performances include a fully staged *Les Illuminations*, Urbanity Dance; Angel, *La Resurrezione*, Emmanuel Music; *La Mer*, Lorelei Ensemble / Boston Ballet; Tin's *Lost Birds* (premiere), VOCES 8; *Frauenliebe und Leben*, Boston Opera Collaborative; and Runestad's *Earth Symphony* (premiere), True Concord Voices & Orchestra. DeFranco regularly performs with Handel & Haydn Society, Upper Valley Baroque, True Concord Voices & Orchestra, Oregon Bach Festival Chorus, Boston Lyric Opera Chorus, and Emmanuel Music. She founded DeFranco Music LLC, which partners with local schools to offer in-school music lessons; teaches voice with Harvard University's Holden Voice Program; and offers private lessons from her home studio.



**Fred C.
VanNess, Jr.**
Tenor

Fred C. VanNess, Jr. is a Jane & Steven Akin Emerging Artist with Boston Lyric Opera, where this season, he will sing the Messenger in *Aida*. Recent roles include Paris, *Romeo and Juliet*, Boston Lyric Opera; Amadou/Renty, *Omar*, Boston Lyric Opera; Russell Davenport, *Freedom Ride*, MassOpera; Voltaire/Pangloss, *Candide*, Opera del West; Don Ottavio, *Don Giovanni*, Toronto Summer Opera; and Don José, *Carmen*, NEMPAC Opera Project. Mr. VanNess is a member of Castle of our Skins, an organization dedicated to celebrating Black artistry through music. Notable performances include *Remember the Sea*, Castle of Our Skins; *Tide Flowers*, University of Rhode Island Artist Series; *Elijah*, Rhode Island Civic Chorale & Orchestra; *Ballad of the Brown King*, Portsmouth Pro Musica; *Schöpfungsmesse*, Concord Chorale; *Judas Maccabeus*, Handel by Candlelight; and solo recitals with Lake Charles Symphony, Salem Philharmonic, and Coughatta Casino Resort. Mr. VanNess has developed and performed two one-man shows: *When I Think of Home...*, McNeese State University; and *Beethoven to Broadway*, Larcom Theatre. He received his GPD from Longy School of Music and his M.M. from Louisiana State University. He was awarded first place for the North Shore Star and is also a recipient of The Coughatta Tribe of Louisiana Career Grant.

Artist Bios



Brendon Shapiro
Pianist

Pianist, vocal coach, and conductor **Brendon Shapiro** is a Jane & Steven Akin Emerging Artist alum with Boston Lyric Opera, where he has served as pianist and coach for *Eurydice*, *Omar*, *Bluebeard's Castle | Four Songs*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, and *The Rape of Lucretia*, as well as performing in the video series *B.* and the world premiere of Omar Najmi's song cycle *my name is Alondra*. In 2022, he returned to LA Opera to serve on the music staff for *Omar*, after being a member of their Young Artist Program from 2018-2020. While a young artist there, he worked with such artists as Renée Fleming and Susan Graham and played a key role in the musical preparation for the world premiere of Matthew Aucoin's *Eurydice* and many other productions. Mr. Shapiro is a co-founder and co-artistic director of Catalyst New Music, where he was the music director for workshop performances of Omar Najmi's *This is Not That Dawn* and *En la ardiente oscuridad*, and is currently producing and performing in the recital series *FUSE: Collaborations in Song*. Additionally, Mr. Shapiro is the artistic director of Boston Singers' Resource, a nonprofit dedicated to providing classical singers with the tools they need to pursue their career.

Text and Translations

“I Could Have Danced All Night” from *My Fair Lady*

I could have danced all night!
I could have danced all night!
And still have begged for more.
I could have spread my wings
And done a thousand things
I've never done before.
I'll never know what made it so exciting;
Why all at once my heart took flight.
I only know when he
Began to dance with me
I could have danced, danced, danced...
All night!

“Kuda, Kuda” from *Eugene Onegin*

Kuda, kuda, kuda vi udalilis,
vesni moyei zlatiye dni?
Shto dyen griadushki mnye gatovit?
Yevo moi vzor naprasna lovit: v
glubokoi ts'me tayitsa on!
Nyet nyuzhde; prav sudbi zakon!

Paddu li ya, streloy pranzyonni, il
mima proletitona,
vsyo blaga; bdieniya i sna prikhodit
cias apredelyonni!
Blagaslovyen i dyen zabot,
blagaslovyen i ts'mi prikhod!

Blesnyeot za-utra luch dennitsi
i zayigrayet yarki dyen,
a ya, bit mozhet, ya grobnitsi
saiduv tayinstvennyuyu syen!
I pamyat yunovo poeta,
poglatit myedlanneya Lyeta.
Zabudet mir menya ; no ti! ti!...
Olga...

Skhazi, pridyosh li, dyeva krasoti,
slezu prolit nad rannei urnoi
i dumat: on menya lyubil!
On mnye yedinoi posyatil
rassvyet pecialni zhizni burnoi,
akh, Olga, ya tebya lyubil!
tebe yedinoi posyatil
rassvyet pecialni zhizni burnoi,
akh, Olga, ya tebya lyubil!

Serdyechni drug, zhelanni drug,
pridi, pridi! Zhelanni drug,
pridi, ya tvoi suprùg,
pridi, ya tvoi suprùg, pridi, pridi!
Ya zhdu tebya, zhelanni drug,
pridi, pridi; ya tvoi suprùg!
Kudà, kudà, kudà vi udalilis,
zlatye dni, zlatye
dni moyey vesni?

Where, where, oh where have you fled,
My springtime's golden days?
What will the coming day prepare for me?
In vain my gaze attempts to grasp it;
In deep darkness it hides itself.
No matter, fate's law is just!

Whether I fall, pierced by the arrow
or whether it flies by,
all's well: of waking and sleep
comes the appointed hour!
Blessed is the day of cares,
blessed is the fall of darkness!

A ray of dawn will shine tomorrow
and the brilliant day will sparkle,
but I perhaps... I will descend into
the tomb's mysterious protection!
And the young poet's memory
will be engulfed by the slow Lethe*.
The world will forget me, but you...!
Olga...!

Tell me, will you come, maid of beauty,
to shed a tear over my early urn
and think: he loved me!
To me alone he consecrated the mournful
daybreak of a stormy life!
Ah, Olga, I loved you!
To you alone I consecrated the mournful
daybreak of a stormy life,
Ah, Olga, I loved you!

Beloved friend, desired friend,
come, come! Desired friend,
come, I am your spouse,
I am your spouse, come, come!
I wait for you, desired friend.
Come, come, I am your spouse!
Where, where, oh where have you fled,
my golden days,
my springtime's golden days?

*In Greek mythology, the Lethe is one of the rivers that flows through the underworld, which makes the dead forget their lives when they drink from it.

“O mio babbino caro” from *Gianni Schicchi*

O mio babbino caro
Mi piace, è bello, bello
Vo' andare in Porta Rossa
A comperar l'anello!
Sì, sì, ci voglio andare!
E se l'amassi indarno,
Andrei sul Ponte Vecchio,
Ma per buttarmi in Arno!
Mi struggo e mi tormento!
O Dio, vorrei morir!
Babbo, pietà, pietà!
Babbo, pietà, pietà!

Oh, my dear papa
I like him, he is so handsome!
I want to go to Porta Rossa
To buy the ring!
Yes, yes, I want to go there!
And if my love were in vain,
I would go to the Ponte Vecchio*
And throw myself in the Arno**!
I am pining, I am tormented!
Oh God, I would want to die!
Father, have pity, have pity!
Father, have pity, have pity!

*The Ponte Vecchio is a bridge in Florence, Italy.

**The Arno is the river over which the Ponte Vecchio is built.

“23rd Psalm” from *Omar*

“The Lord is my shepherd
I shall not want
I shall not want

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures
He leadeth me beside the still waters.”
Still waters, deep waters...

Across the waters, I came here, against my will, terrified.
Caught in the crook in the path, in the unseen crook in the path
If you could see me you would laugh, Mother.
Well, first, you’d cry.

My tongue has gone silent, no ears will have heard
Instead I speak with another’s words
This earth I had held within my hands,
The ground turned red in a distant land
The time passes, and the me I had known, the me I had owned,
Gives way to the me that I am now, in a perpetual bow
And yet, did I not already bow to you, oh Lord?
How much lower should I go?

“He restoreth my soul,
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.”

And what is in a name?
This Christian power, this Three in One, From God to Son?
Son, a mighty prophet indeed, just not mine.
I already have what I need in the divine.

I miss your voice, Mother, your eyes.
How wise you were, Mother, you knew the choice was never mine.

“Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil: for you are with me.
Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies
Thou anointest my head with oil
My cup, my cup, my cup, my cup runneth over
Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord,
In the house of the Lord forever.”

“Caro elisir” from *L'elisir d'amore*

NEMORINO

La rà, la rà, la lera
La rà, la rà, la rà ...

ADINA

Non so se è finta o vera
La sua giocondità.

NEMORINO

Finora amor non sente.

ADINA

Vuol far l'indifferente.

NEMORINO

La la rà, la la la...

ADINA

Bravissimo!
La lezion ti giova.

NEMORINO

È ver: la metto in opera
così per una prova.

ADINA

Dunque il soffrir primiero?

NEMORINO

Dimenticarlo io spero.

ADINA

Dunque l'antico foco...?

NEMORINO

Si estinguerà fra poco.
Ancora un giorno solo,
e il core guarirà.

ADINA

Davver? Me ne consolo.
Ma pure... si vedrà.

NEMORINO

La la la la...
La la la la...

ADINA

I do not know if his mirth
is fake or true.

NEMORINO

She doesn't love me yet.

ADINA

He wants to seem indifferent.

NEMORINO

La la la la...

ADINA

Bravissimo!
You'll benefit from the lesson.

NEMORINO

It's true: I'm putting it into practice
as if for an exam.

ADINA

Suffering first, then?

NEMORINO

I hope to forget it.

ADINA

And the ancient flame...?

NEMORINO

It will go out soon.
Just one more day,
and my heart will be healed.

ADINA

Indeed? I'm glad to hear it!
But even so... we'll see.

“Caro Elisir” from *L'elisir d'amore*

NEMORINO

Un giorno solo

ADINA

Si vedrà, si vedrà.

NEMORINO

Esulti pur la barbara
per poco alle mie pene!

ADINA

Spezzar vorria lo stolido,
gettar le sue catene.

NEMORINO

Domani avranno termine,
domani m'amerà.

ADINA

Ma gravi più del solito
pesar le sentirà.

NEMORINO

One more day

ADINA

We'll see, we'll see

NEMORINO

Even the barbarian exults
a little to my pains!

ADINA

The fool thinks to break his chains
and cast them away...

NEMORINO

Tomorrow this will end.
Tomorrow she will love me.

ADINA

But as usual, he will merely
feel their weight even more.

“Think of Me” from *Phantom of the Opera*

Think of me
Think of me fondly
When we've said goodbye
Remember me
Once in a while
Please promise me you'll try
When you find
That once again you long
To take your heart back and be free
If you ever find a moment
Spare a thought for me

We never said our love was evergreen
Or as unchanging as the sea
But if you can still remember
Stop and think of me

Think of all the things we've shared and seen
Don't think about the way things might have been

Think of me
Think of me waking
Silent and resigned
Imagine me
Trying too hard
To put you from my mind
Recall those days
Look back on all those times
Think of the things we'll never do
There will never be a day
When I won't think of you

Flowers fade
The fruits of summer fade
They have their seasons
So do we
But please promise me that sometimes
You will think of me

“Dein ist mein ganzes Herz” from *Das Land des Lächelns*

Dein ist mein ganzes Herz!
Wo du nicht bist, kann ich nicht sein.
So, wie die Blume welkt,
wenn sie nicht küsst der Sonnenschein!
Dein ist mein schönstes Lied,
weil es allein aus der Liebe erblüht.
Sag' mir noch einmal, mein einzig Lieb,
o, sag' noch einmal mir:
Ich hab' dich lieb!
Wohin ich immer gehe,
ich fühle deine Nähe.
Ich möchte deinen Atem trinken
und betend dir zu Füßen sinken,
dir, dir allein! Wie wunderbar
ist dein leuchtendes Haar!
Traumschön und sehnsuchtsbang
ist dein strahlender Blick.
Hör' ich der Stimme Klang,
ist es so wie Musik.
Dein ist mein ganzes Herz!
Wo du nicht bist, kann ich nicht sein.
So, wie die Blume welkt,
wenn sie nicht küsst der Sonnenschein!
Dein ist mein schönstes Lied,
weil es allein aus der Liebe erblüht.
Sag' mir noch einmal, mein einzig Lieb,
o, sag' noch einmal mir:
Ich hab' dich lieb!

My entire heart is yours!
Where you are absent, I cannot exist,
Just as the flower wilts
When the sunshine does not kiss it!
My most beautiful song belongs to you,
Because it bloomed from love alone.
Say to me again, my only love,
Oh, say to me once again:
I love you!
Wherever I may go,
I feel your presence.
I would like to drink your breath
and sink pleadingly at your feet,
You, you alone! How wonderful
is your shining hair!
Dreamily beautiful, anxious with longing
is your shining gaze.
When I hear the sounds of your voice,
it is like music.
My entire heart is yours!
Where you are absent, I cannot exist,
Just as the flower wilts
When the sunshine does not kiss it!
My most beautiful song belongs to you,
Because it bloomed from love alone.
Say to me again, my only love,
Oh, say to me once again:
I love you!

“If I Loved You” from Rodgers & Hammerstein’s *Carousel*

Kinda scrawny and pale, pickin' at my food
And lovesick like any other guy
I'd throw away my sweater
And dress up like a dude
In a dickey and a collar and a tie
If I loved you!

But somehow I can see
Just exactly how I'd be
If I loved you
Time and again I would try to say
All I'd want you to know
If I loved you
Words wouldn't come in an easy way
Round in circles I'd go
Longin' to tell you
But afraid and shy
I'd let my golden chances pass me by
Soon you'd leave me
Off you would go in the mist of day
Never, never to know
How I loved you
If I loved you!

“Make them hear you” from *Ragtime*

Go out and tell our story.
Let it echo far and wide.
Make them hear you.
Make them hear you.
How justice was our battle
And how justice was denied.
Make them hear you.
Make them hear you.

And say to those who blame us
For the way we chose to fight
That sometimes there are battles
That are more than black or white...
And I could not put down my sword
When justice was my right.
Make them hear you.
Make them hear you.

Go out and tell our story
To your daughters and your sons.
Make them hear you,
Make them hear you.
And tell them, in our struggle,
We were not the only ones.
Make them hear you,
Make them hear you.

Your sword can be a sermon
Or the power of the pen.
Teach every child to raise his voice
And then, my brothers, then
Will justice be demanded
By ten million righteous men.
Make them hear you.
When they hear you,
I'll be near you again.

“Tonight” from *West Side Story*

MARIA

Only you, you're the only thing I'll see,
forever.

In my eyes, in my words
and in everything I do,
Nothing else but you,
Ever!

TONY

And there's nothing for me but Maria,
Every sight that I see is Maria.

MARIA

Tony, Tony . . .

TONY

Always you, every thought I'll ever know,
Everywhere I go,
You'll be!

MARIA

All the world is only

BOTH

you and me!

MARIA

Tonight, tonight,
It all began tonight,
I saw you and the world went away.
Tonight, tonight,
There's only you tonight,
What you are, what you do, what you say!

BOTH

Today, all day I had the feeling
A miracle would happen—
I know now I was right.
For here you are,
And what was just a world is a star
Tonight!

BOTH (cont.)

Tonight, tonight,
The world is full of light,
With suns and moons all over the place.
Tonight, tonight,
The world is wild and bright,
Going mad, shooting sparks into space.

Today, the world was just an address,
A place for me to live in,
No better than all right,
But here you are
And what was just a world is a star
Tonight!

Goodnight, goodnight,
Sleep well, and when you dream,
Dream of me
Tonight.

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Rabb Hall

Boston Public Library, Central

BLO @ Fort Point Open Studios

October 19 & 20, 11:00AM-5:00PM

Opera + Community Studios

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About Boston Lyric Opera

Boston Lyric Opera is dedicated to making opera for everyone. Our mainstage productions share the power of opera to tell stories that reflect the diversity of our community. To expand arts access for more audiences, regardless of their ability to pay, we welcome thousands of community members to free public concerts, events, and youth programs each year. Our work is a collaborative effort, involving 800+ creative professionals annually, including musicians, dancers, actors, composers, costume designers, and more. We remain embedded in Boston's cultural landscape and thriving arts community through partnerships both ongoing and recent with Artists for Humanity, Midway Artist Studios, Boston Symphony Orchestra, ArtsEmerson, Boston Children's Museum, the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center, the Japan Society of Boston, and more.