



## S'Wonderful: A Tribute to George Gershwin

March 16, 2024 | 7:30 PM

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### Program

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First Horizon Foundation Pops Series  
**S'WONDERFUL: A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE GERSHWIN**

March 16, 2024 | 7:30 PM  
*Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium*

ISMAEL SANDOVAL | conductor  
LISA VROMAN | vocalist

Video/audio recording of this concert is prohibited.

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**George Gershwin**  
arr. F. Campbell-  
Watson  
*Strike Up the Band*

George Gershwin &  
Ira Gershwin  
*'S Wonderful*

**George Gershwin**  
arr. Patrick O'Neil  
*Someone to Watch Over Me*

**George Gershwin**  
arr. Patrick O'Neil  
*Cousin in Milwaukee*

**George Gershwin**  
arr. Norman Leyden  
*By Strauss*

**George Gershwin**  
arr. Robert Russell  
Bennett  
*Porgy and Bess: Selections for Orchestra*

INTERMISSION  
(20")

**George Gershwin**  
arr. Robert McBride  
*Girl Crazy Overture*

**George Gershwin**  
*Lullaby for Strings*

**George Gershwin**  
*They All Laughed*

**George Gershwin**     *Love Walked In*

**George Gershwin**     *I Got Rhythm*

**George Gershwin**     *American in Paris*  
arr. F. Campbell-  
Watson

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The CSO Pops Series is sponsored by:



This performance is funded in part by:



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## Artist Biography



**Lisa Vroman**

vocalist

From Broadway to Classics, on stage and in concert, Lisa Vroman has established herself as one of America's most versatile voices.

She has been regarded as a "*musical and theatrical marvel*" by the San Francisco Chronicle, as well as "*one of American Musical Theater's most beautiful voices*" by acclaimed Broadway producer Sir Cameron Mackintosh.

Lisa starred for over eight years on Broadway, in San Francisco and in Los Angeles as Christine Daaé in *The Phantom of the Opera*. Ms. Vroman starred as Rosabella in *The Most Happy Fella*, making her New York City Opera debut with Paul Sorvino playing the title role. She starred as Lili Vanessi in *Kiss Me Kate* with Glimmerglass Opera and the MUNY Theater of St. Louis, Anna Leonowens in *The King and I* with Lyric Opera of Virginia, and played Marian Paroo in *The Music Man* with Shirley Jones (Mrs. Paroo) and Patrick Cassidy (Harold Hill) at The Bushnell Theatre in Hartford CT.

Lisa sang the role of Birdie in *Regina* with Utah Opera, conducted by Keith Lockhart, made her New Jersey Opera debut as Rosalinde in *Die Fledermaus* (directed by Ira Siff), and premiered and recorded two Comic Operas by composers John Musto (*Bastianello*) and William Bolcom (*Lucrezia*) with the New York Festival of Song.

Her many performances have included a multi-city concert tour in China, concerts of Cole Porter's *1928 La Revue des Ambassadeurs* with L'Opera de Rennes in France, and playing the role of Maria Callas in Terence McNally's award winning play, *Master Class*.

Lisa's Broadway debut was in *Aspects of Love*. She was the first to play both Fantine and Cosette in *Les Miserables*. For PBS she was featured with Colm Wilkinson and Michael Ball in Cameron Mackintosh's *Hey, Mr. Producer!* at a Royal Gala at the Lyceum Theatre in London. She sang the role of Johanna in the San Francisco Symphony's Emmy Award winning PBS production of *Sweeney Todd in Concert*, with Patti Lupone and George Hearn. Both are available on DVD. Lisa starred as Laurey in *Oklahoma*, filmed live in concert for the BBC Proms Festival at Royal Albert Hall in London, played Mary Turner in Gershwin's *Of Thee I Sing/Let 'em Eat Cake* in concert with Michael Tilson Thomas conducting the San Francisco Symphony and Chorus, and played Lucy Brown in *Threepenny Opera* at the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco with Bebe Neuwirth, Nancy Dussault, and Anika Noni Rose. Other roles have included Laurie in *The Tender Land*, Maria in *The Sound of Music*, Josephine in *HMS Pinafore*, Yum-Yum in *The Mikado*, and Anna 1 in *The Seven Deadly Sins*. She has sung Maria in *West Side Story*, Guenevere in *Camelot*, Carrie Pipperidge in *Carousel*, Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*, and Amalia Balash in *She Loves Me*, as well as many other well-known musical roles.

Lisa is a George London Competition Grant recipient and a 1999 Minerva Award recipient from the State University of New York at Potsdam. She received an Undergraduate degree in Music Education from the Crane School of Music, SUNY Potsdam, a Masters degree in Fine Arts, Opera Performance from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Music from SUNY Potsdam. Ms. Vroman has become an active mentor and sought-after clinician with many colleges and universities across the country and around the world. She has acted as a judge in both the Lotte Lenya Competition for the Kurt Weill Foundation and UCLA's Walter Jurmann Competition. In the fall of 2019 Lisa joined the voice faculty of AMDA Los Angeles as part their Bachelor of Fine Arts program.

With a repertoire that ranges from Stravinsky to Weill to Broadway, Lisa is a frequent guest soloist with theater and opera companies, and orchestras including San Francisco, Philadelphia, Chicago, Atlanta, the National, Malaysia, Seattle, Hong Kong, Cleveland, Nashville, Pacific, Utah, Dallas, the Boston Pops with Keith Lockhart, the New York Pops at Carnegie Hall, and the Philly Pops with Peter Nero. She made her debut at The Hollywood Bowl in Disney's 75th celebration, singing and dancing with legend Dick Van Dyke in a medley from *Mary Poppins*. Lisa has sung in concert with composer Stephen Schwartz, organist David Higgs, and the Empire Brass Quintet. Her solo CD, *Broadway Classic*, features Metropolitan Opera mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe and 47 of San Francisco's finest orchestral players. Lisa had the honor of singing at the Profiles in Courage Award dinner in Boston at the JFK Library, as a guest of the Kennedy family. She has also sung on separate occasions for Queen Elizabeth, former presidents Gerald Ford, George H.W. Bush, and Bill Clinton, former Vice President Al Gore, and the Library of Congress.

Lisa is part of an ongoing multimedia symphony project produced by Music Unwound and the Kurt Weill Foundation which features the work of Kurt Weill, Berthold Brecht and Marc Blitzstein. Upcoming engagements include celebrations of Broadway and the music of George Gershwin.

Lisa lives in Pasadena, CA with husband Patrick O'Neil and their beautiful dog Barber.

## **Musicians**

### **Tonight's Musicians**

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#### **Violin 1**

Joshua Holritz, Associate Concertmaster

Nicholas Naegele

Mark Reneau

Jeanne Johnson

Jasper Sewell

Nick Hoy

Emily Drexler

J.P. Brien-Slack

#### **Violin 2**

Sheri Peck, Principal

Rachael McFarlane

Jennifer Whittle

Lee Smith

Rebecca James

Jessica Stansbury

Mary Benno

Anne Hendrix

#### **Viola**

Metiney Suwanawongse, Principal

Katelyn Hoag

Cristina Micci-Barreca

Susan Saliny

#### **Cello**

Eric Reed, Principal

Suzanne Sims

Paul Vest

Spencer Brewer

**Double Bass**

Taylor Brown, Principal  
Kaleb Collins  
Dexter Bell

**Flute**

Kristen Holritz, Principal  
Ayca Cetin  
Amelia Dicks

**Oboe**

Jessica Smithorn, Principal  
Keith Sorrels  
Carey Shinbaum

**Clarinet**

Mark Cramer  
Amy Humberd  
Nicholas Hartline

**Bassoon**

Eric Anderson, Principal  
G. Eddie McCrary, Jr.

**French Horn**

Gordon James, Principal  
Angela DeBoer  
Mackenzie Newell  
Joseph Demko

**Trumpet**

Christian Pagnard, Principal  
Michael Brown  
Shawn White

**Trombone**

Prentiss Hobbs, Principal  
Kevin Dombrowski  
Evan Clifton

**Tuba**

Preston Light

**Timpani**

David Pedigo

**Percussion**

Caitlin Jones

Nathan Shew  
Clark Harrel

### **Harp**

Caroline Brown Hudson, Principal

### **Keyboard**

Ethan McGrath

## **CSO Contract Musicians**

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### **Violin 1**

Joshua Holritz, Associate Concertmaster  
Nicholas Naegele, Assistant Concertmaster  
Nathan Banks  
Caroline Drexler  
Jeanne Johnson  
David Katz  
Calvin Lewis  
Mark Reneau  
Jasper Sewell

### **Violin 2**

Sheri Peck, Principal Second Violin  
Mary Benno  
Emily Drexler  
Nick Hoy  
Rebecca James  
Rachael McFarlane  
Lee Smith  
Jennifer Whittle

### **Viola**

Metiney Suwanawongse, Principal  
Katelyn Hoag  
Cristina Micci-Barreca  
Casie Runkle  
Susan Saliny  
Gabriel Schlaffer

### **Cello**

Eric Reed, Principal  
Spencer Brewer  
Annie Camp  
Micah Donar  
Suzanne Sims  
Paul Vest



**Double Bass**

Taylor Brown, Principal  
Dexter Bell  
Kaleb Collins  
Jonathan McWilliams

**Flute**

Kristen Holritz, Principal  
Lisa Meyerhofer (Leave of Absence)  
Amelia Dicks, Principal Piccolo

**Oboe**

Jessica Smithorn, Principal  
Teresa Spilko  
Carey Shinbaum, English Horn

**Clarinet**

Robert West, Principal (Leave of Absence)  
Emily Bowland  
Joseph Miller, Bass Clarinet

**Bassoon**

Eric Anderson, Principal  
Shelby Jones  
G. Eddie McCrary, Contrabassoon

**Horn**

Gordon James, Principal  
Angela DeBoer  
Matthew Meadows  
Joseph Demko (Leave of Absence)  
Mackenzie Newell

**Trumpet**

Christian Pagnard, Principal  
Michael Brown

**Trombone**

Prentiss Hobbs, Principal  
Kevin Dombrowski  
Christopher Brown (Leave of Absence)  
Evan Clifton

**Tuba**

Neil Konouchi, Principal

**Timpani**

Alex Wadner, Principal

### **Percussion**

Matthew West, Principal  
David Pedigo

### **Harp**

Caroline Brown Hudson, Principal

### **Keyboard**

Alan Nichols, Principal

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