

B C P A C



Bucks County Performing Arts Center, Inc.
(formerly Lower Makefield Society for Performing Arts)

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PRESS RELEASE

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BUCKS COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (BCPAC) SHOWCASES VOCAL - KEYBOARD DUO IN SONGS OF LOVE

-----Yardley, PA, October 22, 2007

The Bucks County Performing Arts Center completes the Fall 2007 portion of its excellent Classical Series with a recital encompassing an impressive range of the vocal literature. Helping to celebrate its 30th Anniversary season, BCPAC is proud to present Rebecca Carr, soprano, and James Batt, pianist, in a program titled "Seasons of Love" which will explore the expression of Love's well-known cycle: from first flowering, to full-glow, its wane, and end. Art songs, operatic arias, and Broadway musicals will all be represented in this engaging program, which will take place Saturday evening, November 17 at 7:30 P.M. in the historic Yardley Community Centre.

Hailed in the press for singing "radiantly" and "brilliantly" with her "big, vibrant soprano voice," Rebecca Carr brings her exuberance for singing and love of performing to the opera, concert and recital stage. In her hometown of Auburn, New York, Miss Carr began playing mandolin, violin and piano before starting the vocal training that led her to Ithaca College (BM), The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (MM), and to be granted the Artists' Diploma from Philadelphia's prestigious Academy of Vocal Arts.

Miss Carr's repertoire of operatic roles includes the title roles of Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah*, Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* and *Tosca*, and major roles in Verdi's *La Traviata*, *Luisa Miller*, *Falstaff*, and *Otello*. She has performed Mozart's Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte*, Donna Elvira and Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*, as well as First Lady in *Die Zauberflöte*. In the world of operetta, Miss Carr has excelled as Rosalinde in *Die Fledermaus*, and Anne Elise in Lehar's *Paganini*. Always seeking to expand her repertoire, she added the role of Chrysothemis in *Elektra* as an Alumni Artist at The Academy of Vocal Arts, inspiring her on to other Strauss roles, including *Arabella*. Critics raved that her portrayal was "shining" and that she "sang radiantly," highlighting her "virginal blonde beauty." As a protégée of Renata Scotto, she has studied the early operas of Verdi with that renowned diva. She has performed not only with many opera companies in the U.S., but has also sung extensively in France, Germany and Spain with the touring company, Teatro Lirico di Europa.

Miss Carr's concert repertoire includes the most beautiful of soprano literature: the "Vier Letzte Lieder" of Strauss, Barber's "Knoxville: Summer of 1915", Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* with Philadelphia's highly acclaimed Choral Arts Society, and

Händel's *Messiah*, among others. This Spring, she makes her Kimmel Center debut on the Family Concert.

James Batt is pianist for the Singing City Choir in Philadelphia and has recently been appointed their Assistant/Associate Conductor. Performing as accompanist Jim recently returned from an extensive tour of Cuba and Northern Ireland. He has over 25 years of experience in religious music, choral and vocal accompanying, and most recently served as Director of Music at Old Pine Street Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. Jim has participated in world premieres of two major choral/ instrumental works and is recorded on Arkay Records. He is on the roster as accompanist for Columbia Arts Management and accompanies professional vocalists and instrumentalists throughout Philadelphia and the Tri-State area. Mr. Batt currently is Minister of Music at Saint Thomas' Church, Whitemarsh in Fort Washington, Pennsylvania.

Tickets are available for \$12, \$10 (seniors), \$8 (students) and \$5 for children under five. Subscription packages are also being offered this year at even further reduced prices. Tickets are available by contacting the BCPAC office, online at their website (www.bcpac.org) or at the Yardley Community Center prior to each concert.

BCPAC is a registered non-profit organization based in Lower Makefield Township. Its mission is the creation of community through the arts.

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“Building Community Through the Arts”

The Bucks County Performing Arts Center is a registered charitable organization. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained directly from BCPAC or from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.