



presents

THE PRAIRIE SONG PROJECT

Katharine Goeldner, mezzo-soprano

Amy Morris, flute and bass flute

Michael Heaston, piano

Sunday, March 22, 2009

3:00 p.m.

PROGRAM

Irish Folksong Settings
The Salley Gardens
The Foggy Dew

John Corigliano
b. 1938

A Handful of Leaves*
Poetry by Ted Kooser
A Quarter Moon Just Before Dawn
Daddy Longlegs
A Room in the Past
Carrie
After Years

Rory Boyle
b. 1951

INTERMISSION

Aria
Edward McGuire
b. 1948

Paradox*
Texts by William Shakespeare and Willa Cather
Storm (Ariel)
Interlude (Caliban)
Come Unto These Yellow Sands (Ariel)
Caliban's Song
Full Fathom Five (Ariel)
Paradox
Be Not Afeard (Caliban)

Peter Ash
b. 1961

*Commissioned by The Prairie Song Project, 2008

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Katharine Goeldner, Mezzo-soprano, (Sigourney, IA/Salzburg, Austria). In recent seasons, Ms. Goeldner has appeared as Erika in *Vanessa* and the title role in *Carmen* at New York City Opera; Dorabella (*Così fan tutte*) for the Santa Fe Opera; Rosina (*Il barbiere di Siviglia*) for Glimmerglass Opera and Opera Omaha; the Composer (*Ariadne auf Naxos*) in Salzburg and Madrid; and Orlofsky (*Die Fledermaus*) with Seiji Ozawa's Opera Project in Japan. This season, she made her debut at the Chicago Lyric Opera as Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly*, a role she repeats next month for her debut with Florida Grand Opera in Miami. Future performances include the Composer in Oviedo, Spain, *Carmen* with Madison Opera, and Beethoven's *9th Symphony* with the Mozarteum Orchestra in Costa Mesa, CA. Ms. Goeldner has performed frequently with the Metropolitan Opera, Opéra de Lyon, Bilbao Opera, Théâtre du Capitôle, Toulouse, Dallas Opera, and the Salzburg Festival. In concert, she has appeared with the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg, the Vienna Symphony, the Berlin Symphony, Bavarian Radio Orchestra, Prague Radio Symphony, the National Symphony and the American Symphony. She has presented recitals at the Kennedy Center, the Salzburg Mozart Festival, the Théâtre du Capitôle, Vienna's Festival Ravel, Florida International University, Drake University and The University of Iowa.

Amy Morris, Flute, (Omaha, NE/ Minneapolis, MN) has been second flutist with the Minnesota Opera Orchestra since 1997. She also performs frequently with the Minnesota Orchestra. Former orchestral playing has been with the Sarasota Opera Orchestra, the Des Moines Metro Opera, the Rome Festival Orchestra, and the Cedar Rapids Symphony. She is a founding member of the chamber groups The Second Winds Woodwind Quartet and the Indände Duo, which will perform at the Musicians' Society in Edinburgh, Scotland in May. As a solo artist, Ms. Morris recorded two cds, *Stories* and *Theme and Variations*, and has performed in England, Scotland, Belgium and the USA. She is the flute instructor at Concordia and Hamline Universities, the College of St. Catherine, and MacPhail Center for Music. She holds music performance degrees from the University of Iowa and Northwestern University.

Michael Heaston, piano (Des Moines, IA / New York) is an active vocal coach and collaborative pianist based in New York City. The 2008-09 season includes his return to The Dallas Opera for productions of *Die Fledermaus*, *La Bohème*, and *L'Italiana in Algeri*. Mr. Heaston also continues his work at the Metropolitan Opera as Score Consultant for the live HD transmissions of *Salome*, *Dr. Atomic*, *Thaïs*, *La Rondine*, and *La Cenerentola*. Additionally, he serves as Score Consultant for *A Celebration of Leonard Bernstein: Carnegie Hall Opening Night 2008*, featuring Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony. In summer 2009, Mr. Heaston returns to Glimmerglass Opera for his third season as Program Director of the prestigious Young American Artists Program. He also currently serves as collaborative pianist for operatic luminary Diana Soviero in New York. Other recent operatic credits include *Salome*, *Porgy and Bess*, and *The Merry Widow* at The Dallas Opera; *Jenůfa*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and *Orphée et Eurydice* at Glimmerglass Opera; *Il Trovatore* at Mobile Opera; *Falstaff*, *La Traviata*, *Hansel and Gretel*, and *La Bohème* at Amarillo Opera; *Porgy and Bess* at Pensacola Opera; *La Bohème* and *The Consul* with The Bronx Opera Company; and *Madama Butterfly* and *La Cenerentola* at Des Moines Metro Opera. Mr. Heaston holds the Master of Music in Accompanying & Coaching from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and completed undergraduate studies in Piano

Pedagogy and Music Business at Drake University.

Scottish composer **Rory Boyle** divides his time between his home in Ayrshire and the Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama in Glasgow, where he is a lecturer. His extensive list of works covers most genres and his present commissions include such diverse items as a work for 16 pianists at 8 pianos and a wind quartet. His recently completed opera, *The Child Of Europe*, will be premiered in Scotland in 2010.

Ted Kooser is one of the nation's most highly regarded poets and served as the United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004 - 2006. During his second term he won the Pulitzer Prize for his book of poems, *Delights & Shadows* (Copper Canyon Press, 2004). A Presidential Professor of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, he is the author of twelve full-length collections of poetry. Born in Ames, Iowa, in 1939, Kooser earned a BS at Iowa State University in 1962 and an MA at the University of Nebraska in 1968.

Edward McGuire is from Glasgow, and studied composition at London's Royal Academy of Music London and in Stockholm. He received a British Composers' Award in 2003. In 2004 he received a Creative Scotland Award which allowed him to create the work *Defying Fate*. He was commissioned to produce the finale for the 2006 St. Magnus Festival, Ring of Strings. McGuire plays the flute in the folk group Whistlebinkies. In January 2006 he travelled to Hong Kong with the group to play a concert ("Scotland the Brave") with the Hong Kong Chamber Orchestra. The CD of his music, *Eddie McGuire: Music for Flute, Guitar and Piano*, on the Delphian Records label, was Editor's Choice in Gramophone Magazine in 2006. *Aria* was commissioned by Amy Morris in 2004.

Peter Ash, born in DeWitt, Iowa, finished high school at the Interlochen Arts Academy and then went to London - a city he liked so much that he decided to stay there. As a horn player and conductor, he has worked all over the world. As a composer, his main works are two operas for the young at heart. *Keepers of the Night* premiered in Los Angeles in 2007. *The Golden Ticket* debuts in 2010 at Opera Theatre of St. Louis. He hopes with his next project, an opera based on a Willa Cather novel, to reconnect with his midwestern roots.

The mission of *The Prairie Song Project* is to bring Midwestern talents to as wide an audience as possible, through commissioning, performing and recording works such as the ones you heard today. *The Prairie Song Project* is funded in part by the artists, by grants, and by the generous donations of friends and family. Please visit our website, www.prairiesongproject.com, for information on upcoming performances and to learn how you can support the Project.