

Reflections from Composer-in-Residence Benjamin C.S. Boyle, New Naxos CD and Upcoming Debussy Concert!

Greetings!

Greetings and happy holidays to all!

Take time to watch... something new has come into the world!

The creative gifts of Benjamin C.S. Boyle, Lyric Fest's Stasiuk & Farion composer-in-residence, were on full display earlier this month, on a feature program of his art songs. Find below a video clip in case you missed it. Benjamin's music is among the best we've encountered in the modern song tradition, and that is saying a lot.

And speaking of the best in the modern song tradition, Daron Hagen and Lyric Fest partnered in producing LF's first CD, released by Naxos Records and now available—Daron Hagen: 21st Century Song Cycles. [Click here](#) for a song picked out just for you, "The Rain Stick," performed by soprano Justine Aronson, tenor Joseph Gaines and pianist Laura Ward.

[Buy the CD or download the album](#), or pick up a copy at LF's next concert! And listen to our latest [Lyric Fest Podcast](#) featuring an engaging conversation with Daron, in which he talks about the new album, life as a composer, writing songs, the inspiration of poetry and much more!

And mark your calendars for Debussy in the new year! Next in our Biography in Music series will feature Claude Debussy annotated in concert by Benjamin C.S. Boyle, and sung by a special cast of singers. See below for full details (and note the new concert time on Saturday, February 10th, at 4 PM).

As always, Lyric Fest, depends on your partnership to make the music happen. Thank you for all you do.

*Yours with a song,
Suzanne and Laura*

[Donate](#)

Composer Benjamin C.S. Boyle reflects on the recent concert...

Perhaps it's unavoidable: In life, we move from one long-awaited event to the next, measuring and sub-dividing our perception of time accordingly. There's always the big run-up, as the date edges nearer, excitement building, time compressing.... Finally, the moment has arrived, and – just like that! – it's passed. Our reflections of the event follow an inverse (if not proportional) curve: a storm of emotions and feelings the days following, and an eventual and steady downward path into memory. (A piece of music traditionally follows this exact form and a good composer knows how to express it.)

With regard to Lyric Fest's recent concert of my works, I'm still a flurry of emotion. If I had to pick one that keeps rising up from the din, I'd choose gratitude. First, I'm so very grateful for all of you who came to share this long-awaited event with me. Music is (at its core) an act of sharing. I've always believed that the audience is an equal part of the concert trinity (with composers and performers) and vital to its continuation. Second, I'm equally grateful to Laura,

Sarah, Hannah and Dan. I've been involved with more concerts than I can remember, and I've never had a smoother rehearsal process or as little doubt as to the outcome. All four performers truly gave themselves to this music, and by doing so added something that will stay with it. Over time, pieces change and it's the great performers who change them. Finally, I am truly grateful to both Lyric Fest for the opportunity and to Christina and George for their support. Those who support new music truly belong with the angels.

Watch baritone Daniel Teadt and pianist Laura Ward in an excerpt from "Spirits in Bondage":



CLAUDE DEBUSSY *Biography in Music*

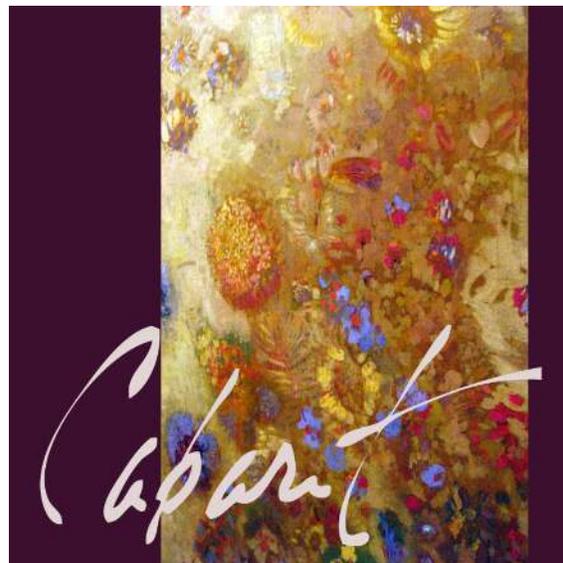
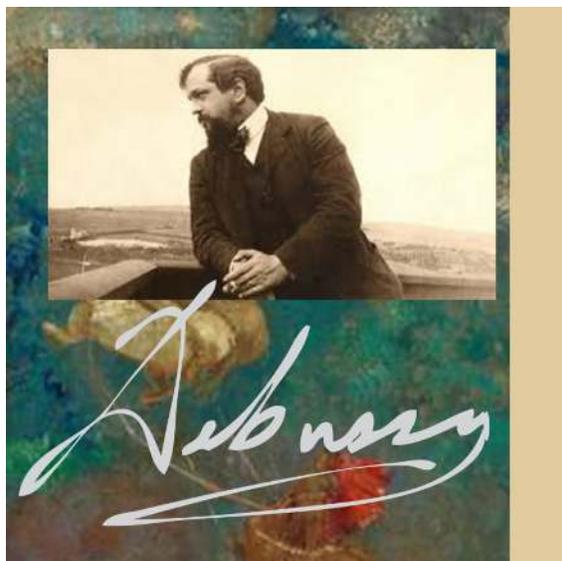
with Amy Burton, Suzanne DuPlantis, Thomas Meglioranza, Rebecca Myers and Laura Ward at the piano, and with commentary by Benjamin C.S. Boyle

Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 4 PM
at the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill

Sunday, February 11, 2018 at 3 PM
at the Academy of Vocal Arts

The latest in our biography series, this program features the fascinating and tempestuous life and times of Claude Debussy. Narrating and reading from the composer's letters will be Composer-in-Residence Benjamin C.S. Boyle.

[Tickets](#)



A CANDLELIT CABARET TO SUPPORT LYRIC FEST *Rodgers and Hart*

with Suzanne DuPlantis, Richard Troxell, Ron Kerber and Harold Evans at the piano

Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 7 PM
at the Academy of Vocal Arts

Join Lyric Fest for a sparkling evening with round-table seating, fine wines, appetizers, desserts... and the unforgettable songs of Rodgers and Hart!

[Tickets](#)



Art: Odilon Redon

[Visit our website](#)