

Greetings!

"I am working as much as I can. These are still the moments when I come closest to satisfying my taste for the inexpressible!"

– Claude Debussy to his publisher, July 1910

We've been immersing ourselves in a world of Debussy—and a curious life it was! One hundred years ago when Debussy closed his eyes for the last time, laying down unfinished scores and truncated relationships, he may or may not have known that in expressing the inexpressible, at least, he had succeeded.

Debussy lived only 55 years, 1862-1918, during a unique moment in time: France at the fin de siècle. His was a world of literature, art and music; of cafés, bookshops and salons; of premieres, performers, deadlines and divorces; and finally, world war. That is a lot of nitty-gritty for a man who said, *"Those around me refuse to understand that I have never been able to live in a world of real things and real people."*

And so we invite you to come this weekend to hear the kaleidoscopic world of Debussy through his songs—some of the most sublime in the history of art song—and to learn about the man who brought them into being.

*Yours with a song,
Co-Artistic Director Suzanne DuPlantis*

[Click here for Suzanne's Debussy blog.](#)

Tickets

\$10 student tickets are available at the door.



Amy Burton: Debussy Podcast

Celebrated soprano Amy Burton will be singing in Lyric Fest's upcoming Debussy concerts. In this engaging podcast, she talks about Debussy's early connection with singers, the poetry and images behind his atmospheric songs, and what he so palpably conveys.

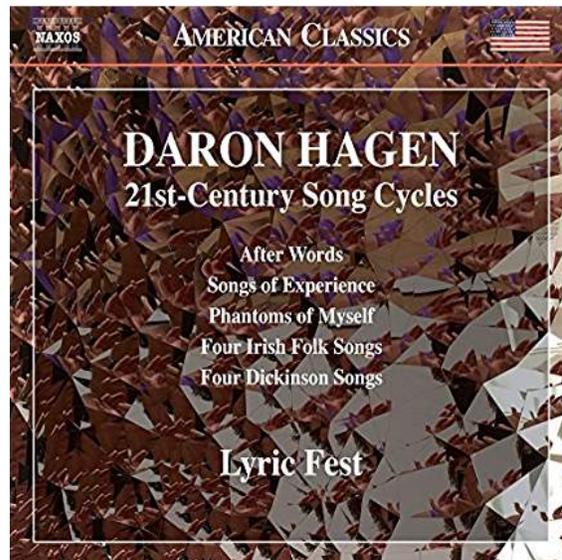
Now Available...

Daron Hagen: 21st-Century Song Cycles

Hagen casually evokes sexy hints of Schubert, Broadway and serialism, before the music bursts into innocent lyrical love. There are similarly striking tracks and moments throughout the recital....

—Gramophone magazine

Lyric Fest presents its first CD, released by Naxos Records and now available—Daron Hagen: 21st Century Song Cycles. [Click here](#) for an excerpt, "The Rain Stick," performed by soprano Justine Aronson, tenor Joseph Gaines and pianist Laura Ward. [Check out this podcast](#) with Daron as he talks about the album, life as a composer, poetry, writing songs and much more....



CLAUDE DEBUSSY *Biography in Music*

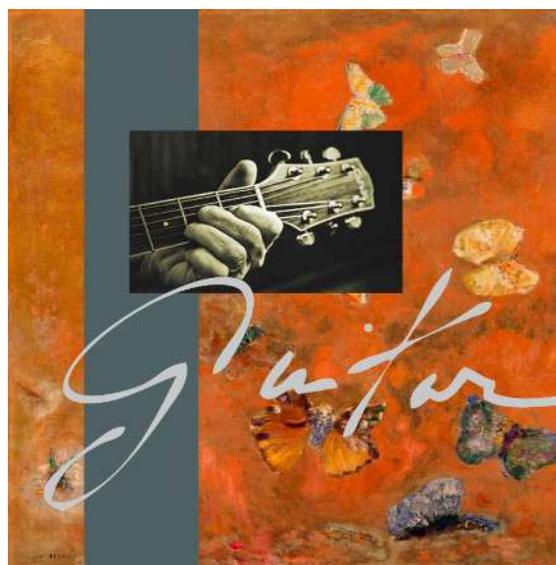
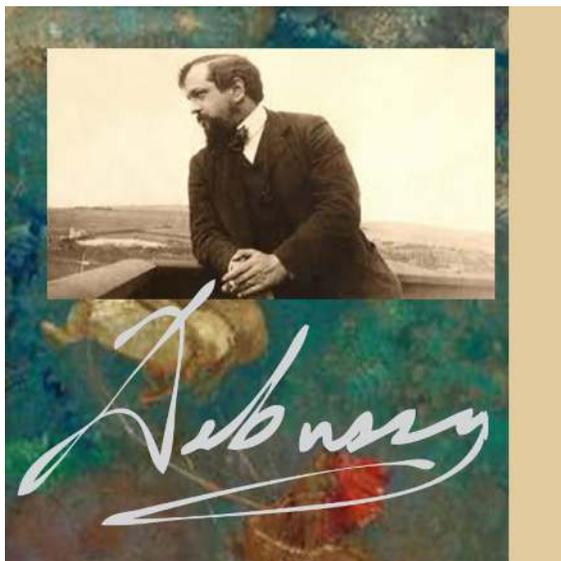
with Amy Burton, Suzanne DuPlantis, Thomas Meglioranza, Rebecca Myers and Laura Ward at the piano, and with commentary by Benjamin C.S. Boyle

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

Sunday, February 11th 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](#)



HUMMING and STRUMMING *Guitar Songs with Allen Krantz*

with Emily Drummond, Suzanne DuPlantis and Allen Krantz

Tuesday, April 3rd, at 6 PM
at the Moorestown Community House
Moorestown, NJ

Wednesday, April 4th, at 5:30 PM
at the Philadelphia Ethical Society auditorium
Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia

Join us for this winsome and fun program inspired by the art of the guitar and the songs that it has tenderly accompanied through the years. Classical, folk, jazz and modern songs stand side by side in a program featuring Philadelphia's premiere guitarist. Put a little music into your midweek with Lyric Fest's happy hour mini-concert series!

[Tickets](#)

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Art: Odilon Redon

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