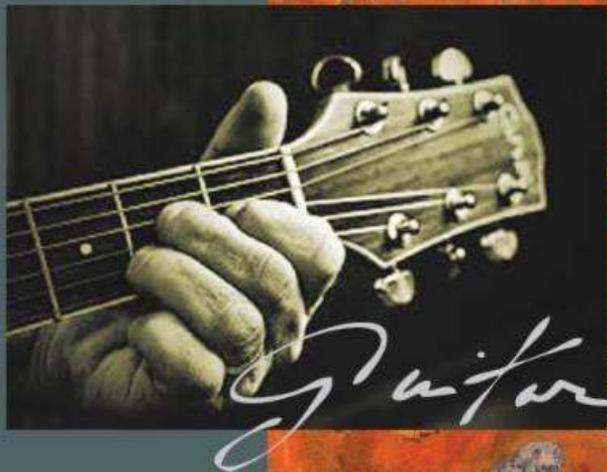


LYRIC FEST



Dear Robert,

We welcome you to a midweek gathering in early April for music and friends— our happy hour and mini concert, *Humming and Strumming*.

Join us on April 3rd or 4th at the Moorestown Community House in Moorestown, NJ, or Philadelphia Ethical Society on Rittenhouse Square, for a lovely spread of warm hors d'oeuvres and a chilled glass of wine. Then take your seat and relax to the strains of Dowland, Schubert, Schumann, Falla, Seiber, Jobim, Rodgers and Hart, and more, with Philadelphia's premiere guitarist, Allen Krantz, and two serenading mezzos, Emily Drummond and me.

We'll have just enough songs brighten your week and then send you off to dinner. What could be nicer? Meanwhile, I hope you enjoy this [podcast](#) chat I did with Allen Krantz, where we talk about the guitar, the songs on the concert and

even sing a few tunes! And you can check out the whole program [here](#). See you soon!

*Yours until we hum and strum together,
Co-Artistic Director Suzanne DuPlantis*

HUMMING AND STRUMMING

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

April 4th at 5:30 PM at the Philadelphia Ethical Society on Rittenhouse Square

[Tickets](#)



Allen Krantz & Emily Drummond in rehearsal

Humming and Strumming – A Guitar Blog

Here's the opening in Suzanne's current blog series...

Sitting Down on the Job

In planning a concert for singers and guitar there are some choices to make:

- Limit yourself to strictly guitar music? Or include songs written for its third cousin twice removed, the lute?
- Stick to Schubert, who published songs with guitar accompaniments, or push the envelope a little, venturing into transcriptions of Schumann and Mendelssohn – Brahms, even
- Do you program only “classical music” or sing some jazz, some Brazilian sambas, some Rodgers and Hart?
- Oh, and when performing, do you sit or stand?

Read this and another in the series [here](#).

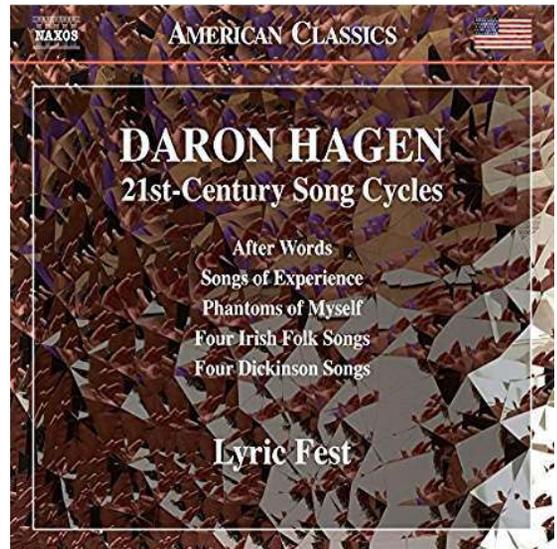
Now Available...

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....



Bryan Hymel & Iriini Kyriakidou in concert with Laura Ward

Sunday, May 6th at 3 PM
at the Academy of Vocal Arts

Lyric Fest is thrilled to present international opera stars—tenor Bryan Hymel & soprano Iriini Kyriakidou—in a special concert with pianist Laura Ward, featuring a program of Vaughan Williams, Ravel, Benjamin C.S. Boyle and operatic favorites in the couple's first-ever Philadelphia recital performance. Join us for this grand finale to Lyric Fest's 15th-anniversary season! Priority seating and an elegant reception with Bryan and Iriini at the Academy of Vocal



Arts following the concert are available for \$150, with general seating at \$35.

[Tickets](#)



Happy Birthday Irving Berlin!

Wednesday, June 13th at 7 PM
Shadyside Presbyterian Church
Pittsburgh, PA

Raise a glass to a great American musical treasure, Irving Berlin. Part of the newly established Music for Midsummer Nights series, this short concert features Berlin's timeless songs and a brief biography of his amazing life story. With mezzo-soprano Suzanne DuPlantis, baritone Randall Scarlata and pianist Laura Ward. (A free-will offering will be taken at the door.)

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THROUGH SONG

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