





Love's Sweet Drama



A vocal program of favorites
from opera and musicals
sung by

*Barbara Benjamin,
Lyric Soprano*



September 12, 2010 - 2pm
Le Petit Trianon Theatre, Recital Hall

72 North Fifth Street (near SJ City Hall)
San Jose, CA 95112

Plenty of free parking close to the theater.

No charge for admission,
but donations are welcome if you feel so moved.

For reservations, contact Barbara at **408-223-1302** or **bb2010concert@att.net**.

**You are also invited to the
Postconcert Celebration!
4pm - 8pm**

Food and drinks provided

The Villages Golf and Country Club, Foothill Center
The Villages Parkway, San Jose, CA 95135

Please RSVP by September 6 to **bb2010concert@att.net** so our caterer can prepare accordingly.

ACT I

Deh Vieni, Non Tardar (Oh Come, Don't Delay)
Le Nozze di Figaro (The Marriage of Figaro)
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Black Swan
The Medium
Gian Carlo Menotti

O Mio Babbino Caro (Oh My Dear Father)
Gianni Schicchi
Giacomo Puccini

Vissi d'Arte, Vissi d'Amore (I Lived for Art and Love)
Tosca
Giacomo Puccini

Nessun dorma (None Shall Sleep)
Sung by Matthew Reeves
Turandot
Giacomo Puccini

Plaisir d'Amour (Pleasure of Love)
Johann-Paul Martini

Nuit d'Espagne (Spanish Night)
Jules Massenet

Après un Rêve (After a Dream)
Gabriel Faure

Gretchen am Spinnrade (Gretchen at the Spinning Wheel)
Fauste
Franz Schubert

Ständchen (Serenade)
Franz Schubert

Liebe du Himmel auf Erden (Love, Heaven on Earth)
Paganini
Franz Lehar

~ INTERMISSION ~

ACT II

Tonight
West Side Story
Steven Sondheim & Leonard Bernstein

Not a Day Goes By
Merrily We Roll Along
Steven Sondheim

Old Maid
110 in the Shade
Tom Jones

I Have to Tell You
Fanny
Harold Rome

Think of Me
Phantom of the Opera
Andrew Lloyd Weber

Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again
Phantom of the Opera
Andrew Lloyd Weber

All I Ask of You, Duet with Matthew Reeves
Phantom of the Opera
Andrew Lloyd Weber

Bring Him Home
Les Miserable
Herbert Kretzmer and Alain Boublil

Time to party!!!

Barbara Benjamin, Lyric Soprano

After raising her daughter as a single mother, Barbara decided to give vent to her inner calling and passion as a singer and began studying voice in 1885 when she was 40. She first took private lessons with Steve Stephens, a voice teacher at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. But after three years of intense vocal training with Steve, he moved to New Orleans.

In 1990, Barbara moved to San Jose and began voice lessons again, first studying with Kathryn Petrick, then later with Iris Fraser, both superb singers well known throughout the SF Bay Area. Unlike San Francisco, the wealth of community theater and opera companies in the Silicon Valley area provided Barbara with performance opportunities that she needed. In 1991, she performed on stage for the first time, cast in the role as Fleta the Fairy in Gilbert & Sullivan's *Iolanthe*. For 12 years, she performed with companies such as Lyric Theatre, West Valley Light Opera, Stanford Savoyards, and West Bay Opera.

In 2003, Barbara decided to stop performing in stage productions of opera and light opera. But her love of singing and performing persisted. Despite now being a senior citizen, that desire ultimately gave rise to the idea of performing one last solo concert. Barbara feels extremely fortunate to have met Irina Prilipko-Morgan, a world-class pianist and vocal coach, who has been working with Barbara to prepare for today's concert. Irina has been a guiding force and voice of encouragement for the past 18 months to make Barbara's dream a reality today.

Matthew Reeves, Tenor

Matthew has been a singer for more than 30 years. He started singing and playing the guitar at age 8, studying and performing a wide variety of American and Irish Folk music. He has since added Broadway show tunes, classical and art songs, and operatic arias to his repertory. Matthew has performed in college and community theater musicals as well as classical music recitals and private concerts throughout the Bay Area. Backed by only a piano, Matthew enjoys singing to large and small audiences alike. His CD, *Troubadour's Bouquet*, is available for sale at CDBaby.com.

Simona Snitkovskaya, Pianist

Simona Snitkovskaya was born and raised in St. Petersburg, Russia, and studied at the St. Petersburg Conservatory until 1994, earning the equivalent of Bachelor, Master, and Post Graduate degrees in piano performance and chamber music. She worked as an accompanist and vocal coach for the Conservatory as well as the Marinsky Theatre until 2001, when she moved to the United States. During the 1990s, Simona won numerous awards at major international competitions in vocal performance accompaniment and chamber music ensemble performance. Since coming to America, she has worked as a coach accompanist for Opera San Jose for more than 25 opera productions. Simona has also performed numerous concerts in solo piano performance and vocal accompaniment in and around the SF Bay Area. She is also a private piano teacher and vocal coach.

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with piano accompaniment by
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