



### About the Artists

Ravinia's Steans Music Institute is the Ravinia Festival's professional studies program for young professional musicians, providing participants the opportunity to study with internationally renowned faculty. Its touring chamber ensemble is selected from among the most promising singers that have attended Ravinia's summer conservatory.

Pianist **KEVIN MURPHY** serves on the faculty of the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University and is the director of the Program for Singers at Ravinia's Steans Music Institute. Prior to returning to his alma mater, he was director of music administration at New York City Opera.

Soprano **CHRISTINE LYONS** has been praised as "especially moving" by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and hailed a "true virtuosa" by *Broadway World*. Ms. Lyons earned a Master of Music degree from Peabody Institute, a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Carnegie Mellon University, and completed further studies at the Mozarteum in Salzburg.

German American mezzo-soprano **SIENA LICHT MILLER** is quickly making a name for herself in the opera and concert worlds. As an emerging artist with Opera Philadelphia, Siena made her professional debut as Second Lady in *Die Zauberflöte*. She began her musical career in her hometown of Portland, Oregon.

Tenor **JOHN MATTHEW MYERS**, declared an "artist to watch" by *Opera News*, has rapidly established himself among today's exceptional young voices. He has collaborated with companies such as the Verbier Festival and Santa Fe Opera, and made his Los Angeles Philharmonic debut in 2017 as Mao in *Nixon in China*.

A San Diego native, **NICHOLAS NEWTON** is garnering due attention as an up-and-coming bass-baritone in the opera world. Growing up in a musical household, Mr. Newton pursued his passion for singing through gospel, jazz, musical theater, and now classical music. In 2019, he joined the Houston Grand Opera studio.



EIGHTH TUCSON DESERT SONG FESTIVAL

The University of Arizona Fred Fox School of Music  
presents:

## Singers from Ravinia's Steans Music Institute "Coming to America: Songs of American Immigrants"



Christine Lyons, soprano  
Siena Licht Miller, mezzo-soprano  
John Matthew Myers, tenor  
Nicholas Newton, bass-baritone  
Kevin Murphy, piano

Monday, January 27, 2020  
Holsclaw Hall  
7:00 p.m.



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The University of Arizona Fred Fox School of Music

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Singers from Ravinia’s Steans Music Institute

Christine Lyons, soprano (RSMI 2019)

Siena Licht Miller, mezzo-soprano (RSMI 2019)

John Matthew Myers, tenor (RSMI 2019)

Nicholas Newton, bass-baritone (RSMI 2019)

Kevin Murphy, piano (Director, RSMI Program for Singers)

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PROGRAM

I

Refugee Blues ..... Mohammed Fairouz (b. 1985)

Siena Licht Miller, mezzo-soprano

II

On Hearing ..... Paul Hindemith (1895-1963)  
The Last Rose of Summer  
Sing on there in the Swamp

John Matthew Myers, tenor  
Nicholas Newton, bass-baritone  
Christine Lyons, soprano

III

Four Walt Whitman Songs ..... Kurt Weill (1900-1950)

Beat! Beat! Drums!  
O Captain! My Captain!  
Come Up from the Fields, Father  
Dirge for Two Veterans

John Matthew Myers, tenor



IV

Heart ..... Jean Berger (1909-2002)  
Lonely People

Siena Licht Miller, mezzo-soprano

V

Misery ..... Alexander von Zemlinsky (1871-1942)  
Harlem Tänzerin  
Afrikanischer Tanz

Nicholas Newton, bass-baritone  
Siena Licht Miller, mezzo-soprano  
John Matthew Myers, tenor

VI

Litany ..... Ricky Ian Gordon (b. 1956)  
Stars  
Joy

Christine Lyons, soprano

VII

Plainchant for America ..... William Grant Still (1895-1978)

Christine Lyons, soprano  
Siena Licht Miller, mezzo-soprano  
John Matthew Myers, tenor  
Nicholas Newton, bass-baritone

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HOLSCLAW HALL IS PROUD TO FEATURE THE  
Peter & Debbie Coogan Steinway B

The projector system in Holsclaw Hall was given  
by Sarah Towne Hufford in memory of  
Robert & Marion Towne.

