

School of Music

presents

# CAPSTONE RECITAL Rosemary Lambright, soprano

Valerie Pool, piano

Tuesday, May 5, 2009 7:00 pm Music Building Recital Hall

# Kennesaw State University School of Music

#### **CAPSTONE RECITAL**

Rosemary Lambright, soprano Valerie Pool, piano

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#### **PROGRAM**

The Phantom of the Opera

Premier: London, 1986 Andrew Lloyd Webber (b. 1948)

Think of Me Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again

Jekyll & Hyde

Premier: New York, 1997 Composer: Frank Wildhorn (b. 1959) Librettist: Leslie Bricusse (b. 1931)

Someone Like You Once Upon A Dream Good And Evil

Les Misérables

Composer: Claude-Michel Schönberg (b. 1944) Librettist: Alain Boublil (b. 1941)

I Dreamed a Dream On My Own

Wicked

Premier: New York, 2003 Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948)

Premier: London, 1985

I Couldn't Be Happier Popular

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Bachelor of Arts in Music

Ms. Lambright studies voice with Adam Kirkpatrick

#### Music at Kennesaw State University

Whether you seek a conservatory-like experience, are looking to become a dedicated and effective educator, or have a strong interest in music but want to balance that with other academic interests, the School of Music is the place for you. If you are interested in performance you benefit from worldclass instruction, vibrant and challenging performance opportunities, and the chance to immerse yourself in metropolitan Atlanta's rich musical culture. The School of Music is also a vital training ground for music teachers. KSU graduates a significant number of the teachers who keep music in Georgia schools vital and alive. If you seek a broader academic experience, we offer a Bachelor of Arts in Music, which allows you to take advantage of more of the academic opportunities at KSU. We stage more than 100 performances each year, from chamber music to full orchestra, choral and wind ensemble concerts, and musical theatre and opera productions, with repertoire from traditional classical to modern jazz. So if you are looking for an excellent place to challenge yourself in a nurturing and supportive environment, look no further than the School of Music at Kennesaw State!

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## **Program Notes**

## The Phantom of the Opera

The Phantom of the Opera is based on a French novel entitled Le Fantôme de l'Opéra written by Gaston Leroux. Andrew Lloyd Webber composed the music, and Charles Hart and Richard Stilgoe wrote the lyrics and book. The Phantom of the Opera premiered in London's West End in September 1986, and on Broadway in January 1988. Since then, Phantom of the Opera has earned the title of the longest running musical, and most financially successful musical of all time. The great success of Phantom of the Opera led to a movie version of the musical directed by Joel Schumacher. The movie was released in 2004.

The Phantom of the Opera is set in Paris in 1881 at the Opéra Populaire opera house. The musical focuses on a young opera singer, Christine, who is haunted--along with the rest of the cast and crew of the opera house--by the "Angel of Music." Upon hearing her beautiful singing, the Phantom becomes obsessed with Christine and kidnaps her, as she reminds him of his beloved, deceased mother. The plot centers around a love triangle involving Christine, the Phantom, and Raoul and the Phantom's composition of an opera, specifically composed for Christine.

# Jekyll & Hyde

Jekyll & Hyde, music by Frank Wildhorn and lyrics by Leslie Bricusse, is a musical based on the 1886 novel *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson. The show was first produced on Broadway, and opened in April of 1997. There have been three versions of Jekyll & Hyde produced in English. While the theme of the show stays relatively the same, the songs have been altered or cut from the show.

Jekyll & Hyde is about a young doctor and scientist, Dr. Jekyll, who is experimenting to discover a way to separate the elements of good and evil that every human possess. As Dr. Jekyll struggles with his experiments, he makes a discovery and creates a promising formula. In his eagerness to know if it works, he injects himself with the formula and is transformed into his evil half, Mr. Hyde. Dr. Jekyll struggles with his dual personality throughout the play, and eventually is taken over by his evil side – Mr. Hyde. His good side only comes out at the very end as he is dying in his fiancée's arms.

## Les Misérables

Les Misérables is one of the longest running and most performed musicals of all time. A novel written by Victor Hugo in 1862 inspired the musical. In 1980, the first stage production of Les Misérables was written in French, with music by Claude-Michel Schönberg. In 1982, the French version of the show was given to producer Cameron Mackintosh in an effort to have him produce an English version of the classic French work. Herbert Kretzmer and Alain Boublil worked together to write the show in English. The English version of the show is not an exact translation, but a close and rough translation with an added new section. The English version opened for the first time in London with a lot of speculation from critics. Although the reviews from critics were not good, word of mouth brought in more people, keeping the musical afloat and leading Les Misérables to be extremely successful.

Les Misérables is set in the early 1800's, shortly after the French Revolution and during the Orléanist revolution of 1832. The story follows a convict who has broken his parole named Jean Valiean as he struggles to survive without being captured. Throughout the musical he is relentlessly pursued by police officer Javert, who has been tracking Valjean since he escaped. Fantine, one of Valjean's factory workers is dismissed from her job, forcing her to sell most of her possessions, including herself, to stay afloat and to send money to her daughter Cosette. Valjean adopts Cosette, after her mother Fantine is beaten to death by one of her clients while prostituting herself. Nine years later the Orléanist revolution is about to begin. Eponine, Cosette's former caretaker's daughter, is in love with a man named Marius, although Marius is in love with Cosette. Eponine reluctantly takes Marius to Cosette, and mourns her own loss of him. Despite the fact that he does not love her, Eponine chooses to meet him at a barricade designed to block the army's advances. The battle ensues, and Eponine is killed at the barricade, while Marius is only injured. Valjean escapes with him and takes him to the hospital. Several months later, after Marius' recovery, Marius and Cosette are married. As Valiean is dving, the truth of her past is revealed to Cosette.

## <u>Wicked</u>

Wicked is a prequel to the classic children's novel *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* written by L. Frank Baum, originally released in 1900,

and then released in a film form as *The Wizard of Oz* in 1939. *Wicked, a New Musical* tells the story of *The Wizard of Oz* characters before Dorothy arrives in Oz. The story centers around Elphaba and Galinda, two unlikely friends in the Land of Oz, and eventually what leads each of the girls to become the Wicked Witch of the West and the Good Witch of the North, respectively.

Wicked premiered on Broadway in October of 2003. The musical, written by Stephen Schwartz, is based on Gregory Maguire's best selling novel under the same title. The original production initially received mixed reviews, but has since proven to be a favorite among musical goers. Along with the Broadway production, several other productions have set off, including several U.S. national tours, and productions in Chicago, Tokyo, London's West End, Los Angeles, Stuttgart, Melbourne, and San Francisco. The show was also nominated for ten Tony Awards in 2004, and won three for Best Actress, Scenic Design, and Costume Design.

Stephen Schwartz introduces each character in the musical with a Leitmotiv. A Leitmotiv is a recurring musical theme, associated with a particular person, place, or idea. The character I portray in these two selections, Galinda who later changes her name to Glinda, is introduced by a rolled octave at the beginning of each of her songs.