

***Florestan Recital Project presents:***  
***Barberfest: The Complete Songs of Samuel Barber***  
***September 25-27, 2009***

*Florestan Recital Project is pleased to present this 3-concert festival celebrating one of America's most important song composers, Samuel Barber. Many of Barber's songs have been enjoyed for decades as well-known American repertoire, and it was a wonderful surprise to discover a large amount of unpublished songs in manuscript form that had neither been heard often nor recorded. Florestan is thrilled to feature rare performances of these unpublished songs in the festival, obtained by special permission from the U.S. Library of Congress and Barber's estate.*

*Samuel Osborne Barber III began composing out of sheer love for the music and musicians that were around him when he was a child, and that love shaped his collaborations with fellow musicians throughout his life. He was not looking to be part of a vanguard of new composers, he was not attempting to explode ideas of lyricism or tonality, and one of his most important influences was his uncle Sidney Homer (see picture at right) rather than a contemporary "school" of technique. However, he was one of the first American composers to be commissioned by major conductors, and he quickly became known throughout the U.S. and Europe as an example of American artistic promise.*

*The melody that pervades his songs, as well as his ever-maturing appreciation for poetry and lyricism, seem strong and sure contrasts to the many innovations and experiments which have occurred in American music's history. As 21<sup>st</sup>-century artists, we thrill to the infinite variety of voices in America today, and we celebrate Samuel Barber as a passionate and important contributor to a continually expanding landscape.*

## **Barberfest: Concert #1**

**Distler Performance Hall  
Tufts University**

**Friday, September 25, 7pm**

**Nuvoletta**, opus 25 (1947)

James Joyce (1882-1941),  
from *Finnegan's Wake*

Sarah Pelletier, soprano & Shiela Kibbe, pianist

**The Daisies**, opus 2 (1927)

James Stephens (1882-1950)

**With Rue my Heart is Laden**, opus 2 (1928)

A.E. Housman (1859 – 1936)

**Bessie Bobtail**, opus 2 (1934)

James Stephens

Shadi Ebrahimi, soprano & Linda Osborn-Blaschke, pianist

**Of that so sweet imprisonment** (*10 Early Songs*; 1935)

James Joyce (from Chamber Music)

**Love at the door** (*10 Early Songs*; 1934)

words by Meleager (Greek),

trans. by John Addington Symonds (1840-1893)

Joe Dan Harper, tenor & Anne Kissel, pianist

**Au Clair de la Lune** (unpublished; 1926) manuscript inscription: "A modern setting of the old Folk-tune"

**La Nuit** (unpublished; 1925)

Alfred Meurath (dates unknown)

Sarah Pelletier, soprano & Shiela Kibbe, pianist

**Mémoires Passagères**, opus 27 ("To Francis Poulenc and Pierre Bernac"; 1950-51)

Puisque tout passé

Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926)

Un cygne

Tombeau dans un parc

Le clocher chante

Départ

Joe Dan Harper, tenor & Anne Kissel, pianist

### **Pause**

**Strings in the earth and air** (*10 Early Songs*; 1935)

James Joyce (from *Chamber Music*)

**My Fairyland** (unpublished; 1924)

Robert T. Kerlin (dates unknown)

**Monks and Raisins**, opus 18 (1943)

José Garcia Villa (1908-1997)

**Thy Love** (unpublished; 1926)

Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806-1861)

Shadi Ebrahimi, soprano & Linda Osborn-Blaschke, pianist

**Dere Two Fella Joe** (unpublished; 1924)

manuscript inscription: "An Encore  
Song in French-Canadian Dialect"

**Ask Me To Rest** (unpublished; 1926)

Edward Hicks Streater Terry

(exact dates unknown; late 19<sup>th</sup> century)

Joe Dan Harper, tenor & Anne Kissel, pianist

**A Nun Takes the Veil**, opus 13 (1937)

Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)

**Slumber Song of the Madonna** (*10 Early songs*; 1925)

Alfred Noyes, (1880-1958)

**October Weather** (unpublished; 1923)

words attributed to Barber

Shadi Ebrahimi, soprano & Linda Osborn-Blaschke, pianist

**Three Songs**, opus 45 (1972)

Now Have I Fed and Eaten up the Rose

James Joyce,

after German of Gottfried Keller (1819-1890)

A Green Lowland of Pianos

Czeslaw Milosz (1911-2004),

trans. from the Polish by Jerzy Harasymowicz (1933-1999)

O Boundless, Boundless Evening

Christopher Middleton (b. 1926)

after German of Georg Heym (1887-1912)

Sarah Pelletier, soprano & Shiela Kibbe, pianist

## Barberfest: Concert #2

Distler Performance Hall  
Tufts University

Saturday, September 26, 7pm

**Nursery Songs** (unpublished, "To Sara"; 1920-1923)

Traditional

Jack and Jill  
God Bless You  
I Do Not Like Thee, Dr. Fell  
Tom, Tom, the Piper's Son  
I Love Little Pussy  
Two Old Men  
The Rockaby Lady

Janna Baty, mezzo-soprano & John McDonald, pianist

**Three Songs**, the words from Old England (unpublished; 1925-1926)

Lady, When I Behold the Roses  
An Earnest Suit to his Unkind Mistress  
Hey Nonny No!

John Wilbye (1574-1638)  
Sir Thomas Wyatt (1503-1542)  
words from Christ Church Manuscript

Aaron Engebret, baritone & Alison d'Amato, pianist

**Two Songs of Youth** (unpublished; 1925)

Invocation to Youth  
I Never Thought that Youth Would Go

Laurence Binyon (1869-1943)  
Jessie B. Rittenhouse (1869-1948)

**Peace** (unpublished; 1935)

Paul Elmer More (1864-1937),  
from the Sanskrit of Bhartrihari (ca. 570-651)

Janna Baty, mezzo-soprano & John McDonald, pianist

**Fantasy in Purple** (unpublished; 1925)

Langston Hughes (1902-1967)

**Watchers** (unpublished; 1926)

Dean Cornwell (dates unknown)

Aaron Engebret, baritone & Alison d'Amato, pianist

**The Secrets of the Old**, opus 13 (1938)

William Butler Yeats (1865-1939)

**The Queen's Face on the Summery Coin**, opus 18 (1942)

Robert Horan (b. 1922)

**Sure on this Shining Night**, opus 13 (1938)

James Agee (1909-1955)

Janna Baty, mezzo-soprano & John McDonald, pianist

### Pause

**There's nae lark** (*10 Early Songs*; 1927)

Algernon Swinburne (1837-1909)

**Night Wanderers** (*10 Early Songs*; 1935)

William Henry Davies (1871-1940)

**In the dark pinewood** (*10 Early Songs*; 1937)

James Joyce (1882-1941), from *Chamber Music*

**Love's Caution** (*10 Early Songs*; 1935)

William Henry Davies

Janna Baty, mezzo-soprano & John McDonald, pianist

**Despite and Still**, Opus 41 (1968)

A Last Song  
My Lizard  
In the Wilderness  
Solitary Hotel  
Despite and Still

Robert Graves (1895-1985)  
Theodore Roethke (1908-1963)  
Robert Graves  
James Joyce, from *Ulysses*  
Robert Graves

Aaron Engebret, baritone & Alison d'Amato, pianist

## Barberfest: Concert #3

Distler Performance Hall  
Tufts University

Sunday, September 27, 1:30pm

**Beggar's song** (*10 Early Songs*; 1936) words by William Henry Davies (1871-1940)  
**Stopping by woods on a snowy evening** (unpublished; 1935) words by Robert Frost (1874-1963)

Aaron Engebret, baritone & Alison d'Amato, pianist

**Music, When Soft Voices Die** (unpublished; 1926) words by Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822)  
**Two Poems of the Wind** (1924) words by "Fiona Macleod,"  
Little Children of the Wind pseudonym of William Sharp (1855-1905)  
Longing

Joe Dan Harper, tenor & Anne Kissel, pianist

**Mother, I can not mind my wheel** (*10 Early Songs*; 1927) words by Walter Savage Landor (1775-1864)  
**Man** (unpublished; 1926) words by Humbert Wolfe (1885-1940)

Sarah Pelletier, soprano & Shiela Kibbe, pianist

**Serenader** (*10 Early Songs*; 1934) words by George Dillon (1906-1968)

Aaron Engebret, baritone & Alison d'Amato, pianist

**Rain has fallen**, opus 10 (1935) words by James Joyce (1882-1941),  
**Sleep now**, opus 10 (1935) from *Chamber Music* (1907)

Joe Dan Harper, tenor & Anne Kissel, pianist

**I hear an army**, opus 10 (1936) words by James Joyce, from *Chamber Music*

Aaron Engebret, baritone & Alison d'Amato, pianist

**Nocturne**, opus 13 (1940) words by Frederic Prokosch (1908-1989)

Joe Dan Harper, tenor & Anne Kissel, pianist

**Hermit Songs**, opus 29 (1952-1953)

At Saint Patrick's Purgatory	13 <sup>th</sup> C., trans. by Sean O'Faolain (1900-1991)
Church Bell at Night	12 <sup>th</sup> C., trans. by H. M. Jones (1892-1980)
St. Ita's Vision	attributed to St. Ita, 8 <sup>th</sup> C., trans. by Chester Kallman
The Heavenly Banquet	attributed to St. Brigid, 10 <sup>th</sup> C., trans. by Sean O'Faolain
The Crucifixion	text from <i>The Speckled Book</i> , 12 <sup>th</sup> C., trans. by H. M. Jones
Sea-Snatch	8 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> C.
Promiscuity	9 <sup>th</sup> C.
The Monk and His Cat	8 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> C., trans. by W.H. Auden (1907-1973)
The Praises of God	11 <sup>th</sup> C., trans. by W.H. Auden
The Desire for Hermitage	8 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> C., based on a trans. by Sean O'Faolain

Sarah Pelletier, soprano & Shiela Kibbe, pianist