



VOCALOSITY

Artist Partner Program presents

VOCALOSITY

The Aca-Perfect Concert Experience

Presented by Work Light Productions & IMG Artists

With Opening Act Performed by

The University of Maryland's FAUX PAZ

Friday, February 19, 2016 . 8PM

Elsie & Marvin Dekelboun Concert Hall

PROGRAM

Artistic Producer & Music Director/Arranger: Deke Sharon
Director & Choreographer: Sean Curran
Creative Consultants: Robert Sternin & Prudence Fraser

Vocalists: Matthew Bryan Feld, James C. Jones, Hannah Juliano, Kelli Koloszar,
Cheeyang Ng, Gerianne Perez, Nattalyee Randall, Tracy L.J. Robertson,
Chesney Snow, Bryant Vance, Nicole Weiss, Amy Whitcomb

Technical Director, Sound Designer and Live Engineer: Tony Huerta
Lighting Design: Ryan O'Gara
Costume Design: Amy Clark
Scenic Concept: Michael East
Casting Director: Wojcik-Seay Casting
Production Management: Technical Theater Solutions
Tour Press & Marketing: Type A Marketing
General Management: Work Light Productions
Tour Booking Agency: IMG Artists
Head Electrician: David Inabinette
Company Manager: Rebecca Eddins

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This performance will last approximately **2 hours with one 20-minute intermission.**

Video or audio recording of the production is strictly prohibited.

A NOTE FROM DEKE SHARON

In the beginning, there was only the voice. Like birds, crickets and whales, we can't help but sing, and as civilizations rose and fell, cultures grew and changed, vocal music has always been central. From gatherings around the fire at the end of a hunt, to soaring Gregorian chants echoing in vaulted cathedrals, to madrigals, barbershop and doo-wop, people have always had an innate desire to create harmony around the greatest music of their time. VOCALOSITY is a celebration of that tradition and an exploration of the current sound of a cappella, in hopes of introducing a new generation to the oldest music in the world and inspiring people of all ages to "Sing for your life!"

VOCALOSITY is my dream team, an all-star ensemble of diverse young singers each with a unique style and personality that sets a new standard for 12-part harmony. Most vocal groups aspire to create one sound and style, homogenizing the character of their singers, but this group is the exact opposite, weaving a variety of tapestries from different combinations of voices and characters.

We hope VOCALOSITY inspires you to sing. If you'd like more information about finding a vocal group in your area, visit acappellaleague.org, barbershop.org, chorusamerica.org and sweetadelineintl.org. And if you'd like to start your own group, visit acappella.how and don't hesitate to reach out to me if I can help at deke@dekesharon.com.

— *Deke Sharon*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Matthew Bryan Feld (*Tenor*) studied acting with The Barrow Group Theatre Company after receiving his master's in jazz performance at the Manhattan School of Music. He toured internationally with Voca People and also placed third with his barbershop quartet Ebbets Field at the International Barbershop Competition. With numerous regional credits, he has also starred in many short films and commercials. Much love to Lee Brock & Seth Barrish and The Barrow Group Theatre Company! Love to Ma, Aaron, Amanda, Pop, Nan and Hazel.

James C. Jones (*Bass*), after earning his BS in psychology at BYU, worked various projects featuring several artists including Flava Flav, Miranda Sings and Danny Trejo. Most recently, he toured nationally with Ball in the House, a Boston-based R&B/soul-pop vocal band.

Hannah Juliano (*Mezzo, Associate Music Director*) is an arranger, vocalist, educator and director. She directed Berklee's Pitch Slapped and is currently a member of Delilah and Musae, both professional vocal groups. Juliano lives in New York City, where she works as a studio vocalist and arranger and heads the music department at entertainment company Borderlight Entertainment.

Kelli Koloszar (*Soprano*) has performed all over the world, singing on cruise ships for Holland America Line, touring with international cirque performers as a lead singer with Cirque Productions, and with the Rockettes as Mrs. Claus on *The Radio City Christmas Spectacular* tour. BFA in musical theatre from CCPA at Roosevelt University.

Cheeyang Ng (*Tenor*) is thrilled to be touring with *Vocalosity*. Born and raised in Singapore, he has performed internationally in Taiwan, China and Singapore. In the U.S., he has performed at Avery Fisher Hall (Lincoln Center), Al Hirschfeld Theatre (*Broadway Backwards*) and regional theatres across the country.

Gerianne Pérez (*Alto*). Favorite credits include Rizzo in *Grease* (North Shore Music Theatre); Chloe in *Bubbly Boy* (American Theatre Group); Marisol in *Volleygirls* (NYMF) and various concerts at Joe's Pub, Town Hall and 54 Below. BFA NYU-Tisch Drama. Much love to BRS/Gage and her wonderful family and friends, without whom this would not be possible.

Nattalyee Randall (*Alto*) currently lives in New York City but is originally from Springfield, Illinois (Land of Lincoln). Randall has a degree in music and English education (Western Illinois University) and has recently reignited her passion for a cappella music thanks to Deke! Prov 24:10. Much love to LNT.

Tracy L.J. Roberston (*Vocal Percussion*). As a singer, director, multi-instrumentalist and vocal percussionist, Roberston enjoys working and performing in a wide variety of musical settings and is honored to now take part in *Vocalosity*. He also performs with Boston-based Overboard, and continues spreading his passion for music as a clinician, arranger, composer and performer.

Chesney Snow (*Vocal Percussion*) is a Drama Desk Award-winning theatre artist and pioneering figure of American beatbox. He was a 2014 artist-in-residence at Harvard University and is currently working on the Broadway-bound a cappella musical *In Transit*, which received the most award nominations of any off-Broadway musical of the 2010–2011 season. Snow is an accomplished songwriter and his album *Spoken Love* is available on Warner Music.

Bryant Vance (*Bass*) is a bass vocalist from New York, New York. His a cappella debut was with *Voca People*, performing off-Broadway and touring 18 countries over three years. He is very excited to have found a home in *Vocalosity* and thanks his family for the love and support!

Nicole Weiss (*Mezzo*) is beyond thrilled to be a part of *Vocalosity!* She earned her BFA in theatre from NYU Tisch where she was a proud member of the N'Harmonics. She writes and performs with several music projects, including The Shirtwaist Sisters and Roslynn.

Amy Whitcomb (*Soprano*) is a beach-loving, bodybuilding pop-rocker from Longwood, Florida. Whitcomb graduated in music from BYU and since has toured internationally with Delilah, competed on NBC's *The Voice* and has starred in various stage productions including NYMF 2015's *Deep Love*. Whitcomb works as a vocal coach while pursuing performance.

Deke Sharon (*Music Director, Arranger and Artistic Producer*), born in San Francisco, California, has been performing professionally since the age of eight and as a child toured North America and shared the stage in operas with the likes of Pavarotti. Heralded as "the father of contemporary a cappella," he is responsible for the current sound of modern a cappella, having created the dense vocal-instrumental sound in college, subsequently spreading it around the world. Deke produces *The Sing-Off* worldwide (USA, Netherlands, China, South Africa), which had the highest ratings of any new, unscripted television show in the U.S. in 2009, and was the third highest-rated show on NBC in 2010. Deke served as arranger, on-site music director and vocal producer for Universal's *Pitch Perfect* and *Pitch Perfect 2* starring Anna Kendrick and Rebel Wilson. As the founder, director and arranger for the House Jacks, the original "Rock Band Without Instruments," Deke has shared the stage with countless music legends, including Ray Charles and James Brown. He will appear on the new a cappella television show *Pitch Slapped* on Lifetime in 2016. Deke founded the Contemporary A Cappella Society while in college and is responsible for founding many seminal a cappella programs, including the CARAs (Contemporary A Cappella Recording Awards), ICCAs (International Championship of College A Cappella) and BOCA (Best of College A Cappella Compilation). He is also contemporary a cappella's most prolific arranger, having arranged more than

2,000 songs, with many of them in print worldwide with Hal Leonard/Contemporary A Cappella Publishing. His first book, *A Cappella Arranging*, was published in 2012, and in 2015 he published his second book, *A Cappella*.

Sean Curran (*Director & Choreographer*) began his dance training with traditional Irish step dancing as a young boy in Boston, Massachusetts and went on to make his mark on the dance world as a leading dancer with the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company (1983–1993) and as a performer in the original New York City cast of *Stomp* (1994–1998). His own dance troupe, the Sean Curran Company, tours internationally and he has created work for companies as diverse as Trinity Irish Dance Company, ABT II and Denmark's Upper Cut Company. Opera figures heavily into his work, and he has directed notable productions including *Salome* for Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, San Francisco Opera and Opera Montreal, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for The Shakespeare Theatre, the 20th anniversary production of *Nixon in China*, *Street Scene*, *Daughter of the Regiment* and *The Pirates of Penzance* at Opera Theater of St. Louis. Other choreography credits include numerous works for New York City Opera, the Playwrights Horizons' production of *My Life with Albertine*, Shakespeare in the Park's *As You Like It* and the Metropolitan Opera production of *Romeo et Juliette*. Curran's work has also appeared on Broadway in James Joyce's *The Dead* for Playwrights Horizons and *The Rivals* at Lincoln Center Theater. A graduate and faculty member of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, Curran now serves as Chair of the Department of Dance. He has more than 20 years of teaching experience in modern technique, improvisation, body percussion and composition as a visiting artist at the American Dance Festival, Harvard Summer Dance Center, Bates Dance Festival, The Boston Conservatory and more than 100 U.S. university dance departments. He is thrilled to bring his diverse palette to the world of a cappella!

Robert Sternin & Prudence Fraser (*Creative Consultants & Musical Theater Parody Lyricists*). Best

ABOUT THE ARTISTS (cont'd)

known as writer/producers in network television, Rob and Pru's credits include *Who's the Boss?* and *The Nanny*, which they developed for and executive produced with series star Fran Drescher. Currently, they are concentrating on the theater, the medium that they find most exciting. Sternin and Fraser recently collaborated with Brill Building songwriter icon Jeff Barry on the stage musical *The Girl Who Would Be King*, which premiered at the Granada Theater in Santa Barbara and went on to be seen at the Stamford Center for the Arts and Riverside Theater in Vero Beach, Florida. Excerpts from their stage comedy *Under My Skin* were performed at the American Airlines Theater as part of *The Pink Campaign* on Broadway. The play then had its world premiere at the Pasadena Playhouse under the helm of Tony-nominated director Marcia Milgrom Dodge (*Ragtime*), then moved to the Little Shubert Theatre off-Broadway. Rob and Pru are thrilled to be involved in *Vocalosity*. If they could sing, they would!

Tony Huerta (*Technical Director, Sound Designer and Live Engineer*) is a professional singer, beatboxer, recording studio engineer/producer and live audio engineer. He is considered to be the world's best a cappella live sound engineer and has mixed almost every major a cappella act in the United States. He has been the front of house engineer and production manager for 10-time GRAMMY Award-winning group Take 6, traveling to 39 countries thus far. He also recently completed a full U.S. tour of *The Sing Off* as the front of house engineer. What is interesting is that Huerta was a performer and finalist on NBC's *The Sing Off* in the group Urban Method, who lost in the finals to Pentatonix. Sonic Audio, Huerta's recording studio, was founded in 1999. He has produced, engineered or mastered a cappella CD projects for The Real Group, Take 6, Harmonia Vocal (Angola Africa), Afro Blue, Cadence, Six Appeal, Nota a Sony Latin, Face (Boulder, CO and NBC's *The Sing Off*) and many more. He also recorded, mixed and produced the world's first full-length a cappella opera and original stage production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for Opera Memphis.

As a freelance engineer, he has mixed concerts for many major acts including Stevie Wonder, Amy Grant, Kirk Whalum, Nnenna Freelon and Brian McKnight, as well as the 2010 Shakira tour as front of house engineer for Nota.

Amy Clark (*Costume Designer*) is a NYC-based costume designer whose work has been seen on Broadway, regional theaters, television and arenas across the country. Clark's costume designs for Broadway include *A Night with Janis Joplin and Chaplin* (Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle nominations). Other recent designs include *Heathers The Musical* (New World Stages); Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey Circus presents *Legends; Chaplin* (St. Petersburg, Russia); *My Life is a Musical* (Bay Street Theater); *Hello, Dolly!* (The MUNY); *Kiss Me, Kate* (Barrington Stage Co.); *Noises Off* (Pittsburgh Public Theatre); *Somewhere* (Hartford Stage); *On Your Toes* (City Center Encores!); *The Little Mermaid* (Paper Mill Playhouse). Clark received the 2012 Theatre Hall of Fame Emerging Artists Fellowship and received an MFA in costume design from NYU Tisch School of the Arts.

Ryan O'Gara (*Lighting Designer*). Selected NYC: *Tail Spin, play/date, Useless, Lady Day, Moses of Egypt* (New York City Opera), *The Little Prince, Knuckle Heads Zoo, Black Violin, Pinkolandia, PS Jones, Chix 6, Raw Space, The Ride*, various productions for Sonnet Repertory Company, Lincoln Center Festival, Westbeth Theatre Center, Capital Repertory Theatre and Bristol Riverside Theatre. Dance: American Ballet Theatre, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, MOMIX, gloATL, Ballet Hispanico, Cedar Lake Ensemble, Dance Works, *Revolution* at the Joyce Theatre. Corporate: *Celebrity Apprentice*, Michael Kors Jet Set Launch, Antonio Banderas Fragrance Launch, Nike Rockstar Workout. On Broadway, he has served as the Associate Lighting Designer for *Hamilton, Dr. Zhivago, Honeymoon in Vegas, After Midnight, A Christmas Story, Jesus Christ Superstar, Magic/Bird, How to Succeed..., Lombardi, Million Dollar Quartet, West Side Story, Cry Baby, Gypsy, In the Heights, Xanadu, LoveMusik* and *Avenue*

Q. O’Gara graduated from North Carolina School of the Arts.

Work Light Productions (*Producer & General Manager*) is a producing, general management and technical supervision company dedicated to creating and producing live entertainment. Productions include the national tours of *Mamma Mia!*, *Avenue Q*, *Green Day’s American Idiot*, *In the Heights*, *Irving Berlin’s White Christmas*, *The Gershwin’s Nice Work If You Can Get It* and Julie Andrews’ *The Gift of Music*. Upcoming productions include international tours of *Rent* and Rodgers & Hammerstein’s *Cinderella*. WLP consists of founding partners Stephen Gabriel and Nancy Gabriel, general managers Scott Seay and Aniele Fortin, and technical supervisors Rhys Williams and Mike East.

IMG Artists (*Producer & Booking Agency*) is a global leader of performing arts management. For more than 30 years, the company has set the standard for excellence in the industry for artist management, touring, dance, attractions, festivals, events and cultural consulting. IMG’s specialists in offices across three continents offer unparalleled international reach and depth of experience to the company’s artists, clients and partners. With the launch of new producing, presenting and technology initiatives designed to support and enhance our core business, IMG Artists remains the vanguard of the industry.

Technical Theater Solutions (*Production Manager*) is based in Charleston, South Carolina and provides technical direction and production supervision for the live entertainment industry. Clients include Spoleto Festival USA, Mabou Mines, Disney Cruise Line, Inc. and Work Light Productions. Recent touring credits include *Mamma Mia!*, *Irving Berlin’s White Christmas*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *American Idiot*, *In the Heights*, *Traces USA* and *Avenue Q*. TTS is headed by Rhys Williams (President) and Mike East (Vice President). Please visit technicaltheatersolutions.com for more information.

Type A Marketing (*Marketing & Press*) is an independent, full-service marketing company specializing in Broadway and national tours. Broadway: *American Psycho*, *Sylvia*, *Tuck Everlasting*, *The Color Purple*, *Les Misérables*, *Kinky Boots* and *The Phantom of the Opera*. Tours: *Cabaret*, *The Bridges of Madison County*, *Dirty Dancing*, *Irving Berlin’s Holiday Inn*, *Vocalosity* and *Bullets Over Broadway*.

Wojcik | Seay Casting (*Casting*) is Scott Wojcik and Gayle Seay. With Jessica Gordon they cast theater, commercials, television and film. Tours: *Flashdance*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Joseph... Dreamcoat*, *Oklahoma!*, *A Chorus Line*. Off-B’way: *The Two Character Play*, *Triassic Park*, *Handle With Care*, *666* and *Philosophy For Gangsters*. Many regional theatres across the country as well as commercial, TV and film.



Special thanks



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