

URBAN STAGES' WINTER RHYTHMS 2020



**MONDAY NOV 30 at 8:30pm to
THURSDAY DEC 3, 2020**

MAC and Bistro award winning songwriters and jazz duo are presenting a program of some of their own original tunes along with some of their friends' tunes. Featuring Skip Ward on bass with Guest Stars: Audrey Appleby and Deborah Stone.



PRESENTS

**Sue Matsuki, Gregory Toroian & Skip Ward in
How Original!**

Sponsored by Wright Bros. Real Estate & Bra Tenders

PERFORMERS

Singer.....SUE MATSUKI
Piano.....GREGORY TOROIAN
Bass.....SKIP WARD
Guest Performer.....AUDREY APPLEBY
Guest Performer..... DEBORAH STONE

CREATIVE TEAM

Director..... VINCENT SCOTT
Editor..... KRISTAN SEEMEL
Videographer..... KIM T. SHARP
Lights..... MADELEINE BURROW
Sound.....JAMIE TERRAZZINO

Producer of Winter Rhythms.....TOM TOCE
Co producer of Winter Rhythms.....SUE MATSUKI

URBAN STAGES STAFF

Founder/Artistic Director.....Frances Hill
Development and Literary Director.....Antoinette Mullins
Company Manager/Financial Admin.....Olga Devyatisilnaya
Outreach Program Director.....Ilanna Saltzman
Technical Director.....Kim T. Sharp
Literary Projects Consultant.....Bara Swain

Special Projects Producer.....Vincent Scott
Musical Theater Producer.....Tom Toce
Press Rep.....Joe Trentacosta, JT Public Relations
Social Media.....Disnie Sebastien

BIOS

Sue Matsuki is the Co-Producer of this year’s Winter Rhythms. She is the 2020 Bistro Award winner for Outstanding Collaboration celebrating her 25th year of working with her Music Director, Gregory Toroian; she is the very first (2004) recipient of the Julie Wilson Award given by the Mabel Mercer Foundation; she was put on the “Wall of Fame” at Don’t Tell Mama celebrating her 33rd year of singing there; and she is an 11-time MAC Award Nominee and a 3-time Winner for Jazz Vocalist, Jazz Duo and Songwriter. Most recently, she was nominated in the 2020 Major Vocalist category. She is a 35-year Cabaret/Jazz singing veteran who has played every NYC club including: Feinstein’s, Birdland, The Iridium, The Village Gate, Carnegie Hall and 54 Below. She is an award-winning Songwriter, Reviewer, Teacher, Columnist (*Sue’s Views*) and is the author (along with David Sabella) of *So You Want to Sing Cabaret* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2020). She has been part of Winter Rhythms for six years and currently hosts a vlog on Urban Stages’ website called *Artists Chats*. - www.SueMatsuki.com

Gregory Toroian is an accomplished musical director, arranger and songwriter in New York. In addition to working with musical luminaries like Jon Hendricks, Cab Calloway, Donna Summer, Jane Olivor and Tony Bennett, he has appeared in almost every jazz club and cabaret in New York and has made numerous radio and television appearances. He produced and served as musical director for a revue of Michel Legrand’s music called *How Do You Keep the Music Playing*, performed in New York, Toronto, Chicago and Lake Placid. His awards include: the 2020 Bistro Award for Outstanding Collaboration with Sue Matsuki celebrating their 25th year of working together; the 2008 MAC Award for Best Song for “One Stop Shopping” co-written with Dan and Michele Page and Sue Matsuki and the 2006 MAC award for Best Duo/Special Production again, with Sue Matsuki. He was on the faculty of The New School University and the Lee Strasberg Institute. He currently offers an array or performance workshops on: How to work with

Piano, Bass & Drum; Phrasing, Jazz Vocals and Styling, Group Harmony, and Scatting. - www.GregoryToroian.com

SKIP WARD is a Grammy Award Winning bassist, guitarist and is well-versed in a number of other instruments. Skip Ward is a classically-trained jazz musician with a penchant for rock n' roll, fusion, blues and bluegrass. He has studied with Anthony Knight of the Cleveland Orchestra and Frank DiLaberto of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. He also had the privilege of studying with the great Jaco Pastorius, and surviving to tell the tale. Artists he has played/recorded with include: Tony Trischka, with Steve Martin, Bela Fleck, Matuto, Gordon Stone (Phish), Phoebe Snow, Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes, Cyndi Lauper, Cassandra Wilson, David Sancious (Sting, Eric Clapton), Manolo Badrena, Jim White, Tandy, The Wild Colonial, Angela McCluskey, David Benoit, Carrie Rodriguez, Melissa Manchester, Shannon McNally, Michael Daves, Steve Holley (Paul McCartney, Ian Hunter), Demolition String Band (featuring Boo Reiners), Brendan O'Shea, Mark Geary, Ana Egge, Darren Lyons Group, Glenn Miller Orchestra, Tom Pierson Big Band, Canton Symphony, Akron Symphony, the Ohio Ballet and many more. You may have seen him on *David Letterman*, *SNL* or the *The Ellen Degeneres Show*. You may have heard Skip on many soundtracks, and he has been on national tour with a number of major theatrical productions: *Million Dollar Quartet*, *NYC Shakespeare In The Park As You Like It*, *High School Musical*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Song & Dance*, *Cats*, *Les Miserables*, *A Chorus Line* and *West Side Story* to name a few.

VINCENT SCOTT (Director): New York based, Scott has directed in Los Angeles, Chicago, London and Dublin as well as on Off-Broadway. His passion is to develop new plays through staged readings or full productions. His most recent premieres are "What Happen to The Dollar" and "Good Corporate Citizen" both by Sam Garber, and "Accentuate the Positive (The Johnny Mercer Story)" by Calvin Ramsey. He has had numerous readings at Urban Stages, the most recent being "Gumbo House" by Keion Jackson and "#NWORD" by Christian Elder. Scott also assisted Timothy Douglas in Chicago with "Changes of Heart" and Austin Pendleton and Jan Buttram at the Abingdon Theatre Company with "The Last Will" and "Hellman v. McCarthy." At Urban Stages, he has assistant directed "Death Of A Driver" by Will Snider (directed by Kim T. Sharp) and "Bars and Measures" by Idris Goodman (directed by Kristian Seemel). He recently directed

the world premiere of Lori Brown Mirabal's "Charmed Life from Soul Singing to Opera Star." Here at Urban stages.

SONGS (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

No Sad Songs by David Finck
All I really Need Is You by Bob Levy, © 2007
This Time by Bob Levy/ Music: Karen Jacobsen © 2007
Haiku by Maryliz McNamara, © 2000
My Let it Be Tree by Sue Matsuki & Gregory Toroian © 2012
Wanna Sing a Show Tune by Ray Jessell, © 1982
Life Sucks and then You Die by Ray Jessell, © 2003
Family Quilt by Paul Resnick & Jane R. Snyder
Picasso Woman by Audrey Appleby / Music: Shelley Markham, © 2008
Like a Sunday by Meg Flather, © 2018
One Stop Shopping by Page, Sue Matsuki & Gregory Toroian, © 2008
A Moment in Time by Dan Page, Sue Matsuki & Gregory Toroian, ©2009
I Love You in $\frac{3}{4}$ Time by Michael Campbell, © 1965
I'm a New Yorker Now by Gregory Toroian, © 1985
Prince of Love by Zoe Lewis, © 2007
Christmas Angel by Sue Matsuki / Music: Paul Stephan © 2009

Video Guest Spot

Audrey Appleby, Lead Vocals
Chris Coogan, Piano
Rick Jensen, Additional Arrangement/Keyboards
Miklos Malek, String Arrangement
Roger Lian, Audio/Video
audreyappleby.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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