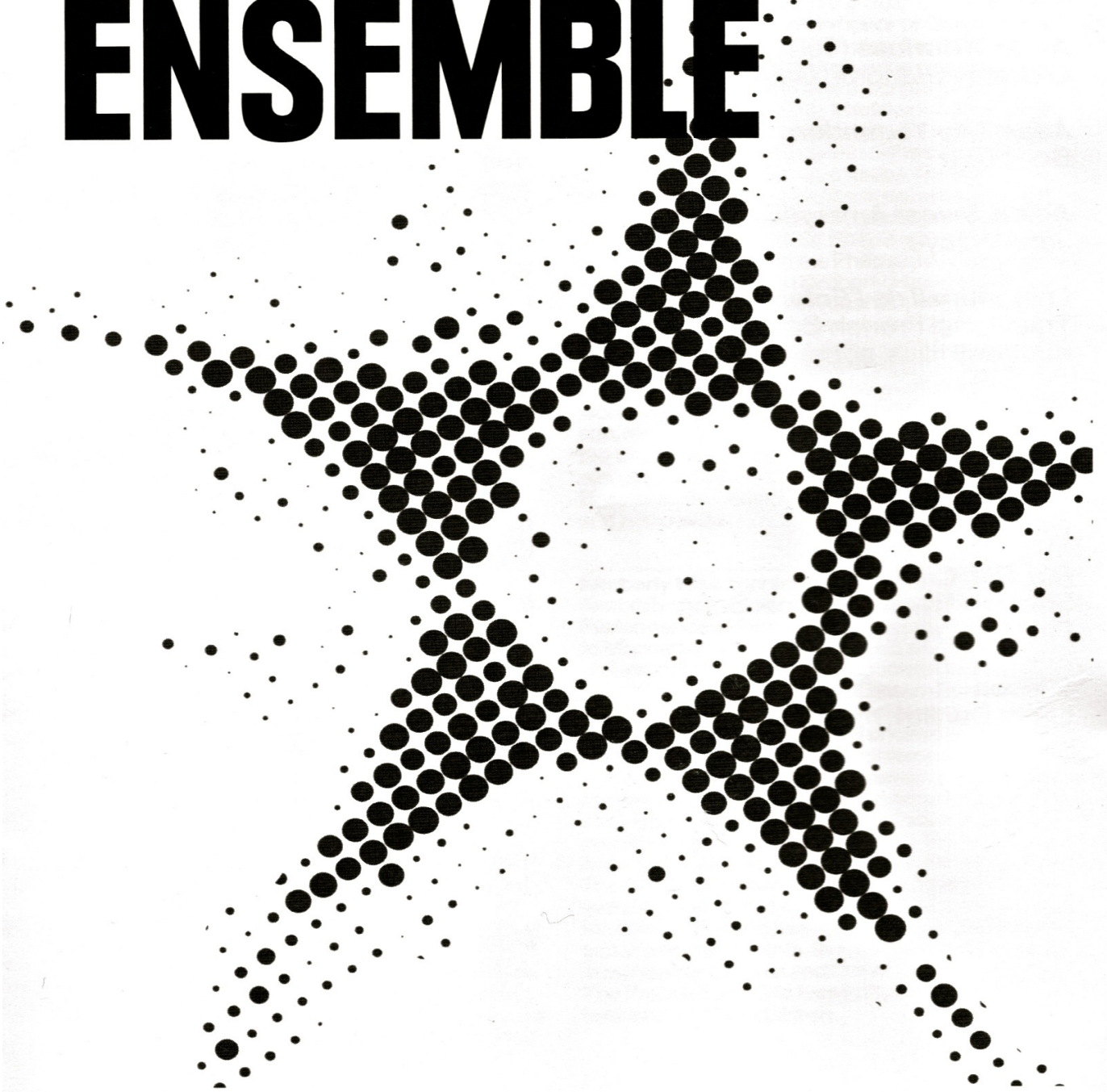


Holiday Concert
Friday, December 15, 2017

Organized by
Magazzino Italian Art

THE BRASILES ENSEMBLE



Program

Il Ballerino

Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi
Richard Kolb, lute

Vanitas Vanitatum

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

Amor Vittorioso (Tutti Venite Armati)

Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi

Adam Lay Ybounden

Boris Ord

Adieu, Sweet Amaryllis

John Wilbye

Le Sommeil de l'Enfant

Traditional French Carol
Kimberly Hiss, soprano

Il Bianco e Dolce Cigno

Jacques Arcadelt

El Grillo

Josquin des Prez

Riu, Riu, Chiu

Spanish Traditional Folk Song
Paul Phillips, tenor

S'Vivon

Laura Danilov, mezzo soprano

Sebben Crudele

from the opera *La Costanza in
Amor Vince L'inganno*
Antonio Caldara

Deh! Vieni Alla Finestra

from the opera *Don Giovanni*
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Paul Phillips, tenor
Richard Devens, piano

Sull' aria Che soave zeffiretto

from the opera *Le nozze di Figaro*
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Madeleine DeNitto, soprano
Kimberly Hiss, soprano
Richard Devens, piano

Duetto buffo di due gatti

Gioachino Rossini
Laura Danilov, mezzo soprano
Madeleine DeNitto, soprano
Richard Devens, piano

Baci Soavi e Cari

Claudio Monteverdi

Il Ballerino

Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi
Richard Kolb, lute

Lamento della Ninfa

Claudio Monteverdi
Madeleine DeNitto, soprano
Richard Kolb, theorbo

Jesu dulcis memoria

Tomas Luis de Victoria

Dormi Jesu

John Rutter

The Brasiles Ensemble Performer Bios

As the first question people often ask is about where the name of the group originated, here is a bit of background. It was on July 4th in 1921, that Salvatore and Madeleine DeNitto arrived in the harbor of New York City with the Statue of Liberty being the very first thing that Madeleine saw from the bow of her ship from Algeria. With her, Madeleine brought a very ill baby, a wealth of education and appreciation for the fine arts. She left Old Algiers and parents she would never see again in hopes of great opportunities in a new world. She later bore three more children who all recall her singing opera in her kitchen while baking her famous French loaves. Madeleine had left behind her native country, her beloved family and her maiden name; *Brasiles*—pronounced “*BRAH-zee-lez*”. It is in her honor that I lend my grandmother’s given name to a group of fine musicians for whom she would certainly have adored.

Due to the great success of the formal *Nocturnal* concert in November of 2013 at *St. Philip’s Church in the Highlands*, I am very happy to invite you all to future performances from *The Brasiles Ensemble*.

As the mission of this group is to provide audiences with unique concerts, we are thrilled to have several opportunities already in the works for 2018. Please like our official Facebook page and/or check our website for future performances.

Madeleine DeNitto, Founder

Laura Danilov *mezzo soprano*

Laura Danilov has been singing since she was a little girl. She enjoys singing all sorts of styles including musical theatre (see acting roles) & rock (Formerly with the Roy Orbison band, *The Lonely*.) Acting roles include: Annas in *Jesus Christ Super Star* (Depot Theatre); Linda in *No Privacy* (Aery 20/20 Festival); *Weather Lady in Gasping* (Drones Theatre Company); *Charles Thomson in 1776* (Depot Theatre); *Beggars Opera* (Philipstown Depot Theatre), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Princeton Rep Shakespeare Festival), *Violet* (Putnam County Theatre), *The Gift* (Terry Schreiber Studio), *Hidden Voices* (Pillars: An Utopian Ensemble), *Godspell* (Oasis Theatre Co.) Besides co-directing youngsters in *Shakespeare Situation & Stories* for the Stage summer camp, past teaching jobs include private singing coach and movement specialist in the Williamson Technique for Actors at the Actors Movement Studio in NYC. In addition to performing, Laura is a Life Coach, working with Actors, Singers & Moms Making a Difference. She lives in Cold Spring with her husband and her famous son, Alex.

Madeleine DeNitto *founder / soprano*

During her decade of performance with a professional opera company, Madeleine was on stages regularly in major productions, including such great operas as *Suor Angelica*, *Don Pasquale* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. She was also very honored to have been chosen to perform in rare works, including *Riders to the Sea*, as well as special opportunities to perform in honor of Queen Anne and Princess Sophie of Romania. Proficient in sacred and early music, Madeleine was also one of eight members of an elite madrigal group for several years. In late 2012, Madeleine had a role in *The Beggar’s Opera* performed at The Philipstown Depot Theatre, which marked her return to the music world after a ten year hiatus. For 18 years, Madeleine has been a professional organizer and is proud owner of *Garrison Concierge*. She is a member of the choir at *St. Philip’s in the Highlands Episcopal Church* and the *Philipstown Garden Club*. Most recently, she and Kimberly Hiss created *The Mary Powell*, the newest vocal duo of The Hudson Valley. Madeleine and her husband, Clayton, relocated to the Hudson Valley permanently where they are able to be close to their two adult children in New York City; one daughter, a wife and mother, working in corporate HR for a major bank and a son, recent graduate Georgetown Law, working for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in DC, who also occasionally performs with *The Brasiles Ensemble* as a founding member, offering his vocal and piano skills.

Kimberly Hiss *soprano*

Kimberly Hiss, soprano, studied English and Vocal Performance at Penn State University then moved to Manhattan, where she enjoyed singing with groups including the Young People’s Chorus of New York City, which toured Eastern Europe, and the Russian Chamber Chorus of New York, which prided itself on a repertoire of ancient liturgical chants and new works from contemporary composers. As a soloist she has recorded television commercials and performed on acoustic guitar both while living in Prague in the Czech Republic, and more recently throughout New York’s Hudson River Valley. Currently, she is pleased to sing with *The Brasiles Ensemble* and the *St. Philip’s Choir*, as well as creating the vocal duo, *The Mary Powell*, with Madeleine. Beyond music, Kimberly is a writer and editor who has contributed pieces to a range of titles from *Reader’s Digest* and *O the Oprah Magazine* to *The Prague Post*. She lives in Peekskill, NY, with her husband and two children.

2700 Route 9
Cold Spring, NY 10516, USA
Tel +1 845 666 7202
www.magazzino.art
info@magazzino.art

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Paul Philips *tenor*

Paul grew up singing with family and friends. After some initial music training in the Atlanta Boy Choir, he sang various choirs and groups throughout a somewhat nomadic childhood. In college, he was an original member of the Oberlin Obertones, who continue a cappella men's singing at Oberlin College and Conservatory to this day. He performed many major and new chorale works over the years with The New York Chamber Symphony Chorus, The Judith Clurman Chorale, The Juilliard Choral Union, and the Oxford University Press Choir. Paul has sung with ensembles ranging from The American Composers Orchestra and The Juilliard Orchestra to The New York Pops, They Might Be Giants, and The Chieftains. With the Juilliard Opera, he performed in choruses for Igor Stravinsky's Oedipus Rex and Francis Poulenc's Dialogue of the Carmelites. He has sung on stage with the New York City Ballet's Chichester Psalms as well as in the orchestra pit for Mark Morris Dance Group's Gloria. In his "other" career, Paul works in the world of educational publishing, helping create English language teaching materials for children, teens, and adults. He's found great fun working with composers and arrangers to develop songs programs for teaching English. In addition to The Brasiles Ensemble, Paul currently sings with the St. Philip's Church Choir in Garrison as well as the Newburgh Symphonic Chorale.

Ed Robinson *bass*

Born in post-WWII Germany to a military family, Ed's childhood was split between Germany and New York City. He has spent much of his time singing with various choirs, including the Manhattan Borough-Wide Chorus, the All-City High School Chorus, the Saint Augustine Chapel Choir with Trinity Parish and presently, the Saint Philip's Church Choir since 1980. Currently retired, Ed earned a degree in mechanical engineering from The City College of New York and not only had an extensive career in control and automation system design and construction for electrical power facilities, water, and wastewater treatment plants, but is also a Vietnam Veteran and retired military NCO, a Master Sergeant with the USAF and NYANG for 22 years. Ed is also an active member of the New York Paleontological Society. He has been married to Louise Squitieri for 12 years and along with Louise's children and grandchildren, they have five children and five grandchildren.

Richard Devens *piano / organ*

Richard Devens received his bachelors degree in Music Performance from Brooklyn College, where he studied with Augustin Anievas and Michael Rogers. He received his masters degree in music from the University of Arizona, where he studied with Nicholas Zumbro. He is also on the faculty of Dutchess Community College and has a private teaching practice. Richard was formerly a faculty member at Marymount College and the Mount Kisco School of Music. He has performed at Bargemusic, the Trinity Church Noon Day concert series, St. Paul's Festival of the Arts in Nyack, and the Music Conservatory of Westchester. He is active as a dance and ballet accompanist, as well as an instrumental and vocal accompanist (he has a special passion for German lieder). In addition to his musical activities, Richard is a writer whose articles on music have appeared in Clavier and Piano Guild Notes.

Richard Kolb *lute / theorbo*

Lutenist Richard Kolb has performed throughout North America and Europe as a soloist and with a wide range of Baroque ensembles, including Opera Atelier, New York City Opera, Les Musiciens du Louvre, Chicago Opera Theater, Waverly Consort, Handel & Haydn Society, Pegasus, and Concert Royal. Since completing a Ph.D. in musicology at Case-Western Reserve University in 2010, Kolb has combined his career as a performer with scholarly research and publishing in the field of 17th-century music. He is nearing completion of the first modern edition of the complete works of the 17th-century Italian composer Barbara Strozzi, the fifth volume of which has recently been published by Cor Donato Editions. This past summer he recorded a solo CD of the music of Robert Ballard, which is scheduled to be released in early 2018. Kolb is Scholar in Residence for the NY Continuo Collective, and has held teaching positions at the University of Toronto, the Royal Conservatory of Music (Toronto), and Case-Western Reserve University. !!

The Brasiles Ensemble

P.O. Box 206, Garrison, NY 10524
T. 917 536 2033
thebrasilesensemble@gmail.com
www.thebrasilesensemble.wordpress.com
www.facebook.com/thebrasilesensemble

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