

GUILD HALL: OFFSITE

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**GUILD HALL & BEL CANTO BOOT CAMP RESIDENT ARTIST SERIES FINALE
WILL FEATURE MICHAEL SPYRES
WITH TERESA CASTILLO AND SAMUAL KEELER**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 7PM
St. Luke's Episcopal Church, East Hampton**



Michael Spyres, Teresa Castillo, and Samuel Keeler. Photos courtesy of the artists.

September 22, 2022—East Hampton, NY — Guild Hall and Bel Canto Boot Camp's 2022 Resident Artist series will conclude on **Saturday, October 15 at 7PM** with an unmissable recital featuring baritenor **Michael Spyres** alongside resident artists soprano **Teresa Castillo** and tenor **Samual Keeler**. The series, which began in May, supports an emerging generation of opera singers while bringing operatic performances and community engagement programs to the East End. The recital, part of **GUILD HALL: OFFSITE** programming, will take place in Hoie Hall at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 18 James Lane, East Hampton.

Michael Spyres joins the Guild Hall & Bel Canto Boot Camp Resident Artist series in a recital of arias and songs of Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti, and Verdi. As a tenor with an extraordinary range (traditionally called a baritenor), the program explores the diverse characters and roles within bel canto and opera, encompassing repertoire normally assigned to both tenors and baritones.

“Michael Spyres joins Bel Canto Boot Camp in a journey through his favorite bel canto repertoire including opera and song,” said Bel Canto Boot Camp co-founders, Derrick Goff and Rachelle Jonck. “As a singer with an extraordinary range the world is his oyster, and a voice like this does not come along all that often. We are privileged to have a long history with Michael – he was the lead tenor in the first professional opera production Derrick ever worked on as a pianist and coach and had worked with Rachelle for many years at the same company (Bel Canto at Caramoor). He is a champion of bel canto rarities as well as excellence in singing, all while being a down-to-earth colleague and friend. We are thrilled to work with him again at Guild Hall!”

Joining Mr. Spyres in performance will be resident artists Teresa Castillo and Samuel Keeler. Castillo and Keeler will spend a week in-residence with Bel Canto Boot Camp coaches/co-founders, Rachelle Jonck and Derrick Goff, where they will study new repertoire and coach alongside Michael Spyres amid his performances of [Idomeneo](#) at The Metropolitan Opera.

“We are so excited to welcome Michael Spyres as the guest artists for the final Guild Hall & Bel Canto Boot Camp Resident Artist program of the 2022 season,” said Anthony Madonna, Guild Hall’s Patti Kenner Senior Associate for Learning + Public Engagement. “Throughout this past year, both Guild Hall & Bel Canto Boot Camp have seen the incredible learning and progress that occurs when singers of various experiences are paired together. To give the opportunity for these two emerging artists, Teresa Castillo and Samuel Keeler, to learn and perform with an artist of Spyres’ caliber and experience – especially as he is performing at The Metropolitan Opera – is such a gift, to both the artists and our audiences. We cannot wait to see the learning that will occur and get to celebrate their work in recital.”

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit guildhall.org.

Principal Sponsor: V. Atkins Foundation

Additional support is provided by Dr. Ralph Gibson, in memory of Andy Jacobyansky, who generously shared his passion, knowledge, and support for the opera; and by Dan Langley and Nick Taylor.

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Theater Programming supported in part by Dr. Ralph Gibson, in memory of Andy Jacobyansky, who generously shared his passion, knowledge and support for the opera, The Schaffner Family Foundation, Straus Family Foundation, Michael Balmuth, Blythe Danner, and funding from The Ellen and James S. Marcus Endowment for Musical Programming and The Melville Straus Family Endowment.

Michael Spyres

Michael Spyres was born and raised in the Ozarks and grew up in an extremely musical family. Mr. Spyres is one of the most sought-after tenors of his generation with 8 DVD's and 25 CD's to his name, he has been celebrated on the world's most prestigious international opera houses, festivals and concert halls. Accomplished and acclaimed in the widest range of repertoire, his unique career has taken him from every genre from Baroque to Classical to 20th century, while firmly establishing himself as an expert within the Bel Canto repertoire as well as within Rossini and French Grand Opera.

The 2021/2022 season sees Michael's solo album debut, BariTenor, for Warners/Erato with the Strasbourg Philharmonie under the baton of Marko Letonja as well as his return to the stage in an incredibly wide range of repertoire from Lieder to BelCanto and Wagner to French Grand Opera and Verismo. This exciting season will see his return as Florestan in *Fidelio* with Raphael Pichon and *Pygmalion* at Opéra Comique de Paris, his role debut as Wagner's Tristan in a concert version of Act 2 with Opéra de Lyon, his role debut as Canio in Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci* with the OLOpera, his return as Roméo to the Houston Grand Opera, as well as his anticipated debut in the title role of Mozart's *Idomeneo* in Baden-Baden. In addition to the opera stage, he will make his recital debut with Mathieu Pordoy in Atelier Lyrique de Tourcoing, Théâtre du Capital Toulouse, Festival Les Volques, as well as two separate recitals in Paris. On the concert stage Michael will star with the Ravello Festival, Opera Philadelphia, Strasbourg Philharmonie, Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Gran Theatre de Liceu, Theater an der Wien, Théâtre des Champs Elysées, and Teatro alla Scala.

Michael has worked with some of the world's most renowned conductors such as Riccardo Muti, Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Sir Mark Elder, Valery Gergiev, Emmanuelle Haim, Sir Andrew Davis, Fabio Luisi, Michele Mariotti, Alberto Zedda, and John Nelson. In his meteoric rise Michael has quickly established himself as one of the greatest singers of his generation and has already sung at many of the world's most prestigious Opera houses and festivals worldwide such as Teatro San Carlo, Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, Teatro alla Scala, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Aix en Provence Festival, Opera National de Bordeaux, Opera Comique, Théâtre des Champs Elysées, Covent Garden, English National Opera, Nederlands National Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Berliner Festspiele, Opera Theatre Saint Louis, Chicago Lyric Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Metropolitan Opera, Gran Teatre del Liceu, ABAO Bilbao Opera, Teatro Real de Madrid, Wiener Staatsoper, and the Salzburger Festspiele.

In addition to his operatic career Mr. Spyres is equally accomplished within the concert world and has given concerts and recitals in Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Prague, Pesaro, Bologna, Napoli, Sao Paulo, A Coruna, Tokyo, Cape Town, Shanghai, Vienna, Dresden, Berlin, Munich, Lyon, Paris, Amsterdam, New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago.

This and future seasons will see him star at the Metropolitan Opera New York, Theater an der Wien, Gran Teatro de Liceu, as well as his return to the Theater an der Wien, Opéra National of Paris, Théâtre Champs Elysée, Opéra Comique, Opera de Lyon, Houston Grand Opera, Opera Philadelphia, and his hometown opera, the OLOpera in Springfield, MO, USA. michaelspyres.com

Teresa Castillo

Costa Rican-American soprano Teresa Castillo has been hailed by the San Francisco Gate as a “standout, bringing [vocal] power and florid elegance,” and by Opera News for exhibiting “a clean, concentrated sound, and a lovely, intelligent musicianship.” Ms. Castillo’s operatic repertoire includes Juliette (*Roméo et Juliette*), Madame Mao (*Nixon in China*), the title role of Lucia di Lammermoor, Tytania (*A Midsummer Night’s Dream*), Creusa (*Medea in Corinto*), #1 (*Transformations*), Rosina (*Barber of Seville*), Königin der Nacht (*Die Zauberflöte*), Amina (*La sonnambula*), Drusilla (*L’incoronazione di Poppea*), Maria (*West Side Story*), Ms. Wordsworth (*Albert Herring*) and Adele (*Die Fledermaus*). She has sung with Lyric Opera of Chicago, Knoxville Opera, The Princeton Festival, Opera Theatre St. Louis, Bel Canto at Caramoor, Teatro Nuovo, Opera San Jose, White Snake Projects, Virginia Opera, Central City Opera, Merola Opera Program and will be making debuts with Opera Lafayette and Chicago Opera Theatre. Recent competition prizes include the George London Competition, the Cooper-Bing Competition, Opera Index Competition, The Jensen Foundation Vocal Competition, and the Altamura/Caruso International Voice Competition, The Anita Cerquetti International Competition, Lois Alba Aria Competition, Denver Lyric Opera Guild Competition, Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and has received grants from Career Bridges, The Allied Arts (CO), The Anna Sosenko Trust, and the Bel Canto Vocal Scholarship Foundation (RI).

teresacastillosoprano.com

Samual Keeler

Samual Keeler, tenor, has been hailed for his “rich tenor” (Culpepper Times) and “strong vocals and crisp, clear delivery” (DC Theatre Scene). His most recent performances include Alfredo in Verdi’s *La traviata*, Frederic in Gilbert & Sullivan’s *The Pirates of Penzance*, Sam Kaplan in Kurt Weill’s *Street Scene*, Don Curzio & Don Basilio in Mozart’s *Le nozze di Figaro*, and Lurcanio in Handel’s *Ariodante*. He keeps a regular performance schedule as a soloist in the greater Philadelphia region. Keeler is a graduate of the Maryland Opera Studio at University of Maryland, College Park.

samualkeeler.com

Derrick Goff

Derrick Goff (Coach/BCBC CO-Founder) is an alumnus of the Metropolitan Opera’s Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and has been a member of the MET music staff. He has enjoyed many years of collaboration at Teatro Nuovo, a continuation of the young artist program of Bel Canto at Caramoor, where he is resident as a coach, chorus master, and Italian teacher. In addition to his work as a pianist, coach, and conductor, Derrick holds degrees in organ and voice from Westminster Choir College.

derrickgoff.com

Rachelle Jonck

Rachelle Jonck (Coach/BCBC CO-Founder) received her musical training at the Conservatory of the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa. In her native country she was awarded a FNB/Vita award for her contribution to opera in South Africa and the

Nederburg Opera Prize – South Africa’s premier opera award. Rachele moved to New York City as Head Vocal Coach and Assistant Conductor of Bel Canto at Caramoor. Her private coaching studio includes established professionals whose careers take them to the largest opera houses of the world, and younger singers still on the verge of a professional career. Her master class topics, while related to her main study field of bel canto, explore the wider application of the bel canto way of singing. rachelejonck.com

ABOUT BEL CANTO BOOT CAMP

Bel Canto Boot Camp was born during the pandemic when we reached out to singers around the world – singers who had no place and seemingly no reason to sing. To be honest, we needed to find a way to feed our own souls as well while we were cut off from music making – something we never even considered could possibly happen. We created The Vaccai Project – a unique online training course for singers. Just short of two thousand singers from America to South Africa, from Columbia to Russia practiced together for the day when stages would be open to them again and theaters would be filled with audiences. We discovered a beautiful new way to support singers – beautiful in its inclusivity, its expansion of the richness of the New York opera community to artists all over the world, the breaking of often prohibitive barriers of distance, cost, time and audition-only programs.

Now, as the world continues to emerge from Covid-19, Bel Canto Boot Camp strives to support artists in the physical world as we did (and continue to do) virtually. Our ability to work in person with singers is now supported by an online platform allowing us to stay in contact when we cannot be there physically. Additionally, BCBC allows singers, teachers, and presenters to network effectively with each other in the ever-growing BCBC community.

belcantobootcamp.com

ABOUT GUILD HALL

Guild Hall is the cultural heart of the East End: a museum, performing arts, and education center, founded in 1931. We invite everyone to experience the endless possibilities of the arts: to open minds to what art can be; inspire creativity and conversation; and have fun.

Guild Hall has served four generations and introduced audiences to the most storied artists and performers of our time. Now as we approach our centennial, we have embarked on a state-of-the-art renovation to match the caliber of our artistry for twenty-first-century audiences. The facility-wide Capital Improvements Project & Campaign includes top-of-the-line physical and technological enhancements to better deliver on our mission as an artist-driven, interdisciplinary institution.

GUILD HALL: OFFSITE was launched in late spring 2022, temporarily moving programming to select East End locations, featuring dynamic and unmissable exhibitions and events with artists both local and from around the world.

For more information about this and other programs, visit GuildHall.org.
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