

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NATHAN GUNN, BARITONE**  
**JULIE GUNN, PIANO**  
**McCALLUM THEATRE**  
**Monday – January 22 – 8:00pm**

Palm Desert, CA – The McCallum Theatre presents Nathan Gunn, baritone, and Julie Gunn, piano, on Monday, January 22, at 8:00pm. Joined by his wife, pianist Julie Gunn, Nathan will perform a program of music from the American Songbook, ranging from Irving Berlin and Cole Porter to Leonard Bernstein and Ned Rorem to Leonard Cohen and Pearl Jam.

**Nathan Gunn** has a reputation as one of the most exciting and in-demand baritones of the day. He has appeared in renowned opera houses, including the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Royal Opera House, Paris Opera, Bayerische Staatsoper, Glyndebourne Opera Festival, Theater an der Wien, Teatro Real in Madrid, and the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie. His many roles include title roles in *Billy Budd*, *Eugene Onegin*, *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and *Hamlet*; Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*, the Count in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Malatesta in *Don Pasquale*, Belcore in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, Ottone in *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, Tarquinius in *The Rape of Lucetia*, Danilo in *The Merry Widow*, and The Lodger in *The Aspern Papers*.

A supporter of new works, Mr. Gunn recently created the role of Inman in *Cold Mountain* at the Santa Fe Opera. He also created the roles of Sid Taylor in *Great Scott*, James Dalton in *The Harlot's Progress* at the Theater an der Wien, Yeshua in *The Gospel of Mary Magdalene* at the San Francisco Opera, Paul in *Amelia* at the Seattle Opera, Alec Harvey in *Brief Encounter* at the Houston Grand Opera, Father Delura in *Love and Other Demons* at the Glyndebourne Opera Festival, and Clyde Griffiths in *An American Tragedy* at the Metropolitan Opera. Because of this dedication to new works, Mr. Gunn held the title of Director of the American Repertoire Council at the Opera Company of Philadelphia, focusing on advancing the company's American Repertoire Program and committed to produce a new American work in 10 consecutive seasons. Mr. Gunn is working on a number of creative projects that will premier over the next three seasons, in which he is a collaborating artist with the creative teams. These include projects with producing companies such as the English National Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, and Beth Morrison Projects, and are created with some of today's leading and cutting edge composers.

A distinguished concert performer, Mr. Gunn has appeared with the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Minnesota

Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, Münchner Rundfunkorchester, and the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra. The many conductors with whom he has worked include, Sir Andrew Davis, Sir Colin Davis, Christoph von Dohnányi, Christoph Eschenbach, Alan Gilbert, Daniel Harding, James Levine, Kurt Masur, Kent Nagano, Antonio Pappano, David Robertson, Donald Runnicles, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Robert Spano, Michael Tilson Thomas, and Mark Wigglesworth.

A frequent recitalist, Mr. Gunn has been presented in recital at Alice Tully Hall and by Carnegie Hall in Zankel Hall. He has also been presented by Roy Thomson Hall, Cal Performances, the Schubert Club, the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, the Vocal Arts Society in Washington, DC, the University of Chicago, the Krannert Center, the Wigmore Hall, and the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie. As a student, he performed recitals with his teacher and mentor John Wustman that celebrated the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Franz Schubert's birth.

Mr. Gunn recently ventured outside the standard opera repertoire in performances of the title role in *Sweeney Todd* with the Houston Grand Opera, *Camelot* and *Carousel* with the New York Philharmonic, *Show Boat* at Carnegie Hall, and the Lyric Opera of Chicago. He appeared in the New York Philharmonic's 80th birthday gala for Stephen Sondheim and with the orchestra in an evening of Broadway classics with Kelli O'Hara. Other engagements include appearances with Mandy Patinkin in Rochester, the Krannert Center, the Ravinia Festival, and on tour in Australia and New Zealand, a series of cabaret shows at the famed Café Carlyle in New York City and at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Orange County, special guest artist in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir's annual "Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir" and "Orchestra at Temple Square," and a performance of Sting and Trudie Styler's work, *Twin Spirits* in the Allen Room at Jazz at Lincoln Center

Mr. Gunn's solo album, *Just before Sunrise*, was released on Sony/BMG Masterworks. Other recordings include the title role in *Billy Budd* with Daniel Harding and the London Symphony Orchestra which won the 2010 Grammy; the first complete recording of Rogers & Hammerstein's *Allegro*, *Peter Grimes* with Sir Colin Davis and London Symphony Orchestra (nominated for a 2005 Grammy Award), *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, *Kullervo* with the Atlanta Symphony, and *American Anthem*. He starred as Buzz Aldrin in *Man on the Moon*, an opera written specifically for television and broadcast on the BBC in the UK. The program was awarded the Golden Rose Award for Opera at the Montreux Festival in Lucerne.

This season, Mr. Gunn returns to the Metropolitan Opera in *The Magic Flute*, appears in concert with the London Symphony Orchestra and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and presents recitals in Los Angeles, Baltimore, Kalamazoo, and Thomasville, and at Vanderbilt and Notre Dame universities. He also performs Paolo Prestini's *The Hubble Cantata* at the Ford Theater in Los Angeles, appears in Lyric Opera of Chicago's Bernstein celebration, and premieres his one-man show, *Flying Solo*, at the Laguna Playhouse and the San Diego Repertory Theater.

Mr. Gunn received the first annual Beverly Sills Artist Award, and was awarded the Pittsburgh Opera Renaissance Award. He is an alumnus of the Metropolitan Opera Lindemann Young Artists Program and was a winner of the 1994 Metropolitan Opera National Council Competition. Mr. Gunn is an alumnus of the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana where he is a professor of voice, and the General Director of the Lyric Theater @ Illinois. Mr. Gunn is a partner in the Los Angeles City Club, RVCC, which is a forward thinking analog space for artists and entrepreneurs changing the downtown of Los Angeles.

**Julie Gunn** is a pianist, educator, and music director. She appeared on many prestigious recital series, including Carnegie Hall's Pure Voice Series, Lincoln Center Great Performers, Boston's Jordan Hall, Brussels' Theatre de la Monnaie, San Francisco's Herz Hall, the 92nd Street Y, Toronto's Roy Thompson Hall, University of Chicago Presents, San Francisco Performances, Oberlin College, Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, the Ravinia Festival, Manhattan's legendary Café Carlyle, the Sydney Opera House, and the United States Supreme Court. She has been heard in recital with William Burden, Richard Croft, Elizabeth Futral, Isabel Leonard, Stefan Milenkovich, Kelli O'Hara, Mandy Patinkin, Yvonne Gonzales Redman, Michelle De Young, the Pacifica Quartet, and Nathan Gunn.

Director of Lyric Theatre Studies at the University of Illinois, she produces three mainstage operas or musical theatre works a year at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. A faculty member at the School of Music, she enjoys teaching singers, pianists, chamber musicians and songwriters. She has served on the music staff at the Metropolitan Opera Young Artist Program, Wolf Trap Opera, St. Louis Opera Theatre, Southern Methodist University, Opera North, Highlands Opera Studio, Theaterworks!, Chicago Opera Theater, and given master classes at universities and young artists' programs all over the United States, including the Ryan Young Artists' Program, Houston Grand Opera Studio, and Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Santa Fe Opera, the Aspen Festival, the Interlochen Center for the Arts, and the Metropolitan Opera Guild, as well as tenures as artist-in-residence at Cincinnati Opera and the Glimmerglass Festival. She is the founder of the Illinois School of Music Academy, a program for talented pre-college chamber musicians and composers.

Dr. Gunn enjoys working at the intersection of different disciplines and collaborates with artists in the fields of theatre, dance, and design whenever possible. She is committed to new works and, in recent seasons, has been part of several world premieres, as a co-producer, a pianist, or as a conductor: *Twilight Butterfly* (Thomas), *Dooryard Bloom* (Higdon), *Polly Peachum* (Scheer/Van Horn), *Variations on a Summer's Day* (Meltzer,) *Letters from Quebec to Providence in the Rain* (Gill,) and *Bhutto* (Fairouz.)

In the upcoming season she looks forward to recitals and cabarets at the Krannert Center (with the Jupiter Quartet), the Van Cliburn series in Fort Worth, the DeBartolo Center at Notre Dame, Georgetown, and to conducting Adam Guettel's *Light in the Piazza* for Lyric Theatre @ Illinois.

She has published many arrangements of songs for piano, chamber groups and orchestras, her arrangements have been heard at the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Chicago's Symphony Center, and London's Queen Elizabeth Hall.

Tickets for this performances are priced at \$87, \$67, \$47 and \$27. Tickets are available at the Theatre's website at [www.mccallumtheatre.com](http://www.mccallumtheatre.com) or by calling the McCallum Theatre Box Office at (760) 340-ARTS. The McCallum Theatre, located at 73000 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert CA 92260, accepts payment by cash, personal check, VISA, MasterCard, Discover and American Express.

*The McCallum Theatre Box Office, its phone center and website, are the **only** authorized outlets for tickets to performances presented at the Theatre. Tickets purchased from any other sources, such as brokers or secondary market websites, are purchased at consumer's own risk and cannot be guaranteed as valid.*

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