

SUNY New Paltz Department of Music Presents

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# Visions and Variations

**Laurel Massé**

**Studley Theatre**

Tuesday, February 27

7:30 p.m.



# — Program —

## Tonight's Concert Program

<b><i>How High the Moon</i></b>	Morgan Lewis, music; Nancy Hamilton, lyrics
<b><i>Scotch and Soda</i></b>	David Guard
<b><i>Downtown</i></b>	Tony Hatch
<b><i>I've Got You Under My Skin</i></b>	Cole Porter
<b><i>Bewitched, Bothered, and Bewildered</i></b>	Richard Rodgers, music; Lorenz Hart, lyrics
<b><i>La Vie en Rose</i></b>	Louiguy, music; Edith Piaf (Fr) and Mack David (Eng), lyrics
<b><i>The Nearness of You</i></b>	Hoagy Carmichael, music; Ned Washington, lyrics
<b><i>Harold's House of Jazz</i></b>	Richie Cole, music; David Lahm, lyrics
<b><i>Somebody to Love</i></b>	Darby Slick
<b><i>I Will</i></b>	Paul McCartney
<b><i>Love for Sale</i></b>	Cole Porter
<b><i>Attics of My Life</i></b>	Jerry Garcia, music; Robert Hunter, lyrics
<b><i>The Beat Goes On</i></b>	Sonny Bono
<b><i>Blue / River</i></b>	Joni Mitchell
<b><i>Some Other Time</i></b>	Leonard Bernstein, music; Betty Comden & Adolph Green, lyrics



Laurel Massé, vocals  
Vinnie Martucci, piano and arrangements  
Mark Dziuba, guitar  
Rich Syracuse, bass  
Jeff Siegel, drums

## **Bios**

With a repertoire that embraces Basie and Bach, banjos and bagpipes, the Beatles and the Bard of Avon, **Laurel Massé** is a singer without borders.

She began her career as a founding member of the Grammy award-winning vocal group the Manhattan Transfer, and continued on to a successful solo career.

A veteran recording artist, her voice can be heard on more than 40 albums, and she has performed with a wide range of artists, including Barry Manilow, Jay Ungar and Molly Mason, Little Feat's Paul Barrere and Fred Tackett, Jon Hendricks, and the professional Cathedral Choir of St. John the Divine. She also co-founded and performed with female jazz vocal trios Moxie (with Janis Siegel and Cheryl Bentley of the Manhattan Transfer) and Jalala (with Siegel and Lauren Kinhan of New York Voices). A passionate believer in arts education, she also teaches master classes and workshops for solo singers and vocal groups of all genres. She is a choral adjudicator at festivals and competitions in New York, NY & Washington DC, and currently teaches Applied Vocal Jazz at SUNY New Paltz, working one-on-one with student singers.

Massé has also been a faculty member of the Ashokan Music and Dance camps for over two decades, and it is there that she and Vinnie Martucci began their musical partnership as performers and teachers. This long collaboration (27 years thus far!) has resulted in concerts and recordings that span several centuries of both popular and obscure songs. "I never know exactly what Vinnie is going to do musically," she says. "We sketch out an arrangement and rehearse it well, knowing that, in performance, things change, sparks light up alternate paths. So it's always different, but I can trust completely that it will always be extraordinary, and that, as a singer, I will be free to fly."



**Vinnie Martucci** has had an exciting and diverse career as a performer, composer, arranger, producer, and educator. He has toured extensively on the international stage as co-leader of the jazz fusion quartet "The Dolphins" with Dan Brubeck, and as arranger and performer for blues artist Rory Block. He has recorded and toured with Graham Parker, Livingston Taylor, and others. He co-composed the Off-Broadway play "Clue, the Musical" as well as numerous cable network TV themes for Lifetime, the Travel Channel, and CNN, and underscores for daytime TV dramas "As the World Turns" and "Guiding Light." As a producer and recording engineer, he has worked with composer Baikida Carroll on recordings and productions for several theatrical and television projects, most notably the Tony Award-winning play "Having Our Say." He has also given clinics in Jazz and improvisation in Europe, South America, and at the Central Conservatory in Beijing, China. He has worked with the Manhattan Transfer founding member Laurel Massé for almost three decades as her primary accompanist, arranger, and producer. They are currently recording a collection of songs from the 1960s. Martucci is a professor emeritus in Jazz Performance at SUNY New Paltz and served as chair of the Department of Music from 2016 to 2019. Martucci holds an M.M. in Jazz Performance from SUNY Purchase and a Bachelor's in Music from Colby College.

**Mark Dziuba** has been a guitarist, improviser, and composer for most of his life. He has performed with a who's who of jazz, blues, rock, and bluegrass musicians internationally and has taught and performed at workshops for over 40 years. Dziuba is a tenured professor at SUNY New Paltz where he directs the Jazz Studies program. He was a part of the internationally acclaimed National Guitar Workshop for 25 years and has been a part of the Crown of the Continent Guitar Festival since its birth. He is a published author and has been a featured soloist on numerous recordings. Dziuba continues to explore the world of improvised music and can be found performing weekly in his area and abroad.



**Rich Syracuse** has been a mainstay on the New York area scene for more than four decades. While performing at an early age in New York City, he was the winner of the prestigious Congress Of Strings Award. Syracuse performed with the Group For Contemporary Music under the conductors Charles Wournin and Harvey Solberger, the Hartford Ballet, and the New Jersey Lyric Opera Company and worked with jazz pianists John Mehegan, Joey Calderazzo, Ted Rosenthal, and Bruce Barth. After moving to New York State's Hudson Valley in the mid 1980s he began a long-standing position in the Nick Brignola Quartet playing clubs, festivals, and recording sessions. He has toured nationally and internationally with artists such as Mose Allison, Kurt Elling, the Brubeck Brothers, Michael and Randy Brecker, Dave Liebman, Warren Bernhardt, Sumi Tonoka, David Torn, Mike DeMicco, Peter Levin, Sam Morrison, John Esposito, Steve Raleigh, Jimmy Cobb, Bernard Purdy, Adam Nussbaum, Eddie Henderson, Jeff "Tain" Watts, Dena DeRose, John Medeski, Michael Musilliami, and Ali Demogli. Syracuse accompanied jazz pianist Lee Shaw for over 22 years. He is a professor for String and Electric Bass Studies at Skidmore College in Saratoga, New York; Hotchkiss School in Lakeville Connecticut; Bard College in New York and SUNY New Paltz college in New Paltz, New York. Syracuse holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Manhattan School of Music in New York City, and is an individual member of the International Association Schools of Jazz.

**Jeff "Siege" Siegel** (drums) is a veteran of the New York jazz scene and has worked with a virtual "who's who" of artists. A member of the Sir Roland Hanna Trio from 1994-99, Siegel's diverse career has also allowed him to share the concert stage, recording studio — or both — with legendary artists such as Ron Carter, Kenny Burrell, Jack DeJohnette, Benny Golson, Frank Foster, Shiela Jordan, Helen Merrill, Mose Allison, and many more. He has also performed and recorded with contemporaries such as Dave Douglas, Stefon Harris, Kurt Elling, Ravi Coltrane, Ryan Kisor, Steve Turre, Arthur Rhames, and John Esposito. He has worked in the avant garde world as well with Wadada Leo Smith, Baikida Carroll, and others. "His playing is always tasteful whether it be in forceful, intense situations or in quiet, supporting roles. His writing is intriguing," notes the Green Mountain Jazz Messenger. An active educator, Siegel teaches Jazz drumming at the New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music as well as at Western Connecticut State University. He has performed clinics throughout world. He holds a Master's Degree in Jazz from Queens College where he studied composition with Jimmy Heath and has subsequently been the recipient of several grants from Meet the Composer.



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