

UNLV faculty stars in 'Vocal Extravaganza'



Dr. Tod & Elaine Fitzpatrick



Accomplished faculty musicians from University of Nevada Las Vegas will present "A Vocal Extravaganza!" at the Performing Arts Center on Sunday, February 19.

The 1 p.m. recital presented by the Arts Council of Big Bear Valley features vocalists Elaine and Dr. Tod Fitzpatrick, soprano and baritone respectively, plus soprano Dr. Michelle Latour. Joining the trio on the piano is Dr. Karen McCann.

The Fitzpatricks are best known locally as founders of the Big Bear Lake Song Festival during the fall, when they bring aspiring UNLV students to the PAC. This time it's the faculty on stage performing a variety of classic songs.

Elaine has soloed with the Virginia and Southern Arizona Symphonies along with performing at Opera Pacific, California Music Theater, and the acclaimed Edinburgh Theatre Festival in Scotland. She also has extensive stage credits including roles as Kathie in *Student Prince*,

Yum-Yum in *The Mikado*, Eliza in *My Fair Lady* and Cinderella's mother in *Into the Woods*. Those who have heard her sing *The Star Spangled Banner* at many Rotary Club meetings and five times before Angels games know that she has a spine-tingling voice. Husband Tod does too, with performances with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Long Beach and Los Angeles Operas, and Utah Festival Opera Company among his many credits.

In all he has over 40 operatic and music theater roles in his background in addition to a substantial number of oratorio and concert works. He also has a passion for song recitals like this one and new works for voice.

An artist reception follows the performance. At 3 p.m. there's a vocal master class with critique of advanced vocal students and lectures by Drs. Latour and Fitzpatrick on stage attire and college scholarship repertoire. Tickets are \$20, \$15 students. Call the PAC at (909) 866-4970.

Dr. Michelle Latour



Dr. Karen McCann



'Bearly Broadway' at new CATS theater

The new Warehouse Theater debuts when Community Arts Theater Society presents its original variety show *Bearly Broadway* during seven March shows.

CATS finally has its own home at the Warehouse Theater, located at a place where it can store thousands of costumes, sets and props but also host shows. Like *Bearly Broadway*, written by the company's Robin Field and Karen "Sarge" Rachels and featuring nostalgic stage show tunes, presented seven performances only on March 23-24, 28, 30-31 at 7:30 p.m. plus 2:30 p.m. Sunday matinees on March 25 and April 1.

Field, a veteran New York performer and writer, has appeared at Carnegie Hall along with many CATS credits including *Ebenezer Scrooge* during the holiday production of *A Christmas Carol* along with Professor Higgins in last summer's hit *My Fair Lady*. He has written special material for this revue which features many talented CATS talented performers.

Bearly Broadway marks the first public show held in the Warehouse Theater at

1117 W. Big Bear Blvd. in Big Bear City, where plans call for it to hold smaller, intimate productions on its own stage. CATS has been building the facility for five years and it now includes a small black box theater, surrounded by the company's extensive collection of costumes and sets.

Seating is general admission and limited so advanced ticket purchases are suggested. All seats are \$15; for *Bearly Broadway* ticket info, call (909) 585-4757.

Following *Bearly Broadway*, CATS returns to the Performing Arts Center for its summer blockbuster production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Tony Award-winning classic, *The King and I*. Field stars again in the production which runs for 12 shows from June 22 through July 8.

Rounding out the CATS season is fall's *Oliver!*, also at the PAC Nov. 16-Dec. 2. Call the PAC at (909) 866-4970.



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