

It's all about the voice at this year's Hugo Kauder Competition

By Donna Doherty
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NEW HAVEN — The voice is as much an instrument as a cello or woodwind or piano, and this year, the Hugo Kauder Society's 7th annual Hugo Kauder Competition will focus for the first time on that most unique instrument, with works for the voice.

The composer after whom the competition is named, set numerous poems to music, many of which have never been performed in public, until this competition. The public is invited to watch the eight finalists compete Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Neighborhood Music School, 100 Audubon St. (free.). The winners will perform Saturday at noon (\$10 suggested donation) at Sprague Memorial



Amanda Hall

Hall, 470 College St., followed by a reception.

The judges for the Friday competition are Metropolitan Opera star Catherine Malfitano, artists' manager Ken Benson, a vice president of Columbia Artists Management, Inc., and George Boziwick, chief of the music division of the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

The concert will be streamed live, and is accessible at http://music.yale.edu/media/video_lo.html for video; and http://music.yale.edu/media/audio_spr.html for audio only.

IF YOU GO

- **Event:** International Hugo Kauder Competition
- **When:** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday; Winners Concert, noon, June 11
- **Where:** Friday, Neighborhood Music School, 100 Audubon St., New Haven; June 11, Sprague Memorial Hall, 470 College St., New Haven; reception follows
- **Admission:** Free for competition, \$10 donation for concert
- **Info:** www.hugokaudersociety.org



David Pershall

of the founders of the Hugo Kauder Society) outstanding request to have us schedule voice. In two past concerts we, out of deference to Sigmund, hired a singer to perform in winner's concerts to demonstrate this aspect of Kauder's compositions.

"But, after six competitions and in beginning the rotation again, we couldn't avoid it. Kauder's vocal music exposes the poet side of him. He was

passionate for poetry. ... We could not go any longer without honoring this aspect of Kauder."

If some of the faces look familiar, it's because three of the finalists — sopranos Amanda Hall, Jamilyn Manning-White and baritone David Pershall are either graduates of or students at the Yale Opera Program.

Hall has earned a reputation for performing demanding roles with a number of companies, as she did at Yale and has a full operatic and concert schedule, including her debut in "Cosi fan tutte" with Lyric Opera of Kansas City next season.

Manning-White, who returns this fall to Yale, has received many honors, including most promising President's Award of the José Iturbi International Music Competition. Equally at

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Kauder: First time voice is featured

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home in concert or opera, she has performed with the Glimmerglass Opera, Waterbury Symphony, and many others, and on concert tour with the Teatro



Jamilyn Manning-White

Nacional de Santa Ana of El Salvador. At Yale, Pershall won the David L. Kasdon Memorial Prize for the Outstanding Singer in the Yale School of Music as well as Yale's prestigious Presser Music Award. He has placed first in several competitions and recently sang the title role in Yale's "Don Giovanni."

The other finalists are sopranos Virginia Allison Barney and Lesley Anne Friend, tenors Kijong Wi and Jason Hiester and baritone Brian Robinson.



Virginia Barney

Competition winner Barney has sung in festivals at the Tanglewood Institute and the Interlochen Arts Camp, and has studied at the Interlochen Arts Academy, Boston University and Mannes College, where she was awarded honors. This summer, she will be one of the youngest Young Artists in residence at the Seagle Music Colony.

Friend, who studied at The Boston Conservatory, has won several opera competitions, and was recently with the Baltimore Concert Opera singing Desdemona in Verdi's "Otello." She can be heard on Albany Records premiere recording of Pasatieri's "Signor Deluso" with the Opera Company of Brooklyn.

Wi received his degree from the Chugye University for the Arts in Seoul, and has studied and performed in Europe and also worked with Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana da Camera. He sang the role of Rinuccio in "Gianni Schicchi," Alfredo in "La Traviata."

Hiester, who performs professionally in opera, oratorio, choral and jazz, and has won several competitions, teaches voice and conducting, and directs the opera and choral programs at Ohio Wes-

leyan University.

Robinson is both a performer and composer whose work includes two collections of art songs set to the poetry of Leonard Cohen and Nikki Giovanni, a full orchestral symphony he wrote for the Yale Symphony in 2007, and a new overture due in February. He is the baritone soloist for the Church of the Redeemer here, and is founder, singer and composer for the children's music ensemble, The Cretaceous Quintet.



Kijong Wi

In addition to classical selections, the applicants were asked to sing one of the more than 100 poems by poets ranging from Germans Goethe and Nietzsche to English poets Yeats and Joyce and others that Kauder set to music.



Jason Hiester

The winner, noted Richter, receives a New York City performance opportunity, which has already been scheduled for February 2012.

"Every two or three years, we combine the winners for a concert. The past one was in 2009 with the piano and cello winners. This time, we have a three-year gap, so the concert in February at the Austrian Cultural Forum in New York City, will be with the winners from last year's string quartet competition and winds from the year before and this year's voice," said Richter.

The Hugo Kauder Society is a nonprofit family foundation whose mission is to foster awareness and appreciation of the work of Hugo Kauder, to create performance and exposure opportunities for emerging artists under the age of 35 and continue to give world premieres of works by Kauder, who emigrated to this country in 1940.



Brian Robinson

Contact Donna Doherty at 203-789-5672.

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ARTS CALENDAR

VISUAL ARTS

Mill House Gallery "In Natural Light", works by James R. Riccio, through June 30, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays, free, 5 W. Main St., Chester; 860-526-5575.

Moir Fitzsimmons Arons Art Gallery, Hamden Hall Country Day School "Water Ways", works by Anna Broell Bresnick, through June 10, artist's reception 2-4 p.m. June 5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, free, 1108 Whitney Ave., Hamden; 203-752-2609.

Naugatuck Historical Society Museum Celebration of Art, 1-3 p.m. June 5, 6-8 p.m. June 6 and 7, \$2, 195 Water St., Naugatuck; 203-729-9039.

New Haven Free Public Library "Tearing Silk", silkscreens by Miguel Trellis, June 9-July 12, artist reception 5:30-7:30 p.m. June 16, noon-8 p.m. Mondays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays (closed Saturdays between July 4 and Labor Day), free, 133 Elm St., New Haven; 203-946-8130.

New Haven Museum and Historical Society "The Hill: New Haven's First Suburb", through June 30, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays, noon-5 p.m. Saturdays, \$4, seniors \$3, students \$2, under 12 free, 114 Whitney Ave., New Haven; 203-562-4183.

People's United Bank Landscapes, Florals, and Still Lives in Oil, works by Linda Loen, through July 31, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Fridays, 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays, free, 752 Boston Post Road, Madison; 203-245-4512.

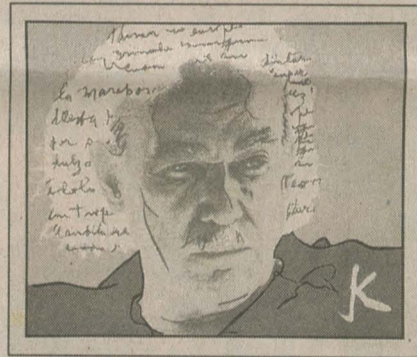
Seton Gallery, Dodds Hall, University of New Haven "Art of Papua New Guinea" Seton Collection, ongoing exhibition, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, free, 300 Boston Post Road, West Haven; 203-931-6065.

Silo Gallery "A Visual Dialog", work Southern Connecticut State University Works by Anne Doris-Eisner, through June 30, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, free, 501 Crescent St., New Haven; 203-392-5200.

Southington Public Library Works by Jane M. White, through

June 30, reception 2-4 p.m. June 11, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, free, 255 Main St., Southington; 860-628-0947.

Stratford Library "A Colorful World", paintings by Betty J. Mulholland, through June 30, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays and



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SILKSCREEN SHOW

"Tearing Silk, Recent Silk-screens by Miguel Trellis," which includes this work "Sea la K para Klemente," will be on exhibit at the New Haven Free Public Library Gallery, 133 Elm St., Saturday through July 12. The works showcase contemporary pop interpretations of MesoAmerican icons by the New York artist. A reception will be held 5:30-7:30 p.m. June 16. Gallery hours are noon-8 p.m. Mondays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays (closed Saturdays after July 4). For more info: 203-387-4933 or <http://azoth-gallery.com/gallery.htm>.

Saturdays, free, 2203 Main St., Stratford; 203-385-4162.

Summer McKnight Crosby Jr. Gallery "Spectra 2011", members show of the Photo Arts Collective, through July 8, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, free, 70 Audubon St., 2nd Floor, New Haven; 203-772-2788.

Susan Powell Fine Art, "New York City Street Scenes", works by Vincent Giarrano, through June 19, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays, noon-6 p.m. Saturdays, noon-3 p.m. Sundays, free, 679 Boston Post Road, Madison; 203-318-0616.

Sylvan Gallery "Impressions - The Art of Contemporary Realists", works by Al Barker, Angelo Franco, Paul Lipp and Heather Gibson-Lusk, through July 17, opening reception 4-7 p.m. June 11, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays-Saturdays, noon-4 p.m. Sundays, free, 121 W. Main St., Clinton; 860-669-7278.

The Davis Gallery "Reverie",

works by Natalie Fifer, through June 11, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays, free, 200 Boston Post Road, Orange; 203-795-4705.

The Parachute Factory Gallery "See Inside", art exhibit that gives incarcerated youth a chance to share their stories, through June 30, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesdays, noon-5 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, free, Erector Square, 319 Peck St., New Haven; 203-772-2788.

Wesleyan Potters "Seasons Celebrations", members show, through June 5, Handbuilding Pottery Show, June 8-July 10, opening reception 5-7 p.m. June 10, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays, noon-4 p.m. Sundays, free, 860-344-0039, 350 S. Main St., Middletown; 860-347-5925.

Women and Family Life Center "Taking Flight", photography by Mahlon Hale, through June 5, gallery hours are by appointment, free, 96 Fair St., Guilford; 203-458-6699.

Yale Center for British Art "Connections", through Sept. 11; Student-Curated Exhibition "Art in Focus: William III", through July 31; "Thomas Lawrence: Regency Power and Brilliance",

through June 5, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays; noon-5 p.m. Sundays, free, 1080 Chapel St., New Haven; 203-432-2800.

Yale Peabody Museum "Invasion of the Bloodsuckers: Bedbugs and Beyond", through Jan. 8, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays, noon-5 p.m. Sundays, \$9, seniors \$8, ages 3-18 \$5, under 3 free, 170 Whitney Ave., New Haven; 203-432-5099.

Yale University Art Gallery "Embodied: Black Identities in American Art from the Yale University Art Gallery", through June 26, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, Thursdays until 8 p.m., 1-6 p.m. Sundays, free, 1111 Chapel St., New Haven; 203-432-0600.

Yale-China Association "Loose Threads, Rich Colors: Xiang Embroidery from Early 20th Century China", through Aug. 30, 2-5 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, free, 442 Temple St., New Haven; 203-432-0884.