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Wave Hill Cabaret Series Celebrates Centennial of Bronx's Grand Concourse *Steve Ross Hosts; Programs Include Newly Commissioned Songs*

Bronx, NY, December 15, 2008—This year, Wave Hill's Cabaret series celebrates the 2009 centennial of the Bronx's Grand Concourse, a four and half mile-long elegant boulevard reminiscent of the Champs Elysées and home to some of the giants of the American Songbook—composers, lyricists and performers. Wave Hill House will ring with melodies from a bustling neighborhood of musical theater genius, ranging from the turn of the last century, such as Victor Herbert's *Kiss Me Again (1909)*, to the lyrics of the 1940's and 1950's, including Adolf Green's *Never Met a Man I Didn't Like* and the scores of the 1960's and 1970's—Charles Strouse's *Bye Bye Birdie* and *Annie*.

Wave Hill partners with **Steve Ross**, the patriarch of song interpreters, to present three of Cabaret's greatest songsters. "When Steve sings," wrote Michael Feingold in *The Village Voice*, "New York is New York again." Wave Hill is especially delighted to welcome Steve back as the host of this series, which he inaugurated at Wave Hill in 2007. Each performance includes a new song for the Cabaret repertory, commissioned by Wave Hill.

January 18: Steve Ross

Steve Ross opens the series on January 18. His program includes a song written for him by **Bernie Bierman**, whose songs have been performed by Frank Sinatra and Sarah Vaughn and who celebrates his own 100th birthday this year. Bierman's lyrics will draw on his own heritage on the Grand Concourse, for many years his parents' home.

March 29: Barbara Brussell

"Imagine," wrote Stephen Holden of *The New York Times*, a "younger Kathleen Turner crossed with Sandra Dee, and you will have some idea of the complicated flavors projected by **Barbara Brussell**." Experience them when she performs Sunday, March 29, taking us on an emotional journey from loud laughter to quiet sighs. Barbara performs a song that is being written for her by **Ray Jessel**, whose work has been recorded by Louis Armstrong, Jimmy Durante, Peggy Lee, John Pizzarelli, Karen Akers and Michael Feinstein.

April 19: KT Sullivan

A hybrid of Barbara Cook and Mae West who is as comfortable with Victor Herbert as with Sondheim, **KT**

MORE

Sullivan has been described by *The New Yorker* as “one of the most endearing and artful performers on the Cabaret scene.” Her program includes a song—filled with sentiment—written for her by lyricist **Barry Kleinbort** and composer **Joe Thalken**. Kleinbort has won six Manhattan Association of Cabaret Awards, as well as the prestigious Ed Kleban Foundation Award for lyric writing. Joe Thalken conducts Broadway performances of *Gypsy*, and is presently completing his third musical, this for the Signature Theater in Washington, DC.

Exclusive Insiders’ Tour of the Grand Concourse Sunday, April 19

Join **Steve Ross**, **Andrew Dolkart**—Columbia University’s professor of historic preservation—and Wave Hill Performing Arts Programmer **Andrew Appel** on an exclusive trolley tour up the Grand Concourse, stopping at the Art Deco Paradise Theater for a morning’s visit to the boulevard’s “golden age.” Return to Wave Hill for a boxed lunch, all in time to hear **KT Sullivan**’s final concert in our Grand Concourse Cabaret Series. \$200 per person includes trolley tour, lunch and concert. (\$150 tax-deductible contribution to Wave Hill). Advance reservations required; 718.549.3200 x213. Two pick up points in Manhattan.

Concerts take place on Sundays from 2pm to 3pm. Tickets for Wave Hill members are \$15; non-members pay \$24; Students and Seniors 65+ with ID pay \$21. All tickets include admission to the grounds. Pick up a concert brochure at Wave Hill, and purchase tickets at the Perkins Visitor Center or by calling 718.549.3200 x385 or by emailing concerts@wavehill.org.

A 28-acre public garden and cultural center overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades, Wave Hill’s mission is to celebrate the artistry and legacy of its gardens and landscapes, to preserve its magnificent views, and to explore human connections to the natural world through programs in horticulture, education and the arts.

HOURS Open all year, Tuesday–Sunday and many major holidays: 9am–5:30pm
Closes 4:30pm, October 15–April 15.

ADMISSION \$6 adults, \$3 students and seniors 65+, \$2 children 6–18
*Free Tuesday and Saturday mornings until noon.
Free to Members and children under 6.*

DIRECTIONS Getting here is easy!
Located only 30 minutes from midtown Manhattan, Wave Hill’s free shuttle van transports you to and from our front gate and Metro-North’s Riverdale station, the 242nd Street stop on the #1 subway line, and our free offsite parking lot.
*Limited onsite parking is available for \$8 per vehicle.
Complete directions and shuttle bus schedule available at www.wavehill.org.*

Target is the lead sponsor of the Arts at Wave Hill. Additional support for Wave Hill’s concert series is provided by The Adele & Leonard Block Foundation, Melvin and Carol Taub, the David G. Whitcomb Foundation and public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts—a state agency. Sustaining support is provided by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.



The Arts at Wave Hill are sponsored by

