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**Evening Concert Series****2022–2023 Season**

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Sarah M. Snell Music Theater

Tuesday, September 27, 7:30 PM

**Nuits d'été à Posillipe (Songs of summer at Posillipe)**

An album of ariettas, romanzas, nocturnos and duettinos published in 1836. Donizetti lived and worked in Naples in the magnificent villa of the impresario Domenico Barbaja. The music is in the splendid Italian operatic tradition but scaled down to the drawing room. The texts are essentially simple portraits of things Italian: the boatman, the breath of the beloved, the haunted tower of Biasone or a drinking song. The villa was in the luxuriant hillside area of Posillipo overlooking the magnificent bay of Naples, with the volcano Vesuvius and the ruins of Pompeii in the background. The beautiful surroundings inspired Donizetti to compose a series of vocal chamber music, songs for soprano, tenor and piano in Italian and French. Donizetti had had a huge success with Lucia and this was also an international success however, the complete cycle is now rarely done.

Sarah Maurer-Groth, soprano

Donald George, tenor

Steven Groth, piano

**Ariettas**

1. Il barcaiuolo – The Boatman (soprano)
2. Il crociato – The Crusader (tenor)
3. A mezzanotte – Midnight (soprano)
4. La torre di Biasone – The Tower of Biasone (tenor and treble choir)
5. La Conocchia – The Distaff (a tool used in spinning) soprano
6. Le Crépuscule – Dusk (tenor)

**Duets**

7. Il giuramento – The Oath
8. L'aurora - Dawn
9. L'alito di Bice – Bice's Breath
10. Amor, voce del cielo – Love, Voice of Heaven
11. Un guardo ed una voce – A Glance and a Voice
12. I bevitori – The Drinkers

Treble voices in *La Torre di Biasone*:

Cole Denton  
Sarah Faragon  
Avary Halliday  
Karleigh MacMillan  
Hailey Morgan  
Emily Oldfield  
Sarah Reynolds  
Emily Whalen  
Alyssa Wilks