

As your newly elected President of DLOG, I am honored and pleased to serve with the board this coming year. We all look forward to advancing the goals of promoting the art of singing. As former head of the opera at the University of Colorado, Boulder, I am aware of the financial and moral support that Denver Lyric Opera Guild provided to that program and the support that came to singers in this state provided by the yearly Competition.

Colorado is blessed to have members in this organization dedicated to providing support for the art of singing. We need to expand our membership and raise the public awareness of the mission of DLOG.

We have an excellent group of volunteers serving on the newly elected board and I look forward to working with them this coming year. The board will have a work session on Wednesday evening June 8 to plan and dream for some long and short term goals. Your thoughts and ideas for helping with the goals of DLOG are always welcome and can be forwarded to any member of the board or to me personally.

We have scheduled the Summer Party on August 7, chaired jointly by Becky Gartner and Lisa Curtis for an evening of good food and entertainment directed by Jeremy Reger, who has served as accompanist for the Vocal Competition for several years. Please mark your calendar for this fun filled evening to support our singers and membership awareness.

Finally, I want to thank the members of last year's board and out going President Tom Conroy for the excellent leadership provided this last year navigating the organization through the year of recovery from the Covid and all its problems with public gatherings. It was a difficult task. Also, thanks to Kathy van Arsdale and her committee for another successful competition, again guiding us through rough waters of Covid.

I wish all of you a good summer and stay safe and healthy. We will see you on August 7 at the Columbine Country Club - 17 Fairway Lane, Littleton, CO 80123 for the Summer Party.

**Dennis Jackson - President 2022-2023**  
**Denver Lyric Opera Guild**

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## Our Mission

The encouragement and support of young singers, and the continuing educations of members in the appreciation and knowledge of opera.

## A Word From Outgoing President Tom Conroy



Our year is over and Dennis Jackson is our newly elected President. I have had a lot of fun as your President for this past year and want to thank all of our Board and all of our volunteers for the great help they have been in bringing us back from the Covid shutdown. We could not have done it without them. Let's have another great year in 2022-23.

Tom Conroy - DLOG President 2021-22

## Join Us for the DLOG 2022 Summer Party

A poster with a beige background and red diagonal stripes. The text reads: "Save the Date" in large black serif font, followed by "a Denver Lyric Opera Guild special event" in red script. Below is "Summer Party" in large black serif font, then "Silver Circuit" in red script. Underneath is "an evening for building membership" in black serif font. To the right is a black musical note icon. Further down, it says "join us at Columbine Country Club Littleton" in black serif font. At the bottom right, a black circle contains the text "August 7" and "5-8 p.m." in white serif font. At the bottom center, it says "more details in the coming months" in red script.

DLOG's Summer Party is scheduled for Sunday, August 7th, 5:00 – 8:00 pm at Columbine Country Club. We are planning a fun evening event with Colorado-themed entertainment produced by Jeremy Reger coupled with a new member drive. Member tickets are \$55, and members are encouraged to bring guests with a potential interest in DLOG. Up to 50 guests - one guest for each member - may attend at no cost. The cost of bringing a guest(s) can be paid by the member or underwritten by event sponsors. Every attendee will receive one free drink ticket.

The evening will begin with appetizers on the patio and the first 20-minute entertainment set. A main course plated salad with protein will then be served inside, ending with a second set of singing. Dessert buffet stations round out the evening with the final 20-minute set.

Mark your calendars for this fun summer evening party!

[Click this link to Register!](#)

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## Announcing 2022-2023 Opera on Tuesday Dates



Mark your calendars! The dates for the 2022-2023 Opera on Tuesdays concert and luncheon series are listed below. Events will become available for registration on the [DLOG website](#) as they approach. Stay tuned throughout the season for more details as they become available. **All OOT Luncheons will be held at Columbine Country Club.**

### DLOG 2022-2023 Opera on Tuesday Dates

May 2, 2023  
April 4, 2023  
January 17, 2023  
December 6, 2022  
November 1, 2022  
October 11, 2022  
September 13, 2022

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## Catching up with Eapen Leubner of Art Song Colorado



### ART SONG COLORADO – Eapen Leubner

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I recently had a chance to catch up with Eapen Leubner, who served as a judge at this year's DLOG Competition Preliminary. So why a piece on Eapen for the DLOG newsletter you might ask? In addition to serving as a DLOG judge, Eapen participated as a candidate in the DLOG Competition himself and, with Art Song Colorado, now employs a number of past and present DLOG Competition winners. Talk about coming full circle!



In 2005, Eapen moved to Denver to serve as an Opera Colorado Outreach Singer. During his apprenticeship Eapen participated in the DLOG Competition. The experience started his professional career that has taken him around the country and the world singing opera and concert solos. In 2014, he returned to Colorado from Brooklyn. He went on to work with Boulder Opera, Central City Opera and Opera Colorado's mainstage productions. But this is not really a biographical piece, as had been my original intention. Instead a will give you just a small taste of Eapen's work.

What impresses me most about Eapen is his enthusiasm and his fearlessness. He sees gaps in markets that no one else sees and jumps in to fill them. Eapen saw there was a gap in performance opportunities for Art Song. As a result he formed Denver Art Song Project with Mallory Bernstein. In 2021, it evolved into Art Song Colorado, a 501c3. If you are unfamiliar with Art Song, this is the explanation Eapen uses to introduce every show: "A lot of people say, "It's like opera but...". My ninth-grade English teacher would fail me for that kind of definition. An art song is a poem set to music. But the most important thing is that, initially, these were meant to be performed in the home as pianos became readily available. It was a way to bring people together to perform for one another, talk about art and science and culture and maybe share a meal and a drink."

In October, Art Song Colorado produced their first opera in partnership with Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, Jake Heggie's *To Hell and Back* as part of "ENOUGH: VOICES AGAINST ABUSE." In this event, vocalists from across Colorado told stories of domestic violence and triumph over adversity. Jennifer DeDominici and Jonathan Hays presented musical theater selections and Amy Maples and Marcia Ragonetti starred in a fully staged production of Jake Heggie's *To Hell and Back* – the myth of Persephone in a modern-day spousal abuse setting with a baroque-style orchestra. Thomas Wilson conducted the Chamber Orchestra with production by Eapen Leubner and Art Song Colorado's Associate Conductor, Steven Aguiló-Arbues at the piano. The performance benefited TESSA of Colorado Springs, empowering victims of intimate partner violence to take back the life that is rightfully theirs.

Art Song Colorado followed up the Heggie opera with performances of *Voices of the African Diaspora* in Highlands Ranch and Colorado Springs. On Tuesday, March 22 Eapen and Art Song Colorado presented the YouTube premiere of H. Leslie Adams', *Nightsongs*, with Chamber Orchestra of the Springs. Thomas Wilson conducted this sterling performance. It was the first in their series, *Voices of the African Diaspora*. Other offerings in the series have included George Walker's *Abu* with Stephanie Ann Ball, Soprano and Marcus King, the premiere of Jessie Montgomery's *I want to go home* also with Stephanie Ann Ball, Soprano, and Undine Smith Moore's *Three Songs of the Baha'i*. Stephanie Ann Ball, Soprano was once again joined by soloists from Chamber Orchestra of the Springs for this inaugural performance of a newly edited score by Dr. Louise Toppin of University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance. This performance is a result of curation that began at the 2019 Videmus conference.

Join Art Song Colorado every Tuesday between now and May for a new premiere from their Voices of African Diaspora performance! Hit subscribe to on the Chamber Orchestra Youtube page to be alerted of their weekly releases.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ua6842QCkjc>



In a new offering, Art Song Colorado is teaming up with Sohap Ensemble to commission and perform a family opera called, *Colorado Sky*. Check the online event below as they release a preview of the words, the music, and the shadow puppets... yes... shadow puppets! The piece will premiere in 2023 and will feature DLOG Competition winner Claire

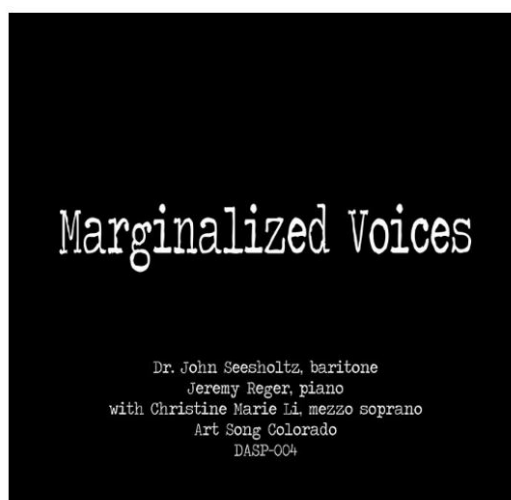
**McCahan.** Here's a sneak peak of how some of the puppets will look.



Visit Sohapp Ensemble's website to hear some of excerpts of the music and learn more about the project:

<https://www.sohapensemble.com/coloradosky>

Eapen's doesn't end with his Art Song Colorado live and video productions. He also collaborates with other artists to produce albums. In 2020, he released *Marginalized Voices* with Dr. John Seesholtz and Jeremy Reger. He is currently working with Dr. Andrew Garland (also from CU Boulder) on a new album. Stay tuned for details.



#### Digital Album

Streaming + Download

Includes unlimited streaming via the free Bandcamp app, plus high-quality download in MP3, FLAC and more.

Marginalized Voices

Conceived, Developed and Performed by

Dr. John Seesholtz

with

Jeremy Reger, piano

Christine Marie Li, mezzo soprano

Production Team

Steven Aguiló-Arbues, producer

Eapen Leubner, executive producer

Dr. John Seesholtz, executive producer

Michael Bevers, producer, engineer and videographer

Find out more at [www.artsongcolorado.org](http://www.artsongcolorado.org) and

[www.facebook.com/artsongcolorado](https://www.facebook.com/artsongcolorado)

Become a patron: [www.patreon.com/ASCPatreon](https://www.patreon.com/ASCPatreon)

To say that Eapen is the busiest man I know would be an understatement of major proportions! On top of all of this, he continues to have a very successful career as an opera soloist on the national level and is the father of three children and husband to Kathleen. Follow Art Song Colorado or see the links above to find out what treats Eapen has in store for us!

**Karen Bruggenthies**

## Welcome New Board Members for 2022-2023

Following is the list of our new DLOG board members. Many thanks to our past and present volunteers for keeping DLOG moving and supporting the singing mission!

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Dennis Jackson
<b>PRESIDENT-ELECT</b>	Kathy Van Arsdale
<b>COMPETITION VP</b>	Karen Bruggenthies
<b>DEVELOPMENT VP</b>	Kira Dills-DeSurra
<b>EDUCATION VP</b>	Gayle Landis
<b>FINANCE VP</b>	Kevin O'Connor
<b>MEMBERSHIP VP</b>	Marleen Diamond
<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS VP</b>	Valerie Wassil
<b>RECORDING SECRETARY</b>	Sandy Gottschalk
<b>TREASURER</b>	Debbie Roth
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>	Tom Conroy
<b>PARLIMENTARIAN</b>	Phyllis Wicklund
<b>CORRESPONDING SEC.</b>	Mary Conroy
<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>	Ian Caiozzi

## Opera Around Town



### The Bard at the Bar Returns!

**Saturday May 29 - 6pm-8pm, Enigma Bazaar, Denver**

Opera on Tap and The Wit's Shakesbeer reunite for a good cause with The Bard at the Bar, featuring musical settings of Shakespeare and scenes from A Midsummer Night's Dream at Front Range Brewing Company in Lafayette.

For more info and tickets visit: [Tickets Here](#)



BOULDER OPERA

### Verdi's Best Hits at Caffè Sole

**June 4 - 7pm, Caffè Sole, Boulder**

Come experience the drama and beauty of Verdi's greatest hits while enjoying some Italian libations at Caffè Sole! Indulge in Italian food while you listen to arias and scenes by Giuseppe Verdi, the greatest of Italian opera composers. Boulder Opera singers will perform works from Rigoletto, Falstaff, Il Trovatore, La Traviata, Otello and more.

### An Opera Cabaret: *Le French Affaire*

**June 25th - 3pm, Larimer Square, Denver**

Boulder Opera Company presents a concert of French romantic opera with a cabaret theme.

Inspired by the drama of love and passion, the program *Le French Affaire* is a special arrangement of arias, duets, and trios from the French Romantic period.

For more info visit: <https://www.boulderoperacompany.com/upcoming-concerts>

### We Were Always Here (an LGBTQ+ Concert)



### June 11 - 7pm, St. Andrew United Methodist Church, Highlands Ranch

From Handel to Heggie, experience the lighter side of classical music from the LGBTQ+ community. Join John Seesholtz and Melissa Lubecke as they share vocal music from composers, librettists and poets who are part of this community. Allies joining them will be Mallory Bernstein on piano with a special appearance by ASC founder, Eapen Leubner. [Tickets Here](#)



### Two Remain Education Panel and LGBTQIA+ Song Recital

June 12 - 2pm, JCC Mizel Arts and Cultural Center, Denver

Moderator John Seesholtz, Director of Vocal Pedagogy at the University of Colorado, and a panel of guests will discuss the themes and historical context of the opera *Two Remain* written by Jake Heggie and Gene Scheer. *Two Remain* is based, in part, on the true stories of two Holocaust survivors: the Polish dissident Krystyna Zywulska (1914-1993) and the gay German Jew, Gad Beck (1923-2012). After the panel, Central City Opera Festival artist Sean Stanton will perform a selection of works from *Two Remain* with Michael Baitzer on piano. [RSVP Here](#)

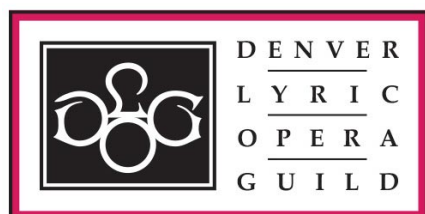


### La Bohème

Sat June 18 -Strings Music Pavilion, Steamboat, CO

Located in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, Opera Steamboat was founded in 2002 as a nonprofit opera company with a vision to bring world-class musical arts programs to our unique Rocky Mountain setting.

For more info and tickets visit: <https://operasteamboat.org/2022-season/#la-boheme>



DENVER LYRIC OPERA  
GUILD

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