



John Ferguson, Pianist and Music Director

John Ferguson is the Founder and Executive Director of American Voices. In 1993, he created American Voices to fulfill the need for quality constructive American cultural programming in the newly-independent nations of Central and Eastern Europe. He has appeared in prestigious venues such as Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Théâtre de la Ville and Radio France in Paris, and Bonn's Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle. In 1998, he conceived and implemented a series of centennial celebration concerts around the music of George Gershwin, taking a team of artists to over 40 nations ranging from Syria and Oman to Bangladesh and Uzbekistan.



Rhyn McLemore Saver, Soprano

Rhyn is a graduate of the Carnegie Mellon School of Drama (BFA, Musical Theatre). She divides her time between performing at theaters across the United States and coaching the next generation of Broadway performers in The Music Theater College Auditions program. For American Voices Rhyn has performed and directed shows in Vietnam and, most recently, *Broadway Bridges Pakistan*. Her credits include Sheldon Harnick's *A World to Win* (The York Theater); the title role in *Violet* (The Gallery Players); the world premiere of *Bridgeboy* (The Active Theater); and Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible* (The Gallery Players).



Ira Spaulding, Baritone and Choral Conductor

Ira Spaulding, Baritone and Choral Conductor: Born in New York, Ira Spaulding studied with Robert Simpson at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey and is currently on the faculty of the City College of New York. Formerly on the voice faculty of the Amsterdam Conservatory, Ira Spaulding began his career in Europe singing with Jessye Norman in the Robert Wilson production in Paris of *Great Day In the Morning*. Further performances have taken him around the world, from Amsterdam's Concertgebouw to over 50 nations with American Voices. As a conductor, Mr. Spaulding has conducted choirs and orchestras ranging from the Moscow Conservatory Choir to the National Youth Chorus of Bolivia.



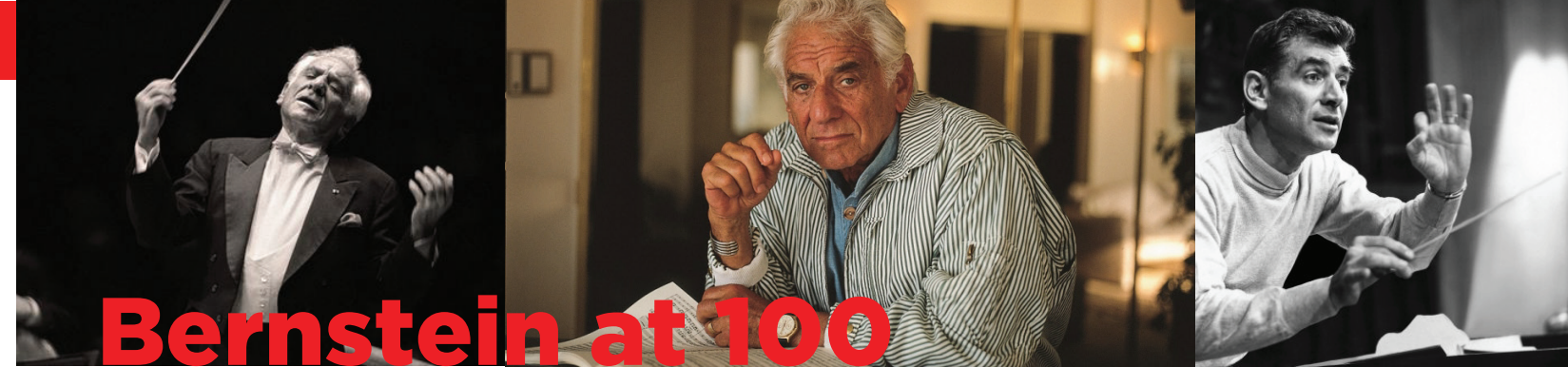
Mike del Ferro, Jazz Pianist

Mike Del Ferro has been recognized for his innovative style and artistry through the First Prize at the Rotterdam Jazz Piano Competition and the Soloist Prize at the European Jazz Contest in Brussels. His reputation as a soloist, accompanist, composer and arranger has led to performances and recordings with musicians such as Toots Thielemans, Branford Marsalis, Jack DeJohnette, Randy Brecker, Oscar Castro Neves, Deborah Brown and Richard Galliano among many others. To date he has released 17 albums under his own name and he has appeared as a sideman on many albums in different genres from Dixieland to Salsa.



Deborah J. Carter, Jazz Vocalist

Deborah J. Carter travels extensively performing in jazz festivals, jazz clubs, seminars, and radio and TV shows throughout Europe and Asia. Deborah is also currently a Professor of Jazz Vocals at the Musikene Conservatory in San Sebastian, Spain. Her programs with American Voices have taken her to Taiwan, Burma, Moldova, Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan in intensive collaborations with traditional musicians, training for young jazz musicians and festival appearances. Deborah's latest album is "*Blue Notes and Red Shoes*".



THE PROGRAM

In 2018 American Voices is offering three concert programs celebrating the life, times and work of Leonard Bernstein, one of the luminaries of American Music:

- Bernstein on Broadway*
- Jazz Bernstein*
- Variations on Bernstein*

In addition, American Voices is offering a wide range of community programs, residencies and collaborative projects pairing American Voices artists with local performers and institutions:

- West Side Story in Concert*
- An Evening of Bernstein (with Orchestra or Choir)*
- A Bernstein Revue*

Video and Audio Links:

Bernstein on Broadway

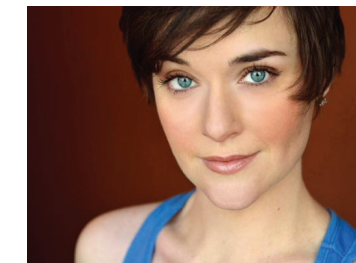
- <https://vimeo.com/239996909> - Tonight (*West Side Story*)
- <https://vimeo.com/239997006> - Build My House (*Peter Pan*)
- <https://vimeo.com/239997050> - Maria (*West Side Story*)

Jazz Bernstein

<https://soundcloud.com/mike-del-ferro/sets/bernstein-meets-jazz-demo/s-We2NL>

THE ARTISTS

Bernstein on Broadway



Rhyn McLemore Saver



Ira Spaulding

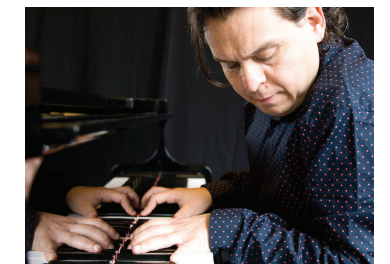


John Ferguson

Jazz Bernstein



Deborah Carter



Mike del Ferro



More information:
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West Side Story in Concert

The Broadway artists of American Voices team up with 12 or more advanced student or young professional singers, actors and dancers to present eight of the most famous songs from *West Side Story*, semi-staged and lightly choreographed, with either piano or orchestral accompaniment. Among the featured songs are 'Tonight', 'Maria', 'I Feel Pretty', 'Somewhere', 'Jet Song', 'One Hand, One Heart' and 'America'. Program length: 7-10 days.



'Jet Song', as Performed by YES Academy Thailand Vocalists



'America', as Performed by YES Academy Thailand Vocalists

An Evening of Bernstein

The American Voices artist roster (a conductor and two to three soloists) join forces with a symphony orchestra and/or choir in a concert featuring repertoire such as:

- Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story*
- Concert Suites from *West Side Story*
- Dance Episodes from *On The Town*
- *Serenade* for Violin and Orchestra



'I Feel Pretty', as Performed by YES Academy Thailand Vocalists



Broadway Class in Ekaterinburg

CONCERT PROGRAMS



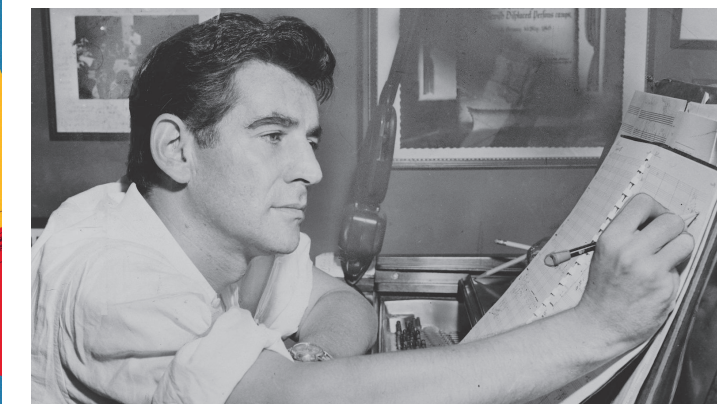
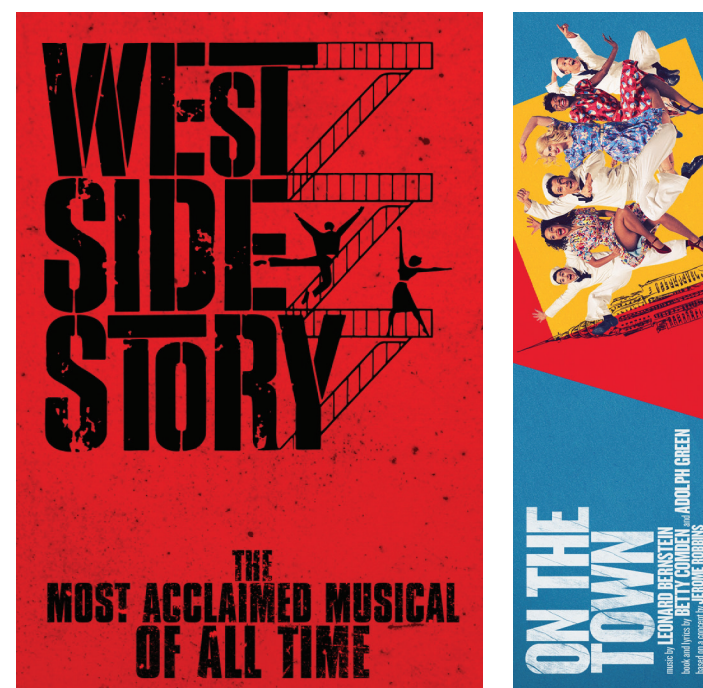
Bernstein on Broadway

In the *Bernstein on Broadway* program, a trio of New York's finest Broadway performers will treat audiences to a memorable revue of Bernstein's hit songs from *West Side Story*, *On The Town*, *Candide* and *Wonderful Town*. Additionally, the program will highlight the music of Bernstein's contemporaries such as Stephen Sondheim and early influences such as George Gershwin and Eubie Blake.



Jazz Bernstein

In *Jazz Bernstein*, the celebrated Amsterdam-based duo of vocalist Deborah Carter and pianist Mike Del Ferro will take the listener through the days of Early Jazz and Swing that influenced the composer in his youth as well as through Jazz renditions of his most famous songs.



Variations on Bernstein

American Voices Broadway and Jazz artists unite to explore the music, life and times of one of America's most illustrious composers. The concert explores Bernstein's prodigious musical output through the prism of his family's Eastern European Jewish background in present-day Ukraine, early Jazz influences, Broadway hits, his years with the New York Philharmonic and his life, travels and political passions. Program may optionally include selections composed for the Eisenhower and Kennedy administrations. Detailed program available upon request.

