Ute Lemper, the Vogler Quartet, and Stefan Malzew

Paris Days, Berlin Nights

WHEN: SATURDAY, MARCH 17
7:30 PM

VENUE: BING CONCERT HALL

Photo: Lucas Allen
Program

Édith Piaf  
*Elle Frequentait La Rue Pigalle*  
Arr. Stefan Malzew

Georges Moustaki (1934)  
*Milord*  
Arr. Stefan Malzew

Kurt Weill (1900–1950)  
*Surabaya Johnny aus “Happy End”*  
*Die Moritat von Mackie Messer aus der “Dreigroschenoper”*  
Text: Bertolt Brecht / Arr. Stefan Malzew

Hans Eisler (1898–1962)  
*Der Graben*  
Text: Kurt Tucholsky / Arr. Stefan Malzew

Friedrich Hollaender (1896–1976)  
*Ich bin von Kopf bis Fuß auf Liebe eingestellt*  
Arr. Stefan Malzew

Franz Waxman (1906–1967)  
*Allein in einer großen Stadt*  
Arr. Stefan Malzew

Friedrich Hollaender (1896–1976)  
*Boys in the Backroom*  
From the movie Destry Rides Again (1939)

Norbert Schulze / Hans Leip  
*Lilli Marleen*

Shtiler Ovent (Chava Alberstein)  
*Yiddishe Lied*

—Intermission—

Jacques Brel (1929–1978)  
*Amsterdam*  
*Ne me quitte pas*  
*Chanson de Jacky*  
Text: Jacques Brel / Arr. Stefan Malzew

Astor Piazzolla (1921–1992)  
*Yo soy María* aus “María de Buenos Aires”  
Text: Horacio Ferrer / Arr. Stefan Malzew

Léo Ferré (1916–1993)  
“Avec le Temps”  
Arr. Robert Ziegler

Michel Emer (1906–1984)  
*L’Accordéoniste* (Edith Piaf)  
Text: Michel Emer / Arr. Stefan Malzew

Artists

Ute Lemper

Vogler Quartet  
Tim Vogler, violin
Franck Reinecke, violin
Stefan Fehlandt, viola
Stephan Forck, violoncello

Stefan Malzew, piano, accordion, clarinet

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PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Please be considerate of others and turn off all phones, pagers, and watch alarms. Photography and recording of any kind are not permitted. Thank you.
UTE LEMPER

Ute Lemper’s career is vast and varied. She has made her mark on the stage, in films, in concert and as a unique recording artist on more than 30 CDs over 30 years of career. She has been universally praised for her interpretations of Berlin Cabaret Songs, the works of Kurt Weill and Berthold Brecht and the Chansons of Marlene Dietrich, Edith Piaf, Jacques Brel, Léo Ferré, Jacques Prevert, Nino Rota, Astor Piazzolla many others and also her own compositions, as well as her portrayals in musicals and plays on Broadway, in Paris, Berlin and in London’s West End.

Ute completed her brand new compositions The 9 Secrets to the words of Paulo Coelho, based on his book Manuscript Found in Accra. This new creation was released on CD in fall 2015 on the label Edel in Germany, Switzerland and Austria, and on the Steinway Label internationally in February 2016. She recorded the new song cycle, The 9 Secrets, in New York with some of the finest musicians from around the world. Instruments used during recording include exotic ancient Arabic guitars, shepherd flutes, rebec and percussions. The one and only Gil Goldstein played accordion and wrote masterful string arrangements. Ute is thrilled and honored about this collaboration with Paulo Coelho, who is one of the most important legendary authors of our time.

ARTE TV recorded the world premiere of The 9 Secrets Live in Germany at the Ruhr
Festspiele and presented a one hour portrait on Maestro in October, and broadcast the complete LiveConcert on ARTE Internet worldwide.

At the same time, as we count 70 years after the end of World War 2 and the liberation of the concentration camps, Ute conceived a concert as a commemoration of the Holocaust with Songs For Eternity, dedicated to the songs created in the ghettos and concentration camps between 1942 and 1944. Ute researched, together with Francesco Lotoro and Orly Beigel, an unbelievable collection of songs written in the darkest moments of imprisoned life, facing inhumane cruelties, torture and death.

Her previous creation Forever, an homage to the Chilean poet Pablo Neruda presents her self composed song cycle to his passionate Love Poems. This heartfelt musical masterpiece toured the world and sold many CDs worldwide.

In 2011 and 2012 Ute toured the world with Ultimo Tango, presenting a journey through the songs of Astor Piazzolla, the fabulous Argentinian composer of Tango Nuevo. Ute sings in the original Spanish, but also created adaptations of the songs in German, French and English. Stories of love, abandonment, decadence in Buenos Aires, Berlin, Paris and New York. The tour presented the original Astor Piazzolla Sextet from Buenos Aires.

In 2011, Ute also played to a packed house at the concert series with the Jazz at Lincoln Orchestra and Wynton Marsalis at Rose Hall in New York City, dedicated to the music of Kurt Weill.

She is also presenting, with Vince Mendoza as conductor and partly arranger, a new French Program called Paris Paris.

Very different is Ute's other creation, The Bukowski Project, a rather avant-garde, adventurous collage in music and songs of the poetry of Charles Bukowski. This homage to the poet was invented and largely composed by Ute herself with a collaboration of her partner Todd Turkisher and her pianist Vana Gierig.

Ute was nominated for a Grammy Award for her CD Paris Days/Berlin Nights with the Vogler String Quartet and Stefan Malzew on Piano. It is a beautiful semi-classical recording, featuring songs between love and war composed by Hans Eisler, Kurt Weill, Jacques Brel, Edith Piaf and Astor Piazzolla, as well as Folksongs in Yiddish and in Russian. The group did an extensive North American Tour in March and April of 2012.

Ute was born in Munster, Germany and completed her studies at The Dance Academy in Cologne and the Max Reinhardt Seminary Drama School in Vienna.

While Ute has continued to perform and revive the works of Brecht and Weill, her professional theatre stage debut in a musical was in the original Vienna production of Cats in the roles of Grizabella and Bombalurina. She went on to play Peter Pan in Peter Pan (Berlin) and Sally Bowles in Jerome Savary's Cabaret (Paris) for which she received the Moliere award for Best Actress in a Musical. She played Lola in The Blue Angel (Berlin) under the direction of Peter Zadek and Maurice Bejart created a ballet for her, La Mort Subite (Paris). Ute also appeared in many Weill Revues with the Pina Bausch Tanztheater, and she created the part of Velma Kelly in London's production of Chicago in the West End, for which she was honored with the Laurence Olivier Award, and moved to the Broadway production after one year to receive the American Theatre Award.
Ute Lemper’s solo concerts, which include Kurt Weill / Berthold Brecht Recitals, Dietrich and Piaf / Jacques Brel / Leo Ferre / Kosma / Prevert / Sondheim evenings, and Berlin Cabaret Evening have been produced in prestigious venues throughout the world. Her symphony concerts include The Seven Deadly Sins, Songs from Kurt Weill, Songbook (Michael Nyman) and Songs from Weill, Piaf and Dietrich with the symphony orchestras of London, Israel, Boston, Hollywood, San Francisco, Berlin, The Paris Radio Symphony Orchestra, The Illusions Orchestra (Bruno Fontaine) and the Michael Nyman Band (Michael Nyman). She also appeared in Folksongs with the Luciano Berio Orchestra (Luciano Berio) and with The Matrix Ensemble (Robert Ziegler) performing Berlin Cabaret Songs. She performed with the best symphony orchestras all over the world from Buenos Aires to Sydney.

Her celebrated recordings for Decca include Ute Lemper Sings Kurt Weill (Vols. I and II), Three Penny Opera, The Seven Deadly Sins, Mahagonny Songspiel, Prospero’s Books (Michael Nyman), Songbook (Michael Nyman/Paul Celan), Illusions (Piaf/Dietrich), City of Strangers (Prever/Sondheim) and Berlin Cabaret Songs (German and English versions). She was named Billboard Magazine’s Crossover Artist of the Year for 1993-1994. In early 2000, Decca / Universal Music released Punishing Kiss, featuring new songs composed for her by Elvis Costello, Tom Waits, Philip Glass, and Nick Cave. Her following release on Decca But One Day, features new arrangements of Weill, Brel, Piazzolla, Heymann and Eisler songs, as well as the first recordings of her own compositions, for which she wrote both lyrics and music. She also recorded Crimes of the Heart, Life is a Cabaret and Ute Lemper Live for CBS Records and for Polydor, Espace Indecent, Nuits Etranges and She Has a Heart.

She recorded a Live album and DVD, Blood and Feathers, at the Café Carlyle, one of New York’s hottest Cabaret stages. It was released worldwide on DRG/Koch Records and EdelRecords in Europe.

All That Jazz/The Best of Ute Lemper, which features highlights from her illustrious career to date was released in 1998. It accompanied her playing Velma Kelly in the London production of Kander and Ebb’s Chicago for which she received the 1998 Olivier Award for Best Actress in a Musical. After nine months in London’s West End Ms. Lemper made her Broadway debut in September 1998. A major highlight of her eight months American engagement in Chicago was starring with Chita Rivera in the Las Vegas premiere in March 1999.

Her album Between Yesterday and Tomorrow is entirely self penned music and lyrics and Ute enjoyed coproducing all of her songs together with her partner in life and work Todd Turkisher.

In film, her many credits include L’Autrichienne (Pierre Granier-Deferre), Prospero’s Books (Peter Greenaway), Moscow Parade (Ivan Dikhovichni), Prêt-à-Porter (Robert Altman), Bogus (Norman Jewison) and the most recent releases, Combat de Fauves (Benoît Lamy), A River Made to Drown In (James Merendino) and Appetite (George Milton). She has appeared on television in Rage/Outrage, The Dreyfus Affair (Arte), Tales from the Crypt (HBO), Ute Lemper Sings Kurt Weill (Bravo), Illusions (Granada), Songbook (Volker Scholendorff), The Wall (Rogers Waters) and The Look of Love (Gillian Lynn).

Ms. Lemper lives in New York with her four children, Max, Stella, Julian and Jonas.
VOGLER QUARTET

The Grammy-nominated Vogler Quartet celebrated its 30th anniversary during the 2015–16 season, and, with all four of its original members, continues to build upon its reputation as one of the finest quartets of its generation. Mastering a repertoire of over two hundred works from all periods and musical styles, founding members Tim Vogler, Frank Reinecke, Stefan Fehlandt, and Stephan Forck are widely recognized for their uncommon musical intelligence, homogeneous sound, insightful interpretations, and unconventional programming. They have created a vibrant ensemble spirit, as well as a unique string quartet sound which consistently offers new insights into the genre. Formed in East Berlin in 1985, the quartet continues to pursue an ambitious international schedule of concerts and master classes in prestigious venues around the world.

In spring 2012, the Vogler Quartet returned to North America for a special collaboration with cabaret artist Ute Lemper and clarinetist/pianist Stefan Malzew, which not only included highly acclaimed concerts in Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center, among many others, but also resulted in a Grammy-nominated recording entitled Paris Days/Berlin Nights on the Sony label.

This lively collaboration continued into the 2015-16 season. Highlights of their most recent North American tour included a multi-concert residency at Chamber Music San Francisco and an appearance at Friends of Chamber Music Vancouver, in collaboration with pianist Ian Parker. The 2015–16 season also featured additional engagements with Mr. Parker in selected venues throughout the Pacific Northwest.

The four musicians are as much at home in the musical centers of Europe as they are in America, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand, and have enjoyed a series of successes in expanding chamber music audiences worldwide. In 1993, the Vogler Quartet instituted its own concert series at the Konzerthaus in Berlin; and because of its great popularity, they now offer a parallel series in Neubrandenburg. In 2000, the quartet founded the annual chamber music festival “Music in Drumcliffe” in Sligo, Ireland, which brings together international artists for performances and workshops. In 2002, they took over the artistic direction of the chamber music festival at Homburg/Saar in Germany.

Ongoing collaborations are important to the quartet and have included artists...
such as Philippe Cassard, Angela Cheng, David Geringas, the late Bernard Greenhouse, Markus Groh, Lynn Harrell, Isabelle van Keulen, James Levine, Daniel Mueller-Schott, Ian Parker, Boris Pergamenschikow, Alfredo Perl, Menahem Pressler, Jan Vogler, Antje Weithaas, Jörg Widmann, baritone Dietrich Henschel, and the Artemis, Pellegrini, and Petersen quartets.

In addition to their concert activities, the musicians actively sponsor young talent, teaching classes at universities in Berlin, Leipzig, Stuttgart, and Dublin, and presenting master classes for professional quartets in Europe and overseas. From 2007 to 2012, the Vogler Quartet held the prestigious Chamber Music Residency at the Stuttgart Conservatory, a position previously held by the Melos Quartet.

The Vogler Quartet is also strongly committed to the performance of contemporary music. They performed Morton Feldman’s five-hour String Quartet No. 2 with tremendous success at the MusikBiennale in Berlin in 1999. At EXPO 2000, all of Wolfgang Rihm’s string quartets were performed by the Vogler and Arditti Quartets. The Vogler Quartet regularly commissions and premieres new works, recently including quartets by Taner Akyol, Frank Michael Beyer, Moritz Eggert, Erhard Grosskopf, Mauricio Kagel, Jörg Widmann, and Ian Wilson.

Trained at the Hanns Eisler Music Institute in Berlin, the Vogler Quartet first attained recognition in 1986 after winning First Prize at the International String Quartet Competition in Evian, France. Shortly thereafter, BMG/RCA produced the first of many recordings for the quartet, later followed by Nimbus Records, Col Legno, and CPO. CPO has engaged the quartet in a project recording the complete quartets by Dvořák. Since 2005, they have recorded multiple times for Hänssler Classic (including works of Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Schubert), as well as a CD of works by composers from the “New Jewish School” with clarinetist Chen Halevi and pianist Jasha Nemtsov. In 2011 they began a relationship with Sony Classical, releasing a recording of Golijov’s Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind and the Mozart clarinet quintet, with clarinetist David Orlowsky. In April 2014, in collaboration with bandoneon player Marcelo Nisinman, they released a tango album on the Philharmonie label, once again underscoring their extraordinary versatility.

STEFAN MALZEW

The Chief Director of the Neubrandenburger Philharmoniker since 2001, Stefan Malzew was formerly the Chief Director at the Giessener Theater and before that the Music Director of the Mecklenburgischen Staatstheater in Schwerin. He served as assistant to Sir George Solti and Sir Yehudi Menuhin at the Schleswig Holstein Music Festival.

Stefan Malzew was born in Berlin in 1964. From the age of five he would accompany his father, a violinist of the Berliner Staatskapelle, while he rehearsed with various renowned
Thus his calling came to him early on, which he was duly encouraged to pursue. The conductor Stefan Malzew has been endowed with a great musical versatility, which imbues his conducting style with vitality and authenticity. Praised by the Süddeutsche Zeitung newspaper as "the classical music wonder of New Brandenburg," he has throughout his career as a conductor taken on innovative projects which in turn has brought him recognition beyond the classical music realm.

His ability to create enthralling interpretations, his sure sense of Viennese classical music from the great romantics to the music of the 20th and 21st century, as well as his mastery of pop and jazz allow for an extraordinary range in which to work in. His sensitivity for fine musical nuances makes him a much sought after partner by soloists of every kind. His CD recordings include the world premiere of Hogo Distler's stage score to Bluebeard by Ludwig Tieck and a recording of piano concertos by Ferruccio Busoni, while live broadcasts of his performances include Skriabin's Prometheus with the New Brandenburg Concert Evening (DRadio Kultur) and Heinrich Marschner's The Templar and the Jewess (Hessen Radio Broadcasting).

He has created and directed a number of musical theater productions aimed at youths (Tosca, La Bohème, The Magic Flute, Tannhäuser). His works are strikingly marked by his skills as a composer. In the course of his career, he has conducted the Konzerthausorchester Berlin (formerly the Berlin Symphony Orchestra), Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Berliner Symphoniker, Hamburger Symphoniker, Schleswig Holstein Music Festival Orchestra, Mecklenburgische Staatskapelle of Schwerin, Schweriner Philharmonie, Hallesche Philharmonie, Dresdner Philharmonie, Folkwang Kammerorchester of Essen, Orchester der Deutschen Oper am Rhein, WDR Symphony Orchestra Cologne, Badische Staatskapelle Karlsruhe, Württembergische Philharmonie Reutlingen, Schleswig-Holsteinische Sinfonieorchester, Oldenburgische Staatsorchester, Staatskapelle Bytom, Stettiner Philharmoniker, Orchestra Sinfonica Siciliana Palermo, Orchestra Bruno Maderna, Philharmonische Chor Brno, NDR Chor, Konzertchor der Staatsoper Berlin, NDR Big Band.

His artistic endeavors have brought him to the Berlin Philharmonic and Konzerthaus Berlin, Leipziger Gewandhaus, Dresdner Kulturpalast, Bremer Glocke, Laesiz-Halle Hamburg, Kölner Philharmonie as well as to Warsaw where he conducted the official new year's concert in 2008, to Stettin, Waldoper Sopot, Teatro Politeama Garibaldi (Palermo), Forlì, Brussels and across Asia where he performed, among others, with the China National Symphony Orchestra and Guyang Symphony Orchestra, and the Korean Busan Philharmonic Orchestra.

He worked together with artists like Andrei Gavrilov, Vladimir Stoupel, Alexander Zintchenko, Christian Blackshaw, Pietro Massa, Bernd Glemsler, Mira Wang, Ulf Hoelscher, Caroline Anne Widmann, Antje Weithaas, Torsten Janicke, Daniel Müller-Schott, Jan Vogler, Peter Bruns, Claudia Bohorquez, Michael Sanderling, Michael Faust, Sharon Kam, Wolfgang Meyer, Matthias Schorn, Otto Sauter, Allen Vizzutti, Marie-Luise Neunecker, Peter Sadlo, and with several ensembles for example Vogler-Quartett, Kolsimcha and the NDR-Bigband.