

2009 Jussi Björling Conference

Charleston, SC., May 15-17, 2009

There are some updates to our plans for the May 15-17, 2009 Conference, one of the most important of them is that we are now an official pre-festival part of the Piccolo Spoleto Festival. The Festival folks do a terrific job of publicity and promotion, and have more than 25 years of expertise in presenting the performing arts to the Charleston public.

The other important piece of news is that Stephen Hastings will be joining us, and will be talking about JB's growth in his opera roles—thrilling stuff!

The rest of the activities are firmed up, dorm space has been reserved, and we are looking forward to reaching a broader public than we might reach under usual circumstances.

As of this writing, participants include tenor Mats Carlsson, the first recipient of the JB Sällskapet [Scandinavian Society] prize; bass-baritone John Erik Eleby, a longtime member of the Sällskapet and an active performer

at the Royal Opera; local soprano (and Met national finalist) Deanna McBroom; as well as speakers Stefan Johansson, Head of Dramaturgy at the Royal Opera; Nic Butler, local historian in Charleston, Stephen Hastings, and Harald Henrysson. We expect a visit from Joe Riley, mayor of Charleston for the last 32 years!

Please read the form that follows, and make your choices. Weather in Charleston in mid-May is usually warm but not hot (the dorm is air-conditioned, in any event). The jasmine is in bloom, the farmers' market is open, and the people are great!

Accommodations: College of Charleston dormitories in downtown Charleston, within easy walking distance of all events and venues.

For the Friday Evening dinner cruise we will be picked up and delivered by bus. Anyone who wishes to stroll there or back should feel free to do so.

Conference Schedule

Friday, May 15

7:00-9:30 pm

Charleston harbor dinner cruise

Saturday, May 16

Visit to Farmers' Market

10:00 am

Carriage tours arranged as desired

1:00 to 5:00 pm lecture

Charleston County Library auditorium

- Nic Butler, Ph.D., local historian: "Musical/cultural life in antebellum Charleston"
- Harald Henrysson, Curator, the Jussi Björling Museum: Swedish musicians and other cultural figures in Charleston
- Stefan Johansson, Head of Dramaturgy, Kungliga Operan: "Jussi Björling's career at the Royal Opera"

8:00 pm concert

College of Charleston recital hall

Mats Carlsson, John Erik Eleby, Deanna McBroom, Robin Zemp, piano: Music of Emily Hammarskjöld and others

Sunday, May 17

10:00 am lecture

College of Charleston recital hall

- Harald Henrysson, "Jussi in the South," the 1950's in the USA
- Stephen Hastings, "Jussi Björling, a maturing performer"

2:00 pm concert

College of Charleston recital hall

Deanna McBroom, Mats Carlsson, John Erik Eleby, Lars Björling, Robin Zemp, piano

6:00 closing dinner

Poogan's Porch

Conference Registration

Attendee _____

Dinner cruise @ \$95 x _____ = \$ _____

Closing dinner @ \$65 x _____ = \$ _____

Dorm (*this includes linens and towels*)

• 3 nights double-occupancy @ \$150/person = \$ _____

• 3 night single-occupancy @\$165/person = \$ _____

Conference events 2 concerts, 2 lectures @ \$40/person = \$ _____

Total dbl-occ is \$350/person single-occ is \$365/person = \$ _____

If not staying in the dorms, subtract housing. If not attending any functions, subtract the cost of that (or those) functions. Please send your deposit of \$100 to Sue Flaster, 42 Chapel Street, Charleston, SC 29403 by January 1, 2009. Deposits are refundable up to March 15, 2009.