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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tickets & Information: [www.nyfos.org](http://www.nyfos.org)

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# **NEW YORK FESTIVAL OF SONG (NYFOS)**

Steven Blier, Artistic Director • Michael Barrett, Associate Artistic Director

announces

## **“NYFOS NEXT”**

### **A NEW MINI-SERIES CO-HOSTED AND CURATED BY TODAY’S PROGRESSIVE COMPOSERS**

**November 16, 2010, at 7:00PM: Gabriel Kahane and Friends**

**May 3, 2011 at 7:00PM: Phil Kline and Friends**

**Presented as part of The Movado Hour series by the Baryshnikov Arts Center**

**Baryshnikov Arts Center’s Howard Gilman Performance Space  
450 West 37<sup>th</sup> Street betw 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenues**

*“Mr. Kahane’s versatility sets him apart.” — Alex Ross, The New Yorker*

*NYFOS Next* is the latest innovation from the **NEW YORK FESTIVAL OF SONG (NYFOS)**, now in its 23<sup>rd</sup> season, focusing on contemporary songs that defy easy categorization and redefine the boundaries of the song genre. The inaugural *NYFOS Next* concert is co-hosted and co-curated by the dynamic young composer-performer **GABRIEL KAHANE**, with NYFOS’s **Steven Blier, Michael Barrett** and **Benjamin Sosland** (program and singers TBA). The second concert in the series will be hosted by composer **PHIL KLINE** and friends.

Kahane has been critically acclaimed for his eclectic style that has him equally at home in the worlds of concert music, musical theater, and pop. He has selected new songs that will take the audience into the future of contemporary song. Discovery is at the heart of any NYFOS concert; whether it’s hearing a lost or neglected song from an earlier time or a song written last year, each show offers fresh ideas and opens ears.

Kahane is at the vanguard of a generation of new composers who shatter stereotypes. *The New Yorker*’s Alex Ross says: “His music absorbs everything from 1920s neoclassicism to bluegrass and modern indie pop, with potent melodies bridging the disparate styles.” With Kahane as guide, *NYFOS Next* will be a creative hothouse for song, as composers and performers spontaneously share their art with audiences.

*NYFOS Next* is presented by **The Movado Hour**, a series of free hour-long concerts that take place in an intimate, salon-like setting. It is one of three ground-breaking initiatives for NYFOS in its 23<sup>rd</sup> season, along with *Bastianello / Lucrezia*, a 2-disc **CD release** on Bridge Records featuring the two operas NYFOS commissioned from **John Musto** and **William Bolcom**; and *No Song is Safe From Us*, a nationally syndicated radio series produced by Chicago’s famed **WFMT** and hosted by

**Frederica von Stade**, which will air starting in **January 2011**. Drawing upon NYFOS's extensive archives and recordings, the radio series includes two programs featuring the late **Lorraine Hunt Lieberson**.

## **GABRIEL KAHANE BIO**

*“Many of his best songs deal with a time and a place vividly sketched with what seems like an almost bewildering ease, then used as an anchor for reflections that can be achingly direct and personal.”*

– Steve Smith, *The New York Times*

Born in Los Angeles in 1981, composer and performer Gabriel Kahane is a peerless musical polymath, invested equally in the worlds of concert, theater and popular music.

Launched by his 2006 song cycle *Craigslustlieder*—heard frequently in august concert halls and dirty bars alike—Kahane's rapid ascent as a composer of concert works comes into focus in the 2010-2011 season, which witnesses the premieres of three commissioned works: *The Red Book*, a string quartet for the Kronos Quartet inspired by Anne Carson's *Autobiography of Red*; a hybrid cello sonata/song cycle for cellist Alisa Weilerstein and himself; and a large chamber work for the Los Angeles Philharmonic, to be conducted by John Adams and performed on the orchestra's *Green Umbrella* series. Other concert works include the chamber song cycle *For the Union Dead* on poems by Robert Lowell; the *Piano Sonata* for Natasha Paremski; and *Django: Tiny Variations on a Big Dog*, written for his father, pianist Jeffrey Kahane, and heard in its New York premiere at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall to great critical success.

As a performer, Kahane moves with ease between musical realms. His self-titled debut album, featuring performances by Sam Amidon, Sufjan Stevens and Chris Thile, was released in 2008 and will be followed up by a second LP in the fall of 2010. Among his various credits as a performer, he has appeared with Rufus Wainwright on Elvis Costello's *Spectacle*, sung lieder with pianists Jonathan Biss and Jeremy Denk, and has, as a pianist, joined bass-baritone Thomas Quasthoff in recital throughout Europe. The spring of 2010 finds Kahane on a tour of his own music with multi-instrumentalist Rob Moose and the ensemble yMusic, beginning and ending in New York City on Lincoln Center's acclaimed American Songbook series and later in a live broadcast from Merkin Hall for WNYC's *New Sounds Live*.

Much in demand as a theater composer, Kahane was commissioned to write music and lyrics for *February House*, currently in development at The Public Theater, where he was named the inaugural Musical Theater Fellow in 2008. Four-time Tony Award winner Audra McDonald has performed and plans to record a song from that show for her upcoming album for Nonesuch Records. Kahane has also received commissions from the Signature Theater in Arlington, Virginia and the Williamstown Theater Festival, which produced his show *Caravan Man* in 2007.

A 2010 MacDowell Colony fellow and 2009 composer-in-residence at the Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival, Kahane makes his home in Brooklyn, New York, in close company with a century-old piano and many books.

## **ADDITIONAL LINKS**

Michael Barrett

[http://www.nyfos.org/bios/Barrett\\_Michael.php](http://www.nyfos.org/bios/Barrett_Michael.php)

Baryshnikov Arts Center

<http://www.bacnyc.org/>

Steven Blier

[http://www.nyfos.org/bios/Blier\\_Steven.php](http://www.nyfos.org/bios/Blier_Steven.php)

Bridge Records

<http://www.bridgerecords.com/>

Gabriel Kahane

<http://www.gabrielkahane.com/>

Phil Kline

<http://www.philkline.com/index2.html>

Benjamin Sosland

<http://www.romanticcentury.org/artists.html#sosland>

Frederica von Stade

<http://www.fredericavonstade.com/>

WFMT Chicago

<http://www.wfmt.com/>

*"New York Festival of Song is the most important nucleus of contemporary song in the world."* — Ned Rorem

For further information, press tickets, photos, and to arrange interviews,  
please contact Aleba Gartner Associates at 212/206-1450 or [a@alebagartner.com](mailto:a@alebagartner.com).

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