

## THE AMERICAN SONGS OF MARIO CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO

The *Leaves of Grass* cycle is presented together with other Whitman songs by Castelnuovo-Tedesco, and his settings on other American poets, contemporary to the composer, such as Edna St. Vincent Millay (1892-1950) and Robert Nathan (1894-1985).

The selection of musical pieces draws on the important Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco Collection at the Library of Congress Music Division, and it provides an unusual outlook on unpublished musical manuscripts that are among the most significant in this composer's vast archive.

Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, an internationally renowned concert pianist and composer in Europe, emigrated from Florence to the United States in 1939, following the enforcement of Racial Laws in fascist Italy. His selection of Whitman poetry in the 1930s was a daring choice; the musical style of these text-oriented pieces is warmly original and highly eloquent, in its avoiding the rhetoric and stereotypes of the time.



Embassy of Italy  
Washington, DC



2013

ANNO DELLA CULTURA ITALIANA  
YEAR OF ITALIAN CULTURE



## THE AMERICAN SONGS OF MARIO CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO



IN COLLABORATION WITH



ANNO DELLA CULTURA ITALIANA  
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with the support of Corporate Ambassadors



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*Salvatore Champagne – tenor*  
*Howard Lubin – piano*  
*Aloma Bardi – lecturer*

*Embassy of Italy*

*Washington, DC – October 22, 2013*



**Salvatore Champagne** is Associate Professor of Singing and Director of the Vocal Arts Division at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. A graduate of Oberlin and the Juilliard School, his singing career began in 1988 when he was chosen to be the tenor soloist in a European tour of Leonard Bernstein's *Songfest*, conducted by the composer.

**Howard Lubin** holds degrees in German Literature and piano performance from Oberlin College. At the completion of his graduate studies at the Juilliard School he was awarded the Roeder Prize for outstanding pianistic achievement and was subsequently hired as a faculty member of Juilliard's American Opera Center.

**Aloma Bardi** is an Italian-born U.S. music historian, musicologist, and translator. She is an American-music specialist, and also a scholar of opera theaters. As an author and translator, she has worked with Italian publishers, theaters, periodicals, cultural institutions and the Italian and Swiss radio, and is active on the international lecture and conference circuit.

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## PROGRAM

### Introduction (Aloma Bardi)

#### Two poems of Walt Whitman - 1819-1892

- **Louisiana** op. 89a; composed: 1936; published: Galaxy Music Corp., 1940
- **Ocean** op. 89c; composed: 1936; unpublished manuscript, The Library of Congress Music Division

#### Two poems of Edna St. Vincent Millay - 1892-1959

- **Recuerdo** op. 105; composed: 1941; published: Fischer, 1941
- **Tavern**; composed: 1940; unpublished manuscript, The Library of Congress Music Division

#### Two poems of Arthur Guiterman - 1871-1943

- **The Legend of Jonas Bronck**; composed: 1941; published: Galaxy Music Corp., 1941; at end of manuscript score, Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco's handwritten copy of Guiterman's poem.
- **New York**; composed: 1940; published: Delkas Music, 1944

### Short lecture (Aloma Bardi)

#### Leaves of Grass

10-Song Cycle op. 89b; composed: 1936; unpublished manuscript, The Library of Congress Music Division

- *What think You I take my Pen in Hand?*
- *I Dream'd in a Dream*
- *Sometimes with One I Love*
- *We Two Boys Together Clinging*
- *Are You the New Person Drawn toward Me?*
- *When I Peruse the Conquer'd Fame*
- *A Glimpse*
- *This Moment Yearning and Thoughtful*
- *Trickle Drops*
- *The Base of All Metaphysics*