

**No Square Theatre** will host guest artist **John Bucchino** for a Musical Theatre **Master Class** on his compositions on **June 3** (11:00am-4:00pm)  
Open to singer/actors of strong ability age 16 and over.

*My goal with these classes is to broaden the singers' perspective on what is possible in the performance of my (or anyone's) songs, to encourage them to dine their own emotional truth in the interpretation of words and notes. I also hope that discussion of my career and creative process will inspire them to pursue their own unique path, discovering their strengths, and continuing to narrow their focus as to where their deepest passion lies and how they might best offer their gifts to the world. ~John Bucchino*

## **REGISTRATION**

If you wish to participate in the master classes as a singer/actor participant, please fill out the **Master Class Registration Form**, and submit a vocal recording and photo at nosquare.org. There are 12 performer slots for the master class. Performers will be asked to prepare a song written by Mr. Bucchino. Guidance in making this song selection will be provided on request. Those wishing to attend as auditors do not need to submit registration materials.

## **FEE**

Performing participants: \$150.00          Auditors: \$20.00

## **WHAT TO EXPECT**

John will conduct a Master Class where participants will each perform one or two of his songs for him with our accompanist. He will ask questions, discuss interpretation, offer suggestions, and the student will perform the song again making adjustments.

**ABOUT THE ARTIST** John Bucchino's songs have been performed and recorded by renowned pop (Art Garfunkel, Judy Collins), theatre (Liza Minnelli, Patti LuPone, Kristin Chenoweth, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Audra McDonald), cabaret (Barbara Cook, Michael Feinstein), and classical (Yo-Yo Ma, Deborah Voight, Nathan Gunn), artists as well as The Boston Pops, the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in venues including Carnegie Hall, The Metropolitan Opera, The Hollywood Bowl, The Sydney Opera House, London's O2 Arena and The White House.

He has written scores for the musicals **URBAN MYTHS**, **LAVENDER GIRL**, Broadway's **A CATERED AFFAIR** (nominated for 12 Drama Desk Awards, and winner of the New York Drama League Award for Best Musical, with a book by Harvey Fierstein), **IT'S ONLY LIFE**, and the Dreamworks animated film **JOSEPH, KING OF DREAMS**, and lyrics for the children's musical **SIMEON'S GIFT** (with a book by Julie Andrews and Emma Walton Hamilton and music by Ian Fraser). Some recordings of his work are: **GRATEFUL**, **THE SONGS OF JOHN BUCCHINO** (with companion songbook), **SOLITUDE LESSONS** (another collection of original songs), **ON RICHARD RODGERS' PIANO** (solo piano interpretations of Rodgers songs on the composer's own Steinway, voted Best Instrumental CD by Show Business Weekly), and the PS Classics releases of the cast albums of **IT'S ONLY LIFE** (with companion songbook) and **A CATERED AFFAIR**. As part of their Julie Andrews Collection, Harper Collins published a children's book,

based on John's song, called "Grateful, A Song of Giving Thanks" which was awarded the Parents' Choice Gold Award.

Among his honors are two Drama Desk nominations, The Johnny Mercer Songwriter Award, The ASCAP Foundation Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award, The Jonathan Larson Award, The Kleban Award, The Los Angeles Ovation Award (for the revue IT'S ONLY LIFE), The DVD Premiere Award (for the song "Better Than I"), and the first annual Fred Ebb Award.

## **PRAISE**

*A new American pop master...Bucchino merges the artfulness and sophistication of America's master songwriters (Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Cole Porter, George Gershwin) with the contemporary style & plaintive folk quality of the top singer/songwriters who emerged in the 1970s, such as Carole King and James Taylor. ~ Houston Chronicle*

*Mr. Bucchino occupies a special niche. His flowing, finely made piano ballads describe an urban single life in which relationships come and go... with high expectations, high anxiety and open hearts. ~ Stephen Holden, The New York Times*

*Brimming with intimate character portraits, sophisticated intelligence and emotional sincerity, the impeccably crafted songs of John Bucchino... mine deep revelations about idealism, disillusionment and their ultimate reconciliation. ~ Philip Brandes, The Los Angeles Times*

*John Bucchino's songs are the continuation in the evolution of class American popular song. He is a man of great talent. ~Michael Feinstein*

*John Bucchino's return to Cal State Fullerton was a total triumph! As an educator and an artist, I could not have been more pleased with his insights and encouragement for our students. His visit will energize them for weeks to come. The students loved everything about his Master Class: his comments, his music, his stories, and his discerning comments on the nuances of performing. Exceptional!*

Mitch Hanlon  
Professor of Voice  
Cal State Fullerton

*Dear John,*

*It hardly seems possible that a week has gone by since you were in Syracuse. We are still buzzing about the wonderful master class you gave. From your opening remarks to the final question and answer you created a warm welcome atmosphere that brought out the best in our singers. Each singer was handled with care and the development in each of them was quite remarkable. For some, you were able to bring their attention to the smallest details; in others the grand arc of the song came into focus. Several of my students told me that the experience changed their life. Hearing you speak about the genesis of each song was another highlight, but hearing you play and hearing the students' voices transported by that playing was the most exhilarating for me. Thank you for that experience.*

Rebecca Karpoff  
Department of Drama  
Syracuse University

