

**BACA**  
BOSTON ASSOCIATION  
OF CABARET ARTISTS  
BostonCabaret.org

**PRESENTS**

**Celebrating contemporary cabaret songs**

# Cabaret

## Songwriters Showcase 2009



**FRIDAY • MAY 1 • 7:00 P.M.**

**Dane Vannatter and Mary Catherine Ward**  
present contemporary and classic standards from the cabaret songbook

**SATURDAY • MAY 2 • 7:00 P.M.**

Featuring a performance by **Carol Hall**, 1978 Drama Desk Award  
Winner for the musical "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas,"  
followed by showcases of songs written by BACA Songwriters  
Harriet Goldberg, Bob Levy, Dennis Livingston, Celia Slattery and Louise Van Aarsen  
sung by BACA stars: **Jan Peters, Dane Vannatter**  
Lynda D'Amour, Phil Kassel and Ashley Lieberman.

**SUNDAY • MAY 3 • 2:00 P.M.**

**Carol Hall Songwriting  
Master Class**

*Showcases May 1 and May 2*  
Carol G. Deane Hall in  
Stanford Calderwood Pavilion at  
the Boston Center for the Arts,  
527 Tremont Street, Boston  
Tickets may be purchased at the door  
or by calling 617-933-8600 or  
online at [www.bostontheatrescene.com](http://www.bostontheatrescene.com)

*Master Class May 3*  
Encore Lounge,  
275 Tremont Street, Boston  
Tickets for auditors may be  
purchased at the door or online  
at [bostoncabaret.org/tickets.html](http://bostoncabaret.org/tickets.html)

For a complete performance schedule, go to [BostonCabaret.org](http://BostonCabaret.org)

# Cabaret Songwriters' Showcase 2009

Program for Saturday, May 2, 2009



## Welcome

On behalf of the "Boston Association of Cabaret Artist (BACA)" we warmly welcome you all to the opening night of **BACA's** Songwriters' 2009 Festival. This is our second annual BACA Songwriters' Festival. In response to membership input, we have expanded the BACA Songwriters Festival from one day to three days; we also moved to a new venue to elevate the art of cabaret in the city and to reach a wider audience. The Festival began last night and ends this Sunday.

### ***BACA Songwriter's 2009 Festival Special acknowledgments:***

Dennis Livingston – *Publicity, Application Forms Design, Web-site Content*

Andy Altman – *Web Administrator*

Stanley Wilson – *Finance*

Annie Sharkey – *Newsletter Editor*

Diane Carey – *Program layout, ASCAP Administration*

Tom LaMark – *Events Planning*

Carol O'Shaughnessy – *Events Planning, Carol Hall Liaison*

Color Poster – *Bob Bond*

Video – *Ray Drueke*

Please sit back, relax and enjoy the second evening of our Songwriters' Festival 2009.

This evening opens with a 45- minute show featuring award-winning New York songwriter Carol Hall with Tex Arnold, her musical director, on piano.

Following Ms Hall's performance are showcases of original songs written by BACA members

Harriet Goldberg, Bob Levy, Dennis Livingston, Celia Slattery and Louise Van Aarsen. Louise Van Aarsen and Celia Slattery will perform their own original songs. Original songs by Harriet Goldberg, Bob Levy and Dennis Livingston will be performed by BACA members Jan Peters, Dane Vannatter, Lynda D'Amour, Ashley Lieberman and Phil Kassel. The pianist for the second part of evening will be Tom LaMark.

Tomorrow afternoon, May 3rd, we are also hosting a BACA Songwriters' Master class led by Carol Hall who has been nominated for three MAC awards this year. Her musical director, Tex Arnold, will be on piano.

The BACA Annual Meeting followed by BACA Scholarship Awards and Special Recognition Awards ceremony followed by very special guest performers is scheduled on Saturday afternoon, June 2, 2009. We will post more details on the BACA web-site in the near future.

If you would like to be added to the BACA Fan list email distribution to receive announcements of future Cabaret Showcases and Events of interest, please contact a BACA Board member

Further details can be obtained by going directly to BACA web-site

link <http://www.bostoncabaret.com/pages/micmf.html>.

Kindest Regards,

Kevin Luey

(President of BACA, Producer & MC, BACA Songwriters Festival 2009)

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## What is BACA?

The **BOSTON ASSOCIATION OF CABARET ARTISTS**. Founded in 1995, BACA has grown from a fledgling support group for performers into the only arts group in New England focused exclusively on the promotion and advocacy of cabaret. With over 150 members, BACA is a vital and active organization composed of established cabaret professionals, aspiring performers, open mike enthusiasts, accompanists, songwriters, music educators, students, dedicated audience members and venue owners. BACA operates entirely under the direction of a nine member volunteer Board of Directors who are elected by the membership. The Board works to maintain BACA as a forum for sharing information about performances, workshops, collaborators and resources helpful for creating new shows.

BACA also concentrates on developing public awareness of cabaret, building new audiences, venues, and performance opportunities for cabaret artists.

How to Contact BACA:

**PO Box 960542**  
**Boston MA 02196-0542**

**866-639-9410 (toll free voicemail/fax)**  
**[BACA@onebox.com](mailto:BACA@onebox.com)**

**Website: <http://www.bostoncabaret.com>**

## What is Cabaret?

### The Roots of Cabaret were in Europe.

*In France*, Cabaret began in 1881 in *Le Chat Noir (The Black Cat)*, a club in the Montmartre district of Paris. Cabaret clubs provided an opportunity for performers, poets, artists and composers to try out new material, share political, provocative and humorous ideas and original compositions, often, with an audience of peers. It became immensely popular and a refuge for patrons to find entertainment and drink. Toulouse-Lautrec captured many cabaret artists and audiences in his paintings. *Le Chat Noir* attracted several well-known composers, such as Eric Satie, who walked across town to play piano in cabarets. Cabarets were distinctive in their intimacy and informality where audiences sat at small tables dining and often interacted with the performers and other audience members.

*In Germany*, Munich was the artistic centre of the country. Performers, writers, artists and musicians gathered together at the many cafes often sharing political protest against the German state. Because of the rise in Modernism and great music hall attendance, there was a natural interest in the new brand of entertainment; the cabaret. Die Elf Scharfrichter, (Eleven Executioners), was Munich's first cabaret. They managed to avoid the issue of

censorship by making the club private. The cabaret's most striking and influential figure was writer, performer of Munich's avant-garde, Frank Wedekind. His political, satirical music influenced the Berlin Cabaret style and most particularly Bertolt Brecht.

After World War I, cabaret enjoyed even greater popularity all across Europe, but particularly in Germany, where the Weimar government essentially ended all forms of censorship. Cabaret became a forum for experimentation by the cultural avant garde.

*In Berlin*, Shadow plays were performed and cabaret songs were composed by Schönberg. Expressionist poets also performed. We are most well acquainted with the ambiance of a 1932 Berlin cabaret through Bob Fosse's stage and film production of *Cabaret*. Within a few years of Hitler's rise to power in 1933, however, the Nazi's effectively censored cabaret subculture in Germany.

*In the United States* cabaret reflected the same kind of diversity that marks the society, in general. It originated without the political charge, social commentary and intellectual atmosphere of the European cabaret. During the 1910's, in New York, several large cafes created a glamorous atmosphere that featured singers and a dance floor. These establishments became known as "cabarets."

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## **What is Cabaret? (cont)**

Delmonico's, Reisenweber's, Palaise Royale and Shanley's were the most well known night spots at the time. In 1913, however, a city ordinance forced Manhattan's cabarets to close by 2:00 AM. To combat this constraint, the first "night clubs" emerged. They stayed open throughout the night and served members-only audiences. These cabaret night spots drew adult audiences who were seeking an evening of pleasure where women as well as men could easily socialize with racial, ethnic and social class diversity. This social *mélange* was a scandal to many of the preachers of the day.

In 1920, prohibition caused a setback for cabarets, since alcohol was such a central part of the evening's entertainment. Cabaret owners were not to be deterred - they took up residence in gangster owned "speakeasies" that opened in basements, backrooms and banned bars to defy the Volstead Act. Again, owners got around the law by making these venues 'members only clubs' so they could sell "hooch". It only took a knock at the door and the words, "Joe sent me" to become a member at any of the clubs. Bootlegged whiskey, music and dance made the establishment look more legitimate. Women singing sad torch songs, sometimes sitting on top of piano, motivated liquor sales. Some renowned singers performed in these clubs. Helen Morgan, Ziegfeld's star of "Showboat", and film star Ruby Keeler were among the women who made a mark in these clubs.

Prohibition ended in the 1933, during the height of the Depression. American's needed an outlet for combating the bleak economic times, and large nightclubs became popular. Places like *The Copacabana*, *The Diamond Horseshoe* or *The Cotillion Room* featured headliners, such as **Jimmy Durante** or **Sophie Tucker** with opening acts and chorus girls. Candlelight, formally dressed waiters, and an elegant decor exuded glamour.

Around the time of World War II, smaller clubs came into vogue. Because New York law required food to be served along with alcohol, these establishments became known as "supper clubs". In the 40's and 50's these clubs resemble more what we think of as Cabaret club. Small, crowded, smoke-filled rooms

were the backdrop for pianist and torch singer. More and more, jazz and Broadway songs were popular, with some off color songs and material reserved for the wee hours. Also, clubs were seeing integrated audiences, gay and lesbian headliners, comedy teams and legendary performers, such as Billie Holiday, Pearl Bailey, Eartha Kitt, Yul Brenner, Bobbie Short, Mike Nichols and Elaine May (to name a few).

By the 1960's, with the rise of rock and roll, there was distinct change in American taste in music. Small clubs could no longer afford to pay major stars like Barbara Streisand and Kaye Ballard and couldn't draw big enough audiences with unknowns. Many clubs went out of business. With the rise of gay night clubs in New York in the 1970's, a new Cabaret opportunity was born. *The Tubs* was the first such establishment. This unexpected performance space was inside the Ansonia Baths on Broadway, where Bette Midler began her career.

Dozens of new clubs blossomed, with former Broadway stars (Barbara Cook, Julie Wilson and others) redirecting their careers to become Cabaret headliners. Beginning in the 1980's many club owners changed their business strategy to a "self-produced" show, where the entertainer rents the room, provides the publicity and hopes to draw a big enough audience to have a successful evening. This direction leads new performers to be very creative in producing new Cabaret shows. This has been a lasting direction that we all know. American Cabaret, and all of its facets continues to be a passion for many, and will likely continue to evolve and change over the next decades.

This is the direction BACA and other Cabaret organizations face currently. BACA not only helps to promote and advertise member's self-produced shows, but also creates performance opportunities for members through Festivals; March is Cabaret Month productions, Songwriter Showcases for Composers and Lyricists; Open Mikes, Annual Conferences featuring our Educators, Master classes and many other innovative occasions to feature Cabaret entertainment. BACA helps to guide new and seasoned performers to create and expand their performance markets.

# **Cabaret Songwriters' Showcase 2009**

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**Tonight's program includes two performance sets with a 20-minute intermission:**

**Set 1: 7:00 pm – 7:45 pm**

**Carol Hall with Tex Arnold on piano**

**Intermission**

**Set 2: 8:05 pm - 9:40 pm**

**BACA Songwriters' Program with Tom LaMark on piano**

**Featured Songwriters:**

**Harriet Goldberg, Bob Levy, Dennis Livingston, Celia Slattery and Louise Van Aarsen**

**Featured Performers:**

**Jan Peters, Dane Vannatter, Lynda D'Amour, Ashley Lieberman and Phil Kassel**

**Celia Slattery and Louise Van Aarsen are performing their own songs**

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## Songwriter Program

Song Title (Music/Lyrics)	Performer
"What Are We Doing Here" (Bob Levy) "Follow the Moon" (Harriet Goldberg)	Dane Vannatter
"Nooit meer alleen " (Ton Scheer/ Louise Van Aarsen) "Destiny " (Scheer/ Van Aarsen) "Open End" (Scheer/ Van Aarsen) "Save your Love" (Scheer/ Van Aarsen)	Louise Van Aarsen
"Cast of Characters" (Mark Shilansky/Celia Slattery) "Bamboo Bar" (Slattery) "Seaglass" (Slattery) "Distant Thunder" (Shilansky/Slattery) "Love Can Find You" (Slattery) "Nowhere Fast " (Slattery)	Celia Slattery
"Tired of Hearing Love Songs" (Harriet Goldberg)	Ashley Lieberman
"We Don't Know Where We're Going" (Goldberg) "And There is Love" (Goldberg) "Now and Then" (Goldberg)	Dane Vannatter
"You Won't Be Breaking My Heart" (Goldberg/Levy collaboration)	Lynda D'Amour
"Ever Since We Met" (Bob Levy) "I Should Go Home" (Levy)	Dane Vannatter
"Paris Without You" (Levy) "Loving This Man" (Levy)	Jan Peters
"What Are We Doing Here" (Levy) "Sooner Than Someday" (Levy/ Dennis Livingston collaboration)	Dane Vannatter
"Why Haven't I Heard From You?" (Dennis Livingston) "Too Many Books!" (Livingston)	Phil Kassel
"Springtime in Boston" (Livingston) "If I Could Tell You" (Livingston)	Jan Peters
"My Lucky Day" (Livingston) "Every Time I Look At You, I Fall In Love Again" (Livingston)	Dane Vannatter

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## Carol Hall

One of the few theatre people to write both music and lyrics, CAROL HALL received two Drama Desk Awards for her score and lyrics to *THE BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE IN TEXAS*. This theatre classic delighted audiences for almost five years on Broadway, received a Grammy nomination for its cast album, and became a film starring Burt Reynolds and Dolly Parton. Parton's recording of Hall's song "Hard Candy Christmas" won an ASCAP Award for being one of its Most Performed Country Songs. A recent national tour of *WHOREHOUSE* starring the entertainment legend Ann-Margret, enjoyed a run for over a year and a half. Other stage work includes the Off-Broadway musical *TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN*, individual songs for *A MY NAME IS ALICE* and *A MY NAME IS STILL ALICE*, and a new musical, *HATS!*, based on the Red Hats Society, which recently completed runs in Denver, New Orleans and Chicago. Hall was a major composer/lyricist to Marlo Thomas' Peabody and Emmy Award-winning TV Special and gold album "FREE TO BE... YOU AND ME," and acted as contributing editor/songwriter to its sequel, "FREE TO BE... A FAMILY." Hall has also contributed to Marlo Thomas' recently released book and CD, "THANKS & GIVING / ALL YEAR LONG." For ten years Hall was a mainstay contributor to "SESAME STREET," writing, among other things, the song "TRUE BLUE MIRACLE" from the show "CHRISTMAS EVE ON SESAME STREET" (Emmy Award), as well as "BIG BIRD'S BIRTHDAY BASH." Recently she created the score to the theatrical version of the popular children's series *MAX AND RUBY*. Four tours of the show are presently playing across the country, after a successful debut opening Off-



Broadway in December 2007. Her cabaret work has earned her two BISTRO and MAC AWARDS, one of them being the 2003 MAC SONG OF THE YEAR, "I DREAM IN TECHNICOLOR." She also received the prestigious Johnny Mercer Award, given for contributions to the American Song book. Carol enjoys collaborating with other writers, and has contributed either music or lyrics to songs written with Bill Evans, Lesley Gore, Michelle Brounman, Shelly Markham, Phyllis Newman, Robert Burke, Tex Arnold and Steven Lutvak. Her songs have been performed by, among others, Barbra Streisand, Tony Bennett, Barbara Cook, Margaret Whiting, Julie Wilson, Chita Rivera, Michael Feinstein, Mabel Mercer, Amanda McBroom, Lari White, Olivia Newton-John, Maureen McGovern, RuPaul, Frederica von Stade, Big Bird and Kermit the Frog.

Her recent delight has been the making of her CD "Hallways," which features many of her most loved and wonderful songs - both old and brand new - such as the hit "Hard Candy Christmas," as well as the timeless classic "Jenny Rebecca." In addition, it features her musical collaborations with Bill Evans, Steven Lutvak, Robert Burke, Lesley Gore and Tex Arnold.

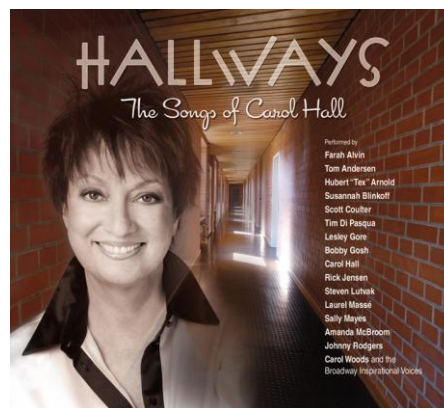
But, as Carol says in the CD's booklet, "a song is not a song until somebody sings it..."

And what an array of singers she has here! In addition to Carol, performing on the CD are Amanda McBroom, Johnny Rodgers, Scott Coulter, Tim Di Pasqua, Tom Andersen, Lesley Gore, Susannah Blinkoff, Farah Alvin, Steven Lutvak, Laurel Massé, Sally Mayes, Bobby Gosh, Rick Jensen, Carol Woods and the Broadway Inspirational Voices.

"Hallways" was also co-produced by Tex Arnold, who was its musical director, responsible for the exquisite arrangements.

"Hallways" has received three 2009 MAC AWARDS nominations in the categories of BEST RECORDING, BEST SONG ("Change In Me") and BEST SPECIAL MATERIAL ("This Is My Birthday").

And, "Hallways" was awarded the prestigious ASCAP AWARD for OUTSTANDING CD at the 24<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BACK STAGE BISTRO AWARDS GALA on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009. This Award marked Ms. Hall's third BISTRO.



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## TEX ARNOLD

(MUSICAL DIRECTOR, CO-PRODUCER, ARRANGER)



A native of Texas, Hubert "Tex" Arnold holds a master's degree in music composition from Michigan State University. He began his professional career in the late 1960s as a staff arranger for the United States Military Academy Band at West Point. After leaving the military he moved to New York City where he has pursued a career as a pianist, arranger, music director and composer.

For over twenty five years he was musical director for the legendary Margaret Whiting, arranging and conducting for her performances on radio, television, and records, and with major symphony orchestras. He has written orchestrations for the Lincoln Center American Songbook series and for Carnegie Hall tributes to the song-writing teams of Alan and Marilyn Bergman, Betty Comden and Adolph Green. As a pianist, he has accompanied Broadway stars Melissa Errico at the Cafe Carlyle in New

York City, and Barbara Cook in concerts throughout the country, including performances at the Los Angeles Music Center and Carnegie Hall.

His concert music has been commissioned and recorded, including performances of a trumpet concerto by the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, and works for the New York Saxophone Quartet. In early 2005, his "**Texas, Our Texas**" **Variations** was performed by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra in a series of concerts. Later that year, **A Festival of Carols** was premiered by the New Jersey City University Symphony of Winds and Percussion. Most recently he has completed two commissions, the **Rhapsodies for Clarinet and Piano** and **Tax Dodge for Five Doctors**, a saxophone quartet..

More of his work can be heard on "Hallways" (LML Music), a CD of songs by the composer/lyricist Carol Hall (**The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas**), for which he acted as producer/arranger. The album CD won this year's Bistro Award as Best Album of 2008.

For many years he was an instructor for the Cabaret Symposium held each summer at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, and has continued in that capacity for its successor program, the Cabaret Conference at Yale University.

Mr. Arnold is a member of ASCAP and Local 802, American Federation of Musicians.

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## BACA SONGWRITER BIOS

### Harriet Goldberg



Harriet Goldberg is a Boston area songwriter. She writes music and lyrics in the style of old standards - ballads, bossas, and swing. Her work has been performed at the MAC/ASCAP Songwriters' Showcase, the Metropolitan Club, and the New York Sheet Music Society in New York City, and at the following Boston area jazz venues: Regattabar, Scullers, Peabody Essex Museum and the Cambridge Multi-cultural Arts Center. Ms. Goldberg's music has been featured in Boston Sings Boston III and IV, BACA's 2008 Songwriter's Showcase, and in NOMTI's 2004 Birth of a Musical Cabaret. Her music has also been played on WGBH, WATD, and WKCR FM as well as on the pilot episode of "New Amsterdam" on the FOX TV network. Ms. Goldberg's debut CD of original material, "Bring Back the Moonlight" placed fourth in the Vocal Jazz CD category of the 2004 Just Plain Folks Music Awards. "Suddenly You Walked By" from that CD placed 2nd in the jazz category of the 11th Annual Billboard Song Contest. Ms. Goldberg's most recent CD, "Ocean of Dreams" includes original material performed by vocalist Debra Mann and New York Backstage Bistro award winner Dane Vannatter. The tune "Now and Then" from that CD was a finalist in the jazz category of the 2004 USA Songwriting Competition. Harriet is a card carrying member of ASCAP, MAC and BACA. Her music can be heard on her website ([www.hargoldmusic.com](http://www.hargoldmusic.com)) and her CD Baby pages ([www.cdbaby.com/cd/harriet](http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/harriet)) and ([www.cdbaby.com/cd/harriet2](http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/harriet2)).

### Bob Levy



Bob Levy is an award winning songwriter and lyricist in Connecticut. Bob is a 2008 MAC Award Nominee and also received Honors in the 14<sup>th</sup>. Annual Billboard World Songwriting Competition for two of his country songs "The Truth" and "As Good As It Gets", as well as a Runner Up in the 2006 VH1 Song Of The Year Contest for his songs, "Out In The Cold" and "Living Without Her". Bob is an ASCAP PLUS Award Recipient for 2005-2009 and his song "Paris Without You" was selected by ASCAP for their EMERGING JAZZ WRITERS broadcast series. "Out In the Cold - New Jazz Standards", his first jazz CD, was released in 2006 and his second CD collection, "Me + My Best Friends" was released in 2008. Both CD's included recordings by Boston's Dane Vannatter and his new CD has collaborations with BACA's Dennis Livingston and Harriet Goldberg, as well as New York's Karen Jacobsen and David Koons. "A Musical Celebration", a highly successful showcase of Bob's songs was presented at The Laurie Beechman Theatre in New York City in 2007. Seven award winning, exceptionally talented vocalists performed eighteen of Bob's songs. They were: Barbara

Brussell, Marcus Goldhaber, Laurie Krauz, Sue Matsuki, Dane Vannatter, Ronny Whyte and Vincent Wolfe from Toronto. The musical director and pianist was Tedd Firth, along with Steve Doyle on bass and George Farrell on drums. Bob is a member of The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) in New York, The Songwriters Guild of America, The Connecticut Songwriters Association, the Manhattan Association of Cabarets & Clubs (MAC) as well as BACA. Bob's songs have been performed & recorded all around the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Italy and Greece.

[www.silkrivermusic.com](http://www.silkrivermusic.com)

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## SONGWRITER BIOS (cont)



**Dennis Livingston**

In the course of his professional life, Boston-based Dennis Livingston has been involved in the disparate worlds of academia, computer journalism and the more serious corners of popular music. Dennis' cabaret, theater and art songs have achieved growing international recognition, including presentations at four ASCAP-MAC Songwriter Showcases and other group shows produced in New York by Sandi Durrell (three times at the NY Sheet Music Society's NEW SONGWRITER SHOWCASE) and Theater Resources Unlimited (twice at TRU FACES CABARET); by the Washington, DC, Cabaret Network (two STOP THE PRESSES!); and by Boston's New Opera and Musical Theater Initiative (SOMETHING'S COMING) and Centastage (three annual productions of BOSTON SINGS BOSTON). His song, "An Ordinary Day," was selected for inclusion in Erv Raible's New York revue, SEPTEMBER 11, 2001...A MUSICAL RESPONSE. Dennis was also one of the songwriters featured in the CABARET SONGWRITERS SHOWCASE OF 2008, sponsored by the Boston Association of Cabaret Artists. The recent performance history of Dennis' catalog has been recognized by the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers (ASCAP) with ASCAPLUS Awards for 2006-07 and 2007-2008.

Dennis has also written the words and music for two one-act musicals. One, THE CRETACEOUS CABARET (for which Dennis also wrote the book), tells the story of how the dinosaurs came to learn they were headed for extinction. It has been presented in workshops by Theatre In Process (Boston) and The Open Eye Theater (Margaretville, NY) and in a shortened version at a festival sponsored by the International Museum Theatre Alliance and by the Mesa (Arizona) Southwest Museum. Another show, THE WEAVER AND THE SEA, is a family musical based on a Sufi teaching tale about a young woman's search for meaning in the face of tragedy. In 1999, Dennis received a grant from the Meet The Composer Fund in connection with his activities at The Open Eye Theater. He has also taken part in the online Lyric Lab course offered by Los Angeles' Academy for New Musical Theatre.

Dennis' father, Songwriters Hall of Fame inductee Jerry Livingston, wrote the music for many standards, including "The Talk Of The Town," "Mairzy Doats," "The Twelfth of Never," and the score for Disney's CINDERELLA, among other films. FROM TIN PAN ALLEY TO SILICON VALLEY: THE MUSIC OF JERRY AND DENNIS LIVINGSTON, a revue conceived by Dennis that features songs written in different eras by father and son, had its opening run at The Blacksmith House (Cambridge, Mass.).

Dennis holds a PhD in political science from Princeton University and was on the faculties of the University of California at Davis, Case Western Reserve University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. As a computer trade journalist, Dennis served as Senior Business Editor of High Technology Magazine and Senior Editor of Systems Integration, in which position he received an award for best feature story of the year from the Computer Press Association. He is currently a member of ASCAP, the Dramatists Guild, the Songwriters Guild of America, Theater Resources Unlimited and the New York Sheet Music Society, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Boston Association of Cabaret Artists.

## Celia Slattery



Celia's performance style melds her background in folk, jazz and theatre. The music she grew up with, by the topical singer-songwriters of the 60's, was an early influence. Those songs spoke to issues that Celia felt passionately about, and at age 16 she left high school in Washington, DC to volunteer in the antiwar movement. A single mother at age 19, Celia managed to put herself through college, earning a degree in theatre and piecing together a career in performing arts. She taught acting, and wrote and directed many original plays and musicals in educational and community settings. These experiences shaped a dramatic sensibility which found expression as a solo acoustic act, launched at the former Peterborough, NH club, The Folkway. Throughout the 80's, she performed in clubs throughout New England, including Passim in Cambridge and The Iron Horse in Northampton, as well as playing a large assortment of lesser known bars and coffeehouses.

Later, she returned to school at Lesley University to earn a Masters Degree, combining fieldwork in Theatre with Voice and Jazz Studies at New England Conservatory. The bars got a little better, including a seven-month stint in 1991 singing at the

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## SONGWRITER BIOS, CELIA SLATTERY (cont)

Bamboo Bar in the Oriental Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand, often cited as world's #1 hotel. (The experience is immortalized in the song, "Bamboo Bar" on her new CD, *Cast of Characters*.)

With help from nationally-known director Bill Castellino, Celia wove her autobiographical songs and stories into a one-woman show, *Moving Target*. A classic tale about growing up amidst the turbulent political and social changes of the 60's and 70's, *Moving Target* toured from 1997 - 2004 at venues such as the Montreal Fringe Festival, First Night Boston, and Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway Theatre. Music from the show was featured on Celia's 2001 debut CD, *Movin' On*.

In addition to performing, Celia currently teaches voice and performance skills in her private studio and has given workshops and master classes in many settings including New England Conservatory Summer School, the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, and the Northeast Folk Alliance Conference.

## Louise Van Aarsen

By day a cancer research scientist, by night Louise Van Aarsen (Koopman) likes to sing; she is grateful for the wonderful opportunity BACA provides to singers and cabaret artists to perform and showcase their songs!

Louise was born and raised in The Hague, a Dutch town long famous for hosting the North Sea Jazz Festival, and a great place to be as she was getting into jazz music as a teenager. While pursuing her studies in life sciences at Leiden University, Louise took singing lessons, performed lead roles in a number of musicals (including the role of Adelaide in *Guys & Dolls*), and appeared regularly as a singer with a jazz combo.

The new CD she is working on combines some of her favorite jazz standards with a number of originals, which she recently wrote in a unique transatlantic collaboration with her longtime friend Ton Scheer, who lives in her home country of Holland.



## Tom LaMark , Piano Accompanist Songwriters' Showcase



Pianist /Arranger / Conductor Tom LaMark is a graduate of the Berklee College of Music with a degree in arranging and composition.

After playing his first professional "gig" at age 13, Tom has made the music business his livelihood.

In the 70's, Tom lived and worked in New York City doing everything there was to do in the business, from street level to the Rainbow Room. He has accompanied show business greats: Aretha Franklin, Anthony Newley, The Smothers Brothers and many, many more.

Tom has performed professionally with jazz greats: Buddy Rich, Dizzy Gillespie, Phil Woods, Johnny Hartman and a host of others.

He served as music director on seven consecutive world cruises of the prestigious Holland America and Royal Viking cruise lines rehearsing and conducting shows of an amazingly varied nature on a

daily basis.

In October of 2007, Tom had the pleasure of playing at Carnegie Hall with BACA member Karyn Levitt.

He is now very active in the Boston area Cabaret community acting as musical director, arranger and CD producer for our region's best and aspiring performers.

Tom is also the leader of the Boston based Tom LaMark Orchestra performing for many corporate, charitable and private clients in the finest venues locally and nationwide. The Orchestra was chosen last summer by the Taj Hotel (formerly the Ritz-Carlton) to carry on the tradition of "rooftop dancing" which goes back to the 30's.

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## PERFORMER BIOS

Dane Vannatter was awarded the 2006 Bistro Award for Outstanding Vocalist by the critics of BackStage in New York. Dane has been acclaimed by reviewers at The New York Post, The Boston Globe and BackStage for a style that "blends facets of cabaret and jazz with intelligence and care." The Boston Globe remarks "*Dane Vannatter's distinctive style leaves an imprint on whatever music he sings. His voice has a floating quality that gets in your head and won't leave....his music is a swinging, soaring adventure!*" Dane is also the recipient of the 2000 Bistro Award for Outstanding CD for his second recording "Flight." He has been nominated for 4 MAC awards and is a 2007 Nightlife Award finalist. Dane has performed for several years at the annual Mabel Mercer Cabaret Convention at Town Hall in New York; and has also performed in New York at the legendary Sardi's, and at Danny's Skylight Room. He returns to the Metropolitan Room in New York Saturday nights during September 2008. Dane's 3 CD's & performance schedule are available at his web site [www.danevannatter.com](http://www.danevannatter.com).



**Dane Vannatter**

### Jan Peters



Jan Peters (Improper Bostonian Best Cabaret Act 2005, Independent Reviewers of New England Best Female Cabaret Artist 2002, Bay Windows Best Cabaret Performer 2002) is a 1999 Eugene O'Neill Cabaret Symposium Fellow whose work draws from an extensive repertoire of popular Broadway and standard songs as well as material from promising new songwriters.

A Massachusetts native now living in Pennsylvania, Jan's cabaret work has been showcased at many of Boston's major venues such as Scullers Jazz Club, Club Café, The Lyric Stage, and at Boston's premier cabaret room, The Encore Lounge, where she performed every Friday night for over 5 years. Pennsylvania performances include an appearance at Pittsburgh's Byham Theater in honor of radio personality Bill Cardille, The Mall Celebrity Series where Jan performed her Doris Day tribute, *It's Magic! The Music of Doris Day*, The Funny Bone Cabaret Room, D'Imperios Restaurant, Penn Brewery, The Fez, and The Pittsburgh Three Rivers Regatta.

Jan has appeared four times at the prestigious *Mabel Mercer Cabaret Convention*, most recently in *Cabaret Convention 2006: The Mabel Mercer 21st Anniversary Celebration at Lincoln Center in New York*. Other recent performances include the debut of her new show, *Portraits: Jan Peters Sings The Amanda McBroom*

*Songbook*, Boston's First Night Celebration, *I Feel A Song Coming On!* at The Cultural Center Theatre in Port Charlotte, Florida, The Jazz On A Sunday Afternoon Performance Series in New Hampshire, and concerts at Babson College and Shanklin Music Hall in Massachusetts with celebrated theatre organist Lew Williams. Jan's cabaret show *Old Fashioned, Please!* was named one of *Boston's Top Ten* (Bay Windows 2000 Cabaret Year In Review) and continues to receive critical acclaim. Updated in 2007, Jan presented *Old Fashioned, Please!* at The First Presbyterian Church in Beaver, PA to benefit The Compass School in Kikuyu Kenya, then took the show to Boston's Riverside Theatre Works as part of their month long cabaret festival.

In addition to her cabaret work, Jan performs throughout the country accompanied by ensembles ranging from intimate jazz groups to large swing orchestras. Jan's debut CD, *Somebody Come and Play* (October 2002), continues to receive rave reviews; "An excellent debut." (Boston Herald); "...the classic torch singer...a voice like fine wine...it is glorious." (John Amodeo, Cabaret Scenes, Bay Windows contributor). Her new CD, *You Started Something* was released in April 2005 to glowing reviews as well. "...the consummate singer...she captures the essence of the songs...I can't wait to see her perform live!" (Mike McGann 1320WJAS Radio, Pittsburgh). Jordan Rich of WBZ Radio in Boston wrote; "Jan Peters has scored another great success performing material she was born to do." Please visit [www.janpeters.com](http://www.janpeters.com) for more information.

# Cabaret Songwriters' Showcase 2009

Program for Saturday, May 2, 2009

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## PERFORMER BIOS (cont)

Ashley Lieberman, vocalist, is also a teacher, actress, & voice-over artist. She has been teaching acting and voice since graduating from Yale Drama School. Several years ago she produced her own cabaret piece called: A Cabaret of Passion and Ambivalence. Last year she sang the songs of Dennis Livingston and Harriet Goldberg at the BACA Songwriters Showcase. She performed in the Newton Public Library concert series. She was guest artist in Iris Tanner's show, Animal Instincts. Ashley was a full time Professor of Theatre Arts at the Boston Conservatory for five years; she was formerly on the faculty at University of Massachusetts teaching acting and at The New Theatre School of Boston teaching voice. She directed Garbage Boy for the NYC Fringe Festival, co-directed and appeared in The She Show, an original work of song, poetry and dance in celebration of Women's History Month at Babson College. She directed the musical Working, by Studs Turkel, at University of Massachusetts. Ashley was a member of the Yale Repertory Company under the artistic direction of Robert Brustein, where she appeared with Alvin Epstein, Jeremy Geidt and Carmen de Lavallade in numerous productions, including Seven Deadly Sins, Little Mahagonny and Ovid's Metamorphosis. New York City credits include Boccaccio's Decameron at the Manhattan Theatre Club with Henry Winkler, and The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man Moon Marigolds with Shelly Winters. Boston musical credits include Berlin Cabaret, HMS Pinafore, 1776. She founded a political theatre company in San Francisco in the 70's called Food For Thought. She also was lead vocalist in Sassy, a swing band, and Anti Gravity, an avante guard jazz group. Ashley is a graduate of Bard College and Yale University School of Drama. She can be reached at [ashleylieberman@yahoo.com](mailto:ashleylieberman@yahoo.com)

### Ashley Lieberman



### Phil Kassel



Phil Kassel is a career poor person's lawyer. He has successfully litigated or lobbied key reforms for groups of clients and currently serves as advocacy director of South Coastal Counties Legal Services, which provides free legal assistance throughout Southeastern Massachusetts. He sings in his spare time.

Beverly Creasey of [Theatremirror.com](http://Theatremirror.com) said Phil can take on a "dark, sardonic vocal pitch" or "lighten to a soaring tenor," and, with Gabriela, brought "down the house" at a previous BACA Festival. Phil debuted his seventh show *What's Going On?* at the 2009 BACA March Festival. Last year, Phil performed *Growly Songs*, and *More Growly Songs* (a genre of Phil's creation) for appreciative crowds at the annual cabaret celebration at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education and at the Amazing Things Art's Center in October. He collaborated with his daughter Gabriela on: *Icons of Daddy's Day*, a tribute to Joni Mitchell and Leonard Cohen, at CCAE and the Amazing Things Arts Center in 2007; and *Songs of Generations of Kassel*, at Jimmy Tingles in 2006. He is a regular contributor to area open mics and has studied voice with Julie Fay, a well-known South Shore soprano, for eight years.

# Cabaret Songwriters' Showcase 2009

Program for Saturday, May 2, 2009

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## PERFORMER BIOS (cont)

Lynda, a New Hampshire native, grew up listening to an eclectic assortment of music, virtually anything she could get her hands, or ears, on. It shows in her varied selection of material as well as her delivery of a song. In any given minute you might hear a hint of jazz, pop, rock, gospel, or show tune.

Lynda began her professional career in music working as lead vocalist in various Top-40 bands throughout the Northeast and in Original Rock bands locally in the Boston area. In keeping with her eclectic musical nature she spent a few years performing exclusively in musical theater but returned to performing in clubs and enjoys redefining the ever growing *Great American Songbook*. She has a weakness for a great lyric.

Her first solo venture into the cabaret waters emerged as ALL ABOUT LOVE, a show exploring the ups & downs of love through standard and contemporary Broadway show-tunes. It also landed her a spot at CabaretFest in Provincetown. Lynda followed up her first solo venture with her critically acclaimed show, ONE COOL CAT: The Songs of Sammy Davis, Jr.

In recent years, in addition to performing at corporate functions, she has lent her talents to CABARAID AND ALL THAT JAZZ, at the Lyric Stage in Boston (a hurricane benefit concert), as well as BEACH BLANKET BIKE RIDE (a benefit concert for Harbor To The Bay Ride) with Jim Rice as musical director. In 2006, 'March is Cabaret Month' found Lynda performing in COOKING UP A CABARET, a cabaret show written & directed for BACA by NYC Director Bill Castellino.

Lynda was recently seen and heard singing "Watch Your Back" (from the Michael Teoli & Elizabeth Searle's 'TONYA & NANCY: The The rock Opera) on the CBS Early Show; a follow up segment about life after the tabloids.

### Lynda D'Amour



### Kevin Luey Songwriter Festival Producer & MC



#### BACA Board

BACA Board Secretary – 2006

BACA Board Vice-President – 2007

BACA Board President – 2008, 2009

#### Production Responsibilities

1. BACA Cabaret Celebration 2006, Production Understudy to Celia Slattery for BACA March in Cabaret Month (MICM) ; helped in production of "Self Produced Shows (SPS)", "Cookin' Up A Cabaret" and Producer for "Master Class" and "Performer's Cabaret Showcase".

2. Producer for both BACA Open Mike Fundraiser 2007 at CCAE Producer and BACA Cabaret Showcase Fundraiser 2007 at CCAE Producer.
3. Co-Producer for BACA Cabaret Celebration 2007. Producer for "Performer's Cabaret Showcase" at CCAE and MC for the evening.
4. Producer for BACA MICM 2008 Festival and Co-Producer for BACA Masterclass with Rebecca Parris .
5. Co-Producer for Winterfest Showcase and January, 2008 Cabaret Showcase. Responsible for videoing both Cabaret Showcases.
6. Co-Producer for BACA Songwriters Cabaret Showcase 2008 and MC for the evening.
7. Producer for BACA Inaugural Conference 2008.
8. Producer for BACA Winterfest 2009 Cabaret Showcase.
9. Producer for MICM 2009 over four nights that includes Cabaret Showcases, Annual Conference and Masterclass with Rebecca Parris.

#### Acknowledgments

To my wife, Judy Ballantine, and thirteen year old daughter, Ollie Luey, for allowing me the time to devote to BACA Board activities and open mike performances. Without their love, support and encouragement my endeavors would not have been possible.

To all the BACA Board, Ex-Officio Officers, Advisory Board, Volunteers and BACA members who have inspired me with their singing and performances as well as those whose ideas, thinking, efforts, inspiration and strong support have helped me personally as President to strengthen the BACA Organization.