



The **SHOWCASE** concert

May 14, 2022

Music Director, Howard Pfeifer
 Creative Director, Dale Calandra
 Producer, Claudia Hommel
 Pianist, Patrick Pernet
 Accordionist, Wilfried Touati

Pre-show **LIVESTREAM** features Jean-Claude Orfali from Paris and Tássia Minuzzo from Porto Alegre, Brazil

Barbara Smith	<i>I Only Want to Laugh</i>	William Jacob & Shannon Shor
Cristina Marinescu	<i>Mon mec à moi</i>	Didier Barbelivien, François Bernheim
Staci Kelley	<i>My Heart Was Set on You</i>	Jeff Blumenkrantz
Ruth Fuerst	<i>The Dog</i>	Susan Werner
Sue Benjamin Berke	<i>Bring on the Men</i>	Frank Wildhorn, Leslie Bricusse
Mylène Launay	<i>Can't Help Lovin' That Man of Mine</i>	Jerome Kern & Oscar Hammerstein
Myriam Blanckaert	<i>My Memory Is Failing Me</i>	François Rauber
Sue Susman	<i>Weekend in New England</i>	Randy Edelman
Jonathan Lewis	<i>You Can Get Away with Anything</i>	Andrew Lloyd Webber
Helene Alter-Dyche	<i>You Have to Have a Schtick</i>	Helene Alter-Dyche
Carol Weston	<i>It's Been A Long Long Time</i>	Sammy Cahn, Jule Styne
Susan Arjmand	<i>Someone to Watch Over Me</i>	George & Ira Gershwin
Beth Halevy	<i>Losing My Mind</i>	Stephen Sondheim
Maryline Rollet	<i>Danse sur moi (Girl Talk)</i>	Neal Hefti, C. Nougaro
Carmen Bodino	<i>My Own Space</i>	John Kander & Fred Ebb
Claudia Hommel & Barbara Smith	<i>"Gifts of the Blackbird" Les présents / Blackbird</i>	Gabriel Fauré, Paul McCartney
Cabaretconnexion.org	Workinginconcert.org	Songshoplive.com

OUR PERFORMERS

Helene Alter-Dyche, from opera to Great American Songbook, singing in several languages, and songwriter/lyricist with 130 copyrighted songs

Susan Arjmand, physician and medical educator by day, is a founding member of Opera Inter Alia offering a Sunday salon series in Chicago restaurants.

Sue Benjamin Berke, Chicago native from Metro Detroit, performed in community theater and entertains at assisted living venues with show tunes, country and pop.

Myriam Blanckaert, singer and actress based in Los Angeles, was named LA Underground Superstar following a residency at the Dresden Room in Hollywood

Carmen Bodino, from the Philippines, microbiologist-turned-cabaret singer, debuted at Davenport's with *Here's To Life!* Also sings in choir, plays classic guitar.

Dale Calandra, director, actor, producer, writer, specializes in directing/developing solo, concert, and cabaret shows. dalecalandra.com

Ruth Fuerst, psychotherapist by day, Ruth joined SongShop in 2012 to dispense wisdom by night. She created the CAR trio with Carol Weston and Arlene Armstrong,

Beth Halevy, performer in regional theatres in Alabama, Chicago, and New York, pursued a career in law, and now returns to her first love, performing.

Claudia Hommel, singer-actor, is co-founder of Chicago Cabaret Professionals, SongShop (workshops), Cabaret Connexion, and nonprofit Working In Concert.

Staci Kelley, actress, director, and singer, Staci has performed in several musical and non-musical productions, and performs cabaret in the Chicagoland area.

Mylène Launay, singing actress, emcee of the weekly bal Mouffetard with Christian Bassoul in Paris, has played a key role in creating Cabaret Connexion.

Jonathan Lewis joined his first Broadway national tour at age 10 and has appeared in over 100 productions. Post his acting career, he has been arts writer and author.

Cristina Marinescu, when not teaching computer science, dedicates herself to performing at open mics, group shows, and is working on her show *Lucky me!*

Patrick Pernet, pianist arranger accompanying an impressive array of artists, and humorists, and for more than 100 albums.

Howard Pfeifer has worked in Chicago and LA as pianist, composer, arranger, and musical director with an extensive roster from Patti LaBelle to Johnny Cash.

Maryline Rollet regularly performs throughout France at cafes, jazz clubs, theaters and even in the Paris metro. She joined the Connexion in 2017. marylinerollet.com

Barbara Smith, winner of the 2018 Skokie Idol Contest, started as a folk singer, playing guitar. She is Vice President of Working in Concert and volunteer organizer.

Sue Susman performed folk songs in her youth, joined SongShop and cabaret shows since 2010.

Wilfried Touati, French classical and jazz accordionist, participates in all types of projects across musical borders, from solo to symphony orchestra.

Carol Weston, troubadour with guitar, playing in schools and libraries and heard at piano bars and cabaret, is a founding member of Chicago Cabaret Professionals.