

CELEBRATING SISTERHOOD



July 27, 2022,

The Cliff Dwellers Club welcomes Black Voices in Cabaret for a tribute to powerful women, with host Margaret Murphy Webb, music director Christie Chiles Twillie, vocalists LaShera Moore Ellis, Lynne Jordan and Bobbi Wilsyn

PROGRAM

Ensemble:

Summertime (George Gershwin/DuBose Heyward/Ira Gershwin)

LaShera Moore

Respect (Otis Redding)

I'm Every Woman (Nikolas Ashford/Valerie Simpson)

Lynne Jordan

It Take A Big Woman (Candye Kane)

If I Can't Sell It (Kim Massie)

Margaret Murphy Webb

I Put A Spell On You (Screaming Jay Hawkins)

Bobbi Wilsyn

Creole Love Call (Duke Ellington)

The Lady Is A Tramp (Richards Rodgers/Lorenz Hart)

Ensemble:

Ms. Celie's Blues (Quincy Jones, Rod Temperton with lyrics by Lionel Richie)

Black Voices in Cabaret is a roster founded in 2020 to shine a spotlight on African-American performers and is an initiative of **Working In Concert**, the not-for-profit performing arts alliance. **David Stephens** is its Managing Director, **Claudia Hommel**, Working In Concert Executive Director, **Christine Steyer**, WIC President (workinginconcert.org). Follow us at linktr.ee/working_in_concert

Several of our rostered artists appear on August 20 in the SongShop Live garden concert *Talking to Petals and Strangers* in Albany Park. Reserve your place at songshoplive.com/rsvp.

View "Healing Through Song" —our 3-part 2021 virtual concert at

BlackVoicesInCabaret.org. We welcome your participation and your support as we continue to grow.

PERFORMERS

Margaret Murphy-Webb credits her vocal style to the tutelage of legendary Chicago saxophonist Von Freeman. She's been featured at the Taste of Chicago and has performed for both Presidents Obama and Clinton. In 2018, she was chosen by Jazz Journalists of America as Chicago's Jazz Hero for helping to keep the legacy of jazz alive on the south side of Chicago. Margaret is executive director of the South Side Jazz Coalition which presents free live jazz, offers mentoring programs and advocates for Chicago musicians. A 22-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department and a breast cancer survivor, Margaret has quite a few stories to tell and she loves to do it with song.

Christie Chiles Twillie has music directed more than 40 musicals and composed for plays *A Raisin in the Sun*; *The Niceties*, and *The Mountain Top*. Sound design/composition credits include: *Fireflies* and several productions at the Milwaukee Black Theatre Festival. In 2019, she was awarded the Footlights Best Musical Direction Award – Professional Production (*Five Guys Named Moe*), and a Rachel Rockwell Fierce Women Behind The Table award by Porchlight Music Theatre. Christie was a Chicago Broadway World Finalist for Best Music Direction, (*Big Fish*).

LaShera Moore Ellis. Chicago native, singer, lyricist, actress, Equity Member Candidate has a BA in Vocal Performance from Columbia College (where she proved to be the go-to for any style needed—Country, Gospel, Pop, Rock, Jazz, and R&B soul). She has already performed with some of the greats like Buddy Guy, Koko Taylor, Mavis Staples, New York Voices; with Darmon Meader and Peter Eldridge. She sings with jobbing groups such as The Forte Band, John Paris Ensemble, Funktastic band and the Soundtracks of a Generation for the Soulbliss band, as she embodies the late great Aretha Franklin and other legends. www.lasheramooremusic.com

Lynne Jordan was declared by the late Roger Ebert as his "favorite diva." Backed by her band The Shivers at jazz and blues clubs and The Chicago Bluesfest, she brings her storytelling and raw humor wherever she performs, including her sold-out show, *A Musical Tribute to Nina Simone*. She represented Chicago as an Arts Ambassador to Moscow and Kyiv, and was featured in the Jazz Opera, *Don't Worry, Be HaRpy* by Isabelle Olivier. Lynne is featured with the Corky Siegel Chamber Blues. on a number of recordings, and as part of the Live Lit (Storytelling) community by performing monologues from her one-woman show: *A GREAT BIG DIVA*. She is a 2022 artist-in-residence for the Raue Center for the Arts.

Bobbi Wilsyn received the Black Excellence Award for Outstanding Achievement in Jazz (2018) and as Outstanding Jazz Educator (2015). Showman Milt Trenier discovered Bobbi in her native LA and took her on tour. After settling here, she started making music with her own combo on Rush Street and in Chicago hotels. Bobbi has been featured jazz-blues vocalist with the Chicago Jazz Ensemble, the Chicago Jazz Philharmonic and the Chicago Jazz Orchestra, with several international bands, and her musical theater performances include *Keegle Street*, *Beehive*, *It Ain't Nothin' but the Blues* and *Sophisticated Ladies*. She was serving as Coordinator of Voice Studies when she became professor emerita at Columbia College Chicago 2020.