

Composer/Pianist KIRK NUROCK (www.kirknurock.net)
Announces 6 Exciting Courses, April–June, 2008 (6 weeks each)

JAZZ VOCAL WORKSHOP

with emphasis: SCATTING ON THE STANDARDS

Saturdays 3:30-5:30. April 26 - May 17, May 31 – June 7

In an atmosphere of fun and creativity, this ensemble concept blends individual invention with group interplay. Many improvisatory forms will be explored, with a particular focus on getting inside the chord changes. Kirk's accessible "guidetone" method has helped hundreds who formerly improvised solely by ear. The course also touches on analysis of tunes and lyrics, basic theory, warm-ups, and fresh syllables and phonemes. (Reading/keyboard/guitar skills are helpful, but not necessary.)

THEORY BASICS FOR SINGERS

Saturdays 1 - 3pm. April 26 - May 17, + May 31 – June 7

In language singers understand, trombonist-vocalist Gary Brocks explains intervals, chords, jazz harmonies, structures of blues and standards, and how to lead and count-off a tune. These oft-elusive skills help a vocalist integrate with instrumentalists and share the "nuts and bolts" of good musicianship. Those who read or have some keyboard skills will learn to make better use of them, and non-readers will find points of reference to help them begin to read. Gary Brocks, instructor. [This class prepares you to join the above 3:30 workshop as well.]

SONGWRITING SEMINAR - JAZZ and related styles

Tuesday eves 7 – 9. April 22 – May 27

In a supportive and creative environment, this work evolves from the writings of our participants. We'll explore poetic imagery, rhyme schemes, title, plot, "marriage" and "strophe." We'll delve melodic contour, harmonic variety and rhythmic grooves. Works by the great songwriters will be analyzed and leadsheet notation will be taught. Periodically, participants will present their songs and – when requested – the group will share feedback as well.

SCORE READING AND ANALYSIS - JAZZ/CLASSICAL

Wednesday eves 7 – 9. April 23 – May 28

For those with relatively advanced theory or keyboard skills, score reading will be learned through analysis of big-band and classical works. In-depth examinations of motivic development, harmonic language, rhythm, structure and orchestration are the focus of the class. Reading multiple-line transpositions will be taught as well as playing given lines at the piano while singing others. Works are by Samuel Barber, Gil Evans, Hindemith, Thad Jones, Stravinsky and more.

ACCOMPANYING SINGERS - For PIANISTS, BASSISTS, GUITARISTS, DRUMMERS

(Times TBA)

Increasingly, today's jazz singers are trained as complete musicians – many have good time and intonation and some can solo right inside the changes. Nonetheless, with no keys to press down, even the strongest vocalists need special awareness from the players. This class explores shaping voicings, grooves and dynamics, to lead vocalists securely while interacting creatively. Lyrics, their metaphors and plots will be explored, as well as efficient tools for on-the-spot transposition.

INTRO TO JAZZ INTERPRETATION

Saturdays, 1 – 3pm. April 26 - May 17, May 31 – June 7

Designed for the Broadway, Cabaret or Classical singer, this course creates a safe atmosphere and creative introduction to the jazz genre. Many of the great jazz standards first appeared in Broadway shows - but how does jazz singing differ from the more "legitimate" traditions? This course explores jazz diction, rhythmic phrasing, "over the bar" liberties, and blues-inflected variations. Personal relationships with lyrics will be a touchstone, and improvisation and "scatting" will be introduced. [This class prepares you to join the 3:30 choral workshop as well.]

At SINGERS' FORUM 49 West 24th Street, (6th Ave.) Manhattan (D/F/#1/2)
\$250 for each course. (Six 2-hour classes) \$10 discount if registered before April 8.

To Register: **GARY BROCKS**, Coordinating Instructor gbrocks@att.net

Composer-Pianist **KIRK NUROCK** arranged for Leonard Bernstein, Dizzy Gillespie and James Taylor, accompanied Annie Ross and Billy Eckstine, and conducted 5 Broadway shows. His jazz/art songs have been performed by Theo Bleckmann, Jay Clayton, Miles Griffith, Judy Niemack and Janis Siegel. Currently on the faculty of the New School Jazz and Contemporary Music Program, he holds a MM in composition from Juilliard.
www.kirknurock.net

Trombonist/vocalist **GARY BROCKS** has performed at the Newport Jazz Festival, Lincoln Center and on CBS-TV. He recorded with Roswell Rudd and Carly Bley and performed with the O'Jays. An accomplished composer and lyricist, Gary produced music for TV commercials, taught at Hunter and Queens Colleges, has designed corporate trainings, and provided administrative services to jazz vocalist Mark Murphy. Brocks studied at the Mannes College of Music.