

Press Release

Date of Release: 12-1-11

To Be Released: 12-1-11

Event Type: Concert: An Evening of Exquisite Song

Event Date: 12-17-2011 at 7:30 pm

Location: Mount Vernon Music Hall
402 Leftwich St. at Yates
Mount Vernon, Texas 75457

Contact: Mark Miller at 903-563-3780 or
visit www.mountvernonmusic.org

Mount Vernon Music invites the public to “**An Evening of Exquisite Song**,” a special concert on Saturday, December 17, 2011 at 7:30 pm in Mount Vernon Music Hall, 402 Leftwich St. at Yates St. in Mt. Vernon. Soprano Dana Pundt, and pianist Kerry Baham will perform a delightful program of art songs, opera arias and Christmas favorites.

Tickets are \$10 for MVM members, \$15 for non-members. Students are admitted free. (Eighth grade and younger must be accompanied by an adult ticket holder.) Memberships in MVM start at \$25 and are good for the entire season from June 1 through May 31. For more information call Mount Vernon Music at 903-563-3780, or visit www.mountvernonmusic.org.

Mount Vernon Music is a 501(c)(3) organization formed in 2006 to further the performance of classical and other fine music in rural East Texas. For more information on the mission and concert schedule of Mount Vernon Music, and about historic Mount Vernon Music Hall, please visit www.mountvernonmusic.org.

Supplemental Information:

Dana Pundt was born and raised in Liberty City, Texas, where she attended Sabine High School. Both her undergraduate and graduate degrees were earned at the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, where she performed roles such as the Dew Fairy in *Hansel und Gretel* and Giannetta in the *Elixir of Love*, among others. Training and outreach programs she has participated in include Rising Star Singers of Indiana, Glimmerglass Opera, Opera Iowa, and Des Moines Metro Opera, where she appeared as Dorella in the national fully staged premier of *Das Liebesverbot*, Queen of the Night in the *Magic Flute*, and Blanche in *Dialogues of the Carmelites*. In addition to performing, she has twice been a regional finalist in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

Kerry Baham, a native of Hammond, Louisiana, holds advanced degrees in piano performance from the University of North Texas, where he was a Teaching Fellow, and Southeastern Louisiana University. Additionally, he has received scholarships to study in Europe, in Vienna and Salzburg. Mr. Baham's principal teachers have included David Evenson and Jack Roberts. An artist on the Eroica classical recordings label, Baham is currently recording the complete sonatas of Mozart. He has presented numerous solo recitals at colleges and universities in the United States and Europe, and has been featured as a guest artist with the Monroe, Louisiana and Jackson, Mississippi Symphony Orchestras. As a soloist, Mr. Baham has been awarded top prizes in competitions on regional and national levels. Among these are the Collegiate Artist and Wideman International Piano Competitions.

Baham has collaborated with winners of the Metropolitan Opera Auditions on concerts in the United States as well as Europe. His accompanying teachers include such brilliant artists as Harold Heiberg and Robert Evans. In addition to performance awards, Mr. Baham has also garnered academic awards, among which is his being named a Doctoral Scholar at the University of North Texas.

A successful teacher at the college and pre-college levels, Baham is currently presenting a series of all Liszt recitals for concerts at universities across the south in celebration of that composer's 200th birthday.