

THE NEW YORK POPS

SKITCH HENDERSON FOUNDER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE NEW YORK POPS PRESENTS THE WORK OF OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II AT CARNEGIE HALL APRIL 4

Music from *Carmen Jones*, *Show Boat*, and more, plus songs from the classic musicals created with composer Richard Rodgers. Conducted by David Charles Abell. Starring Sutton Foster, with Rosena Hill and Aaron Lazar.

NEW YORK – The New York Pops will celebrate the work of American lyricist and librettist Oscar Hammerstein II at Carnegie Hall on Friday, April 4 at 8:00PM. Led by British-based American conductor **David Charles Abell**, the program will include favorites from *South Pacific*, *The Sound of Music*, *The Desert Song*, *The New Moon*, *Show Boat*, *Oklahoma!*, *Carmen Jones*, *Carousel*, *The King and I*, and more. Starring Tony-award winner **Sutton Foster**, The New York Pops will also be joined by genre-sweeping singer and actress **Rosena Hill**, the talented **Aaron Lazar** and **The Clurman Singers**, directed by Judith Clurman.

David Charles Abell returns to lead the orchestra following his Carnegie Hall debut with the New York Pops at last year's 24th Birthday Gala. Abell earned degrees from Yale University and the Juilliard School, later becoming one of Leonard Bernstein's last protégés and studying with the legendary pedagogue Nadia Boulanger at the Conservatoire Américain. He is noted as a conductor with a wide range of repertoire knowledge and skill, having earned recognition conducting symphonic music, opera, and musical theater. He has conducted many of the top British orchestras including the Royal Philharmonic, Bournemouth, City of Birmingham, Royal Scottish and Hallé.



*David Charles Abell returns to conduct
The New York Pops on April 4*

Oscar Hammerstein II was perhaps the most influential lyricist and librettist in American theater. While Hammerstein is most famous for his collaboration with Richard Rodgers on such musicals as *Oklahoma!*, *South Pacific*, *The King and I*, and *The Sound of Music*, audience members will also hear music from his earlier collaborations with Sigmund Romberg and Jerome Kern, as well as Hammerstein's English language adaptation of Bizet's *Carmen*.



Guest Artist Sutton Foster

Starring with The New York Pops on April 4, **Sutton Foster** burst onto the musical scene with the title role in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* on Broadway in 2002 for which she won a Tony Award. Since then she has performed on Broadway as Jo March in *Little Women* and as Janet in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. She can currently be seen as Inga in Mel Brooks' Broadway production of *Young Frankenstein*. Next season,

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Sutton will star as Princess Fiona in the new Dreamworks Broadway musical *Shrek*.



Rosena Hill

Florida native and Carnegie Mellon graduate **Rosena Hill** is a versatile singer and actress, performing musical theatre, jazz, gospel, pop, and classical music. She has performed on Broadway as one of the Church Ladies in *The Color Purple*, the Lady of the Lake in Monty Python's *Spamalot* and Ellen in the *Oklahoma!* 2002 revival. In addition, she has appeared across Europe as a featured soloist with Queen Esther Marrow and the *Harlem Gospel Singers*.

Aaron Lazar, who first captivated New York audiences with his 2005 performance as Fabrizio Naccarelli in *The Light in the Piazza* at Lincoln Center, will make his Carnegie Hall debut with The New York Pops on April 4. Currently, he is appearing as the revolutionary student Enjolras in the Broadway revival of *Les Miserables*. Mr. Lazar has recently made a series of debuts with the Boston Pops, The National Symphony Orchestra, The Philly Pops and the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl.



Aaron Lazar

The Clurman Singers will also be appearing with The New York Pops. Director Judith Clurman's choruses have performed with major orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic and Boston Symphony. She has received critical acclaim for her recordings with the New York Concert Singers, the professional chorus she directed for fifteen years.

The entire program for the April 4 concert is printed below:

Friday, April 4, 2008, 8:00PM, Carnegie Hall, Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage
The New York Pops, Skitch Henderson, *Founder*
David Charles Abell, *Conductor*
Starring Sutton Foster
With Rosena Hill and Aaron Lazar
The Clurman Singers, Judith Clurman, *Director*

THE SONG IS YOU: OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II except where noted

Richard Rodgers	Overture to <i>South Pacific</i> (1949)
Richard Rodgers	The Sound of Music (film version, 1965)
Sutton Foster	
Sigmund Romberg/Oscar Hammerstein II and Otto Harbach	Riding Song of the Riffs from <i>The Desert Song</i> (1926)
Aaron Lazar and Men's Chorus	
Sigmund Romberg/Oscar Hammerstein II and Otto Harbach	The Desert Song (1926)
Rosena Hill and Aaron Lazar	

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Sigmund Romberg/Oscar Hammerstein II, One Kiss from *The New Moon* (1928)
Frank Mandel and Laurence Schwab
Rosena Hill and Women's Chorus

Music and Lyrics by Joseph E. Howard Goodbye, My Lady Love (1904)
from *Show Boat* (1927)
Sutton Foster and Aaron Lazar

Jerome Kern Who? from *Sunny* (1925)
Rosena Hill and Aaron Lazar

Jerome Kern I've Told Ev'ry Little Star
from *Music in the Air* (1932)
Sutton Foster, Rosena Hill, Aaron Lazar and Chorus

Jerome Kern Sweet Adeline from *Why Was I Born?* (1929)
Rosena Hill

Jerome Kern The Song Is You from *Music in the Air* (1932)
Aaron Lazar

Jerome Kern Life Upon the Wicked Stage
from *Show Boat* (1927)
Sutton Foster and Women's Chorus

Sigmund Romberg Lover, Come Back to Me
from *The New Moon* (1928)
Rosena Hill

Jerome Kern The Folks Who Live on the Hill from
High, Wide and Handsome (1937)
Sutton Foster and Aaron Lazar

Georges Bizet Beat Out That Rhythm on a Drum from
Carmen Jones (1943)
Rosena Hill and Chorus

INTERMISSION

Richard Rodgers Main Title and Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'
from *Oklahoma!* (film version, 1955)
Aaron Lazar

Richard Rodgers People Will Say We're in Love from
Oklahoma! (film version, 1955)
Aaron Lazar and Rosena Hill

Richard Rodgers I Cain't Say No from *Oklahoma!* (film version, 1955)
Sutton Foster

Richard Rodgers Mr. Snow from *Carousel* (1945)
Sutton Foster

Richard Rodgers What's the Use of Wond'rin from *Carousel* (1945)
Rosena Hill and Women's Chorus

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