

# KENNETH GRIFFITHS

**Kenneth Griffiths** is Professor of Collaborative Piano and Director of Collaborative Piano Activities at CCM. Before arriving at CCM, he taught at Indiana University and the University of Tennessee and has held numerous master classes throughout the United States and Australia. Griffiths has accompanied professional recitals in Australia, Japan, England, Germany, Russia and the U.S. for such artists as Kathleen Battle, Jessye Norman, Stanford Olsen, Benita Valente, and Sarah Walker, among others. He has appeared as concert narrator in Schoenberg's Ode to Napoleon with the Arditti, LaSalle and Vermeer Quartets and is also featured on the Deutsche Grammophone recording of the same work with the LaSalle Quartet. He studied piano in Australia and Europe and accompanying with Gerhard Hüsch in Munich and at Indiana University.

From 1992 until 2015 Griffiths was a faculty member of the Tanglewood Music Festival vocal/accompanying program, where he taught master classes and "Russian For Singers" and also prepared recital and chamber music ensembles. Highlights of his summers in Massachusetts were preparing vocal works of Stravinsky, Luciano Berio, Sofia Gubaidulina and, most recently, the Shostakovich 14th Symphony. In 1995, 2000, and 2004, he was a jury member for the Robert Schumann International Vocal Competition in Zwickau, Germany. In the spring of 2004 he served on the jury of the prestigious International Lieder Duo Competition sponsored by Hugo Wolf Society in Stuttgart, Germany.

Griffiths is increasingly in demand for masterclasses and residencies focusing on Russian language and vocal literature, as well as German repertoire in particular. Most recently he joined the faculty of the Lieder Program at the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria.

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CCM  
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PRESENTS

STUART SKELTON,  
tenor

KENNETH GRIFFITHS,  
piano

Tuesday, February 20, 2018  
Robert J. Werner Recital Hall  
8:00 p.m.

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# PROGRAM

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|--|---|
| British Folk Songs<br>Bold William Taylor<br>Willow, Willow<br>Hard Hearted Barb'ra (H)ellen   | arr. Percy Grainger<br>(1882-1961)  |
| Three Icelandic songs<br>Ave María<br><br>Fuglinn í fjörunni<br><br>Draumalandið   | Sigv. Kaldalóns<br>(1881-1946)<br>Jón Þórarinsson<br>(1917-2012)<br>Sigfús Einarsson<br>(1877-1939) |
| Four songs to poems of Victor Hugo<br>Oh! quand je dors<br>S'il est un charmant gazon<br>Enfant, si j'étais roi<br>Comment, disaient-ils | Franz Liszt<br>(1811-1886)  |
| Vier Lieder des Abschieds, Op. 14<br>Sterbelied<br>Dies eine kann mein Sehnen<br>Mond, so gehst du wieder auf<br>Gefaßter Abschied       | Erich Korngold<br>(1897-1957)   |
| Poema en forma de canciones<br>Dedicatoria<br>Nunca olvida<br>Cantares<br>Los dos miedos<br>Las locas por amor                           | Joaquín Turina<br>(1882-1949)   |

## STUART SKELTON

Grammy nominee and 2014 International Opera Awards Male Singer of the Year, **Stuart Skelton** is one of the finest Heldentenors on the stage today, critically acclaimed for his outstanding musicianship, tonal beauty and intensely dramatic portrayals.

Skelton was born in Sydney and initially studied law. He won the McDonalds Aria Competition, which led him to study singing at the University of Cincinnati and on the Merola Opera Program at San Francisco Opera. He has appeared in many of the world's most celebrated opera houses including the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Seattle Opera, La Scala, Milan, Paris Opéra, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Bavarian State Opera and English National Opera. He is especially renowned for his interpretation of dramatic and Heldentenor roles, including Florestan (Fidelio), Lohengrin, Siegmund, Tristan (Tristan und Isolde), Parsifal, Gherman (The Queen of Spades), Laca Klemen (Jenůfa), Boris (Kát'a Kabanová) and Peter Grimes.

He continues to be in demand on concert stages around the world, having appeared with such orchestras as the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, The Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Montreal Symphony, Hamburg, Frankfurt and Munich Radio Symphony Orchestras, London Symphony Orchestra, the BBC Orchestras of Scotland and Wales and the Symphony Orchestras of Sydney, Melbourne, Western Australia and Tasmania. He has also appeared at the Edinburgh and Lucerne Festivals, and in the BBC Proms. His concert repertory includes Beethoven's Missa Solemnis and Symphony no.9, Mahler's Das klagende Lied and Das Lied von der Erde, Verdi's Requiem, Elgar's The Dream of Gerontius, Janáček's Glagolitic Mass and Kodály's Psalmus Hungaricus. He has worked with conductors including Ashkenazy, Barenboim, Andrew Davis, Dohnányi, Eschenbach, Gardner, Jansons, Jordan, Levine, Luisi, Pappano, Rattle, Runnicles and Young.

Skelton has twice been honored with the Sir Robert Helpmann Award, once for his performance of Siegmund in the State Opera of South Australia's 2004 production of the The Ring Cycle, and again in 2010 for Best Male Performer in a Lead Role for his portrayal of Peter Grimes for Opera Australia. He received a 2010 Green Room Award for A Streetcar Named Desire and is a two-time Olivier Award nominee for Outstanding Achievement in Opera for his performances