

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 9, 2008

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The Greenwich Arts Council presents
Monteverdi's *LOVE SONGS: MADRIGALI AMOROSI*
performed by the Greenwich Music Festival
Sunday, June 15, 7:30 pm
Cole Auditorium, Greenwich Library

Plans are moving along for the Greenwich Arts Council's summer music series, produced in cooperation with the town's Department of Parks & Recreation. This year over 25 different musical events will be offered.

Kicking off the series, this Sunday, June 15, at 7:30 in the Cole Auditorium of the Greenwich Library, the GAC will present the Greenwich Music Festival in a concert of Monteverdi's love songs, *Madrigali Amorosi*.

Based on The Eighth Book of Madrigals, often considered the pinnacle of achievement of the madrigal form (and taking over 20 years to complete), the Eighth Book of Madrigals contains two halves: madrigali guerrieri and madrigali amorosi or, roughly, songs of war and songs of love. The Greenwich Music Festival, under the direction of conductor Robert Ainsley, will present the love songs with featured soloists soprano Lisa Hopkins (who, as a principal in the ensemble of Baz Luhrmann's *La Boheme on Broadway*, received Tony honors for excellence in the theatre), tenors Steven Paul Spears and Karim Sulayman, and baritone Ted Huffman (co-founder of the Greenwich Music Festival). A chorus of local high school students and a baroque ensemble round out the June 15 performance. Admission is free on a first-come, first-served basis, and doors will open to the general public at 7 pm.

The Greenwich Summer Music Series is made possible, in part, through the generosity of the following contributors: the CASERVE Foundation, the Lillian Butler Davey Foundation, Joan M. Warburg, the Queenan Foundation, Erika P. Hall, Pat & Nick Ohnell, Smart Kids' Toys, Christine & Norbert Young, Lela & Jack Bogardus, BNY Mellon Wealth Management, Nancy B. Mott, Lydia B. Petty, Mary & Richard Radcliffe, Boo Federman, Dedee & Gerald Rigg, Frank Smurlo, Jr., BCN News, Flagship Networks, Inc., Ruth Wilson, WSTC Cox Radio, Le Wine Shop, and the CT Commission on Culture & Tourism.

The Greenwich Arts Council would also like to thank our presenting partners, the Barrington Stage Company, Greenwich Library, the Greenwich Music Festival, and especially the Department of Parks & Recreation.

As in past years, the Greenwich Summer Music Series will be offered free to the public. Corporate underwriters and/or individuals interested in donating to the new series should contact the GAC office at 203-862-6750. For a complete schedule of the summer's concerts, log on to www.greenwicharts.org or www.greenwichct.org.

The Greenwich Arts Council promotes the arts by nurturing artists and building audiences, bringing the arts to the community and the community to the arts.

(image: *In Key*, Joan Lengel)