

Mp3 David Paul Mesler - I Hear America Singing, Volume I



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Beautiful art songs by acclaimed Northwest composer using classic American poetry by Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, and others. Accessible, emotionally resonant, dramatic, and frisky. Performed by the lustrous mezzo soprano Barbara Hume. 12 MP3 Songs CLASSICAL: Traditional, CLASSICAL: Contemporary Details: "Brilliant" -- Seattle Post-Intelligencer "Stunning" -- Victory Music "A Sure Winner" -- Sound Choice * * * * * "Beautiful, lyrical, romantic, diverse." -- Bainbridge Review "Evocative, velvety vocalizing. The delicate vocal phrasings are perfect for these lyrics . . . full of whimsy, humor, and irony. Eloquent." -- Sound Choice "One Of The Ten Best Albums of 2005" -- yoda2000 * * * * * "Most classical composers have ceded songwriting to their pop music confreres, who generally stick with tried and true verse-chorus-verse structures. Set to poems by Whitman, Dickinson, and other American poets, Mesler's songs blend the best of both genres, coupling the deft word-setting heard in the 20th century's best art song composers (Poulenc, Rorem) with an immediacy born of pop and Broadway." -- The Stranger * * * *

* DAVID PAUL MESLER is a genre-defying artist: a prolific composer of art songs -- 1500 and counting; an in-demand, Emmy-nominated composer of symphonic, choral, and chamber works; and an award-winning pianist whose adventurous ensembles play over 125 dates a year. David uses his classical training and 25 years as a professional jazz musician to explore jazz-classical hybrids in unconventional and dramatic ways. Virtuoso in the extreme, versatile in the extreme, and consistently inspired, David is considered Northwest music royalty and, as an art song composer, has been compared favorably to George Gershwin, Kurt Weill, Franz Schubert, Francois Poulenc, Ned Rorem, Samuel Barber, Stephen Sondheim, Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers, and Duke Ellington. BARBARA HUME, mezzo soprano, has given dozens of world premieres of David Paul Mesler's art songs, in concert and on the radio. David's praise for her is without reservation: "Barbara's

voice is unusually rich and has a real and profound depth -- it's lustrous and lived in, and her approach is always emotionally compelling. Above all, her singing is beautiful." Barbara has performed as a soloist for the Bainbridge Orchestra, the Bainbridge Chorale, and for various opera and oratoria performances in the Northwest. Her opera roles include Adalgisa from Bellini's Norma, Malika from Delibes' Lakme, Suzuki from Puccini's Madame Butterfly, and Nicklaus from Offenbach's Tales Of Hoffman. Solo oratorio performances include Mozart's Requiem, Durefle's Requiem, Mesler's Psalm 23, Bach's Mass in B Minor, and Handel's Messiah. She has also performed musical theater in Seattle, Los Angeles, and New York, and in St. Louis for the Municipal Opera. I HEAR AMERICA SINGING is a multi-album, 10,000 song project. For the last three years David has concentrated on setting classic American poetry using a melting pot of American musical traditions: folksong, hymn, early American art song, patriotic tunes, blues, ragtime, gospel, jazz, spiritual, musical theater, vaudeville, and operetta. These genres were chosen because they seemed appropriate to the American poets and their respective time periods. Plus, as David frequently says in interviews, "These genres reflect my tastes and predilections as well; and I wanted to write accessible music that could potentially reach and move a large public; music that was lyrical, lively, entertaining, dramatic, and always emotionally appealing." * * * * * "Mesler is amazing" -- Bill Clinton "Mesler improvises with a difference" -- Earshot Jazz "Rhapsodic Sturm and Drang" -- Cadence * * * * * PLAYED ON THE SAME BILL AS: Diane Schuur, The Manhattan Transfer, Harry Belafonte, Diahann Carroll, Burt Bacharach, Lionel Richie, Debbie Gibson, Skitch Henderson, Philip Glass, Lyle Lovett, Bruce Hornsby, Jackson 5, Sister Sledge, Barry Manilow, Garrison Keillor, Harvey Feirstein, The Capitol Steps * * * * * "Gorgeous" -- KING-FM "Great Jazz" -- KPLU-FM "Northwest All-Star Band" -- KEXP-FM "Magnificent" -- Benaroya Hall "Multiple Ovations" -- Town Hall "Multiple Ovations" -- Broadway Performance Hall * * * * * PLAYED FOR: Bill Clinton, Al Gore, George Bush, Steven Spielberg, Elizabeth Taylor, Paul Newman, Harrison Ford, Julie Harris, Tom Brokaw, Bill Gates, Paul Allen, Gene Kelly, Dudley Moore, The Brat Pack (casts of) Saturday Night Live, Good Times, The Jeffersons, Different Strokes, Love American Style, Laugh-In, The Beverly Hillbillies, Gilligan's Island, Bewitched * * * * * "Energetic" -- The Stranger "Sexy" -- Bainbridge Review "Frenzied" -- Victory Music "Blues-By-Rachmaninov" -- Cadence * * * * * ALBUMS: The Balladeer, Pacific Sailings, In Spiritu I, II, III, The Beautiful, I Hear America Singing Vol. I, II, III, IV, The Blue Diary, The Dream Journal Murders, Celebrating Gershwin Vol. I II, Celebrating Ellington, Just A Lucky So And So, Cloudburst, Reverie, Blue

Smoke November Waltz, The Piano Diaries, Moonsongs * * * * * "Impressive" -- Sound Choice "Hook-Filled" -- Sound Choice "One Of My Faves" -- Sound Choice "Heartily Recommended" -- Heartsong Review "Heartily Recommended" -- Missing Link "Critic's Choice" -- The Stranger "Critic's Choice" -- The Weekly "Critic's Choice" -- Seattle Post-Intelligencer "Critic's Choice" -- Seattle Times * * *

* * FILMS: The Wrong Guy, Battlefield Earth, Eloise At The Plaza, Eloise At Christmastime, First Daughter, King Arthur, Sea Of Dreams, Finding Home, Dennis The Menace Strikes Again, The Sisterhood Of The Traveling Pants, The Grudge 2 (with) John Travolta, Julie Andrews, Forest Whitaker, Michael Keaton, Genevieve Bujold, Loise Fletcher, Sonia Braga, Katie Holmes, Clive Owens, Kids In The Hall (sessions for) Disney, Warner Brothers, MGM, Touchstone, New Line Pictures, Handmade Films, ABC * * * * * "Zesty" -- The News Tribune "Graceful" -- Option "Moody" -- Missing Link "Romantic" -- The Weekly "Unmistakable Passion" -- Bainbridge Review * * * * *

TELEVISION: Days Of Our Lives, The Miracle Strip, The Seattle-Tacoma Interurban Railway, Pioneers In Aviation, Sun Microsystems, The Day Elvis Met Nixon * * * * * "Intelligent" -- Heartsong Review "Sophisticated" -- Victory Music "Accomplished" -- The New Times "Beautiful" -- Missing Link * * * * *

MAJOR WORKS: (orchestral and choral) The March Macabre, The Breakfast Table, Blue Nocturne, Psalm 23 (songbooks) D.H. Lawrence, Walt Whitman, Carl Sandburg, Emily Dickinson, e.e. cummings, Robert Frost, Langston Hughes, Ogden Nash, James Thurber (musicals and dance theater) Only A Dream Away, Sometime's It's Magic, Gaping Generations And Gunshot Wounds, Blue Nocturne, The Ballad Of Nomad Blue * * * * * "Inspired" -- Duplex Planet "Whimsical" -- Sound Choice "Sinuous Twining" -- Bainbridge Review "An Artist To The Bone" -- The Collegian * * * * *

WORKS PERFORMED BY: Kronos Quartet, USC Symphony, Northwest Symphony Orchestra, Bainbridge Chorale, Northwoods Wind Quintet, Seattle Chamber Players, Musicians Accord, Annex Theater, Abbey Theater, Foundation Theater Co-op., Circle X Theater, Hoover Street Music Company, Metropolitan String Quartet, Four Winds Quartet, Ensemble a Corda, Trio Presto, The Dave Mesler Quartet, a variety of performers and ensembles at USC, UCLA, Cal Arts, the University of Redlands, and the University of Washington, and members of the Seattle Symphony and Los Angeles Philharmonic. LIVE PERFORMANCES IN: The United States, Canada, Korea, Japan, and Russia. * * * *

* "Dreamy" -- Victory Music "Ironic" -- Sound Choice "Intense" -- The New Times "Earthy" -- Bainbridge Review * * * * *

TEACHER: David is currently on the music faculty of Seattle Central Community College where he teaches piano, voice, and composition. David's students have gone on to pursue music careers

in Prague, Paris, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Korea, China, Switzerland, Sweden, and in many of the United States. * * * * * "Evocative" -- Sound Choice "Autumnal Nostalgia" -- Heartsong Review "Richly Colored" -- Victory Music "Excellent" -- Missing Link * * * * * "Mesler's playing is as much influenced by modern classical composers as by jazz greats." -- Earshot Jazz "Mesler uses a variety of musical styles -- jazz, new music, classical -- to express a decidedly romantic theme. His works are fresh, sophisticated, and richly textured." -- Missing Link "Mesler is obviously quite an accomplished writer and pianist, but his greatest strength may be his ability to shift styles and moods. He is equally adept at playing intense classically-inspired pieces and then different styles of jazz. True music lovers will be hard pressed to not find something enjoyable." -- The New Times "Mesler's piano riffs at times are stunning, played in a frenzied passion. Other times he plunks away on the keys, bemoaning past loves with an appropriately raspy voice. The music commands attention. Powerful." -- Victory Music "Blues-by-Rachmaninov . . . Rhapsodic Sturm and Drang . . . It's like watching a Film Noir Movie without getting the drift of its plot. I was expecting the chandeliers to fall!" -- Cadence

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