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## Charles W. Bolen Faculty Recital Series: Michelle Vought, Soprano; Janice Conrads, Piano; October 3, 2009

Michelle Vought Soprano  
*Illinois State University*

Janice Conrads Piano

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Recognized for her versatile and charismatic stage performances, Ms. Vought created and produced a one-woman show entitled *Madame Monsieur*, a delightful, fast-paced cabaret show during which she performs favorites from the operatic and musical theatre genres as Madame Diva and Monsieur Divo. Wherever performed, *Madame Monsieur* has met with rave reviews. In fact, *Madame Monsieur* will appear again this fall for a fourth year command performance at Women's Week in Cape Cod, Massachusetts in its new form *Encore: Madame Monsieur!*

A cancer survivor herself, Ms. Vought is especially proud of her cancer benefit concerts from which she has generated over \$10,000 for individual cancer patients. Having completed her Doctorate of Musical Arts in vocal performance at the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati, she lives in Normal, Illinois where she serves as Professor of Voice at Illinois State University.

*Jan Conrads* received her formal musical training at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, where she studied voice and opera directing, sang the title role in *L'Incoronazione di Poppea*, among others, and won first place in the *Klose-Seybold* Voice Competition. She has studied opera, German, and acting in Austria, and completed apprenticeships with the Cincinnati Opera and the Dayton Opera Companies. As a professional singer, she has sung over 50 leading and supporting roles, ranging from both Despina and Dorabella, to character and trouser roles such as Zita, Nicklausse, and Hänsel, as well as musical theater and operetta roles such as Valencienne in *The Merry Widow*, both Marsinah and Lalume in *Kismet*, and the title role in *Iolanthe*.

A versatile performer and musician, Jan has also served as pianist, coach, accompanist, arranger, musical, and staging director, actress, spokesperson, and make-up designer with various regional opera companies, as well as numerous other theatrical venues. She has held the positions of Chorus Master and Director of the Resident Artist Program with the Dayton Opera Company, and has produced, directed, and performed a variety of music ranging from Broadway to opera aboard the Delta Queen, Mississippi Queen, and Showboat Majestic Riverboats, as well as throughout the Cincinnati Tri-State area. Most recently, Jan served as Co-Founder and Artistic Director of the Stoughton Opera Company, as well as Owner, Music Director, and Pianist for the Cabaret on Main Dinner Theater near Madison, Wisconsin.

Since her return to Iowa two years ago, Jan has been teaching music classes at Hawkeye Community College, and serving up entertainment at the Elks Club, as well as other area venues. In her free time, Jan has performed with several local bands, and currently is a member of "The Other Band," with whom she performs regularly throughout the Central Iowa region.

Illinois State University  
College of Fine Arts  
School of Music

Charles W. Bolzen Faculty Recital Series

*"Encore: Madame Monsieur!"*

~ Debut Performance ~

Michelle Vought, *Soprano*  
Janice Conrads, *Piano*

Center for the Performing Arts  
October 3, 2009  
Saturday Evening  
8:00 p.m.

This is the fifteenth program of the 2009-2010 season.

## Program

Please turn off cell phones and pagers for the duration of the concert. Thank You.

### “Encore: Madame Monsieur!”

from <i>The New Moon</i> One Kiss	Victor Herbert (1859-1924)
from <i>Gianni Schicchi</i> O mio babbino caro	Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)
from <i>Giuditta</i> Meine Lippen sie küssen so heiss	Franz Lehar (1870-1948)
from <i>Carousel &amp; Guys and Dolls</i> If I Loved You/If I Were a Bell	Richard Rodgers/Frank Loesser (1902-1979)/(1910-1969)
Besame mucho	Consuelo Velazquez (1916-2005)
from <i>The Wizard of Oz</i> Over the Rainbow	Harold Arlen (1905-1986)
The Girl in 14G	Jeanine Tesori

### ~Intermission~

from <i>South Pacific</i> There's Nothin' Like a Dame	Richard Rodgers
from <i>Born to Dance</i> I've Got You Under my Skin/Night and Day	Cole Porter (1891-1964)
My Simple Christmas Wish	David Friedman (born 1945)
from <i>Turandot</i> Nessun dorma	Giacomo Puccini

## About the Artists . . . .

Soprano **Dr. Michelle Vought** has earned an excellent reputation throughout the country as a performer in opera, oratorio, and musical theater. She has performed with many opera companies, which include Cincinnati Opera, West Coast Opera, Kentucky Opera, Whitewater Opera, Charlottesville Opera, Brevard Opera, Sorg Opera, and the Northern Kentucky Opera. Some of her roles include the Queen of the Night (*Die Zauberflöte*), Musetta (*La Bohème*), Micaela (*Carmen*), Violetta (*La Traviata*), Gretel (*Hansel and Gretel*), Flora (*The Knot Garden*), Armida (*Rinaldo*), Konstanze (*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*), First Lady (*Die Zauberflöte*), and Nannetta (*Falstaff*). She has also performed extensively in the operetta and musical theater genres bringing such roles to life as Josephine (*HMS Pinafore*), Yum Yum (*Mikado*), Gianetta (*Gondoliers*), Maria (*The Sound of Music*), Laurey (*Oklahoma*), Carrie (*Carousel*), Tuptim (*The King and I*), and Maisie (*The Boyfriend*).

Equally comfortable on the concert stage, the soprano has concertized in Europe, as well as in the United States performing in the operatic and oratorio genres with such orchestras as: the Cincinnati Symphony, the Asheville Symphony, the York Symphony, the Gettysburg Festival Orchestra, the Pueblo Symphony, the Czech Janacek Academy of Music Orchestra, and the Slovak Radio Orchestra. Ms. Vought was featured as a soloist on a tour of Italy and Switzerland where she sang the Faure *Requiem* and the Mozart *Missa Brevis in F Major* with the Orchestra of Brno, Czechoslovakia.

A specialist in contemporary music, Ms. Vought has performed widely in the repertoire both at the national and international levels. Recognized for her expertise in the genre, she has been invited to perform and lecture at various conferences throughout the United States and in Limerick, Ireland, Toronto, Canada, and Newfoundland, Canada. In addition, she has done eight recordings for the International Vienna Modern Masters label, a recording company that specializes in contemporary music. The soprano produced and starred in the world premiere of Nancy Van de Vate's opera *Where the Cross Is Made* in which she created the role of Sue Bartlett. She is also featured on the world premiere recording of the opera, which was released in the summer of 2006 on the international Vienna Modern Masters label.

During the spring of 2007, the soprano performed a concert tour across Austria and Slovakia, the highlight of which was a televised concert at the home of the American ambassador to Slovakia. In July, the soprano returned from Italy where she served as a master teacher at the Orvieto Musica, a music festival set in Orvieto, Italy.