

LA LAWYERS PHILHARMONIC & LEGAL VOICES

Gary S. Greene, Esq., Founder-Conductor

10th Anniversary Concert Extraordinaire



2009



Today

The Music Center's
Walt Disney Concert Hall

Saturday
June 29, 2019

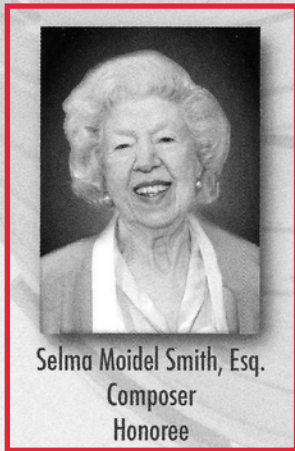
Artists and Presenters



Gary S. Greene, Esq.
Founder-Conductor



Charles Fox
Composer
Honoree



Selma Moidel Smith, Esq.
Composer
Honoree



Bill Handel, Esq., MC
Host of The Bill Handel Show
KFI AM 640



Thomas V. Girardi, Esq.
Girardi | Keese Lawyers



Debra Marisa Greene Kaiser
Executive Director
Los Angeles Lawyers Philharmonic



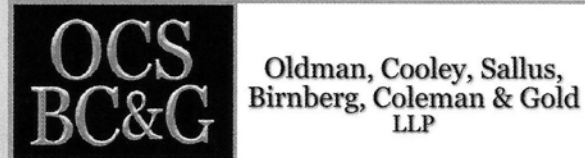
Jim Raycroft
Choral Director
Legal Voices



Hon. Kevin C. Brazile
Presiding Judge
Los Angeles County Superior Court

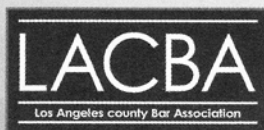
Our Sponsors

The Los Angeles Lawyers Philharmonic and Legal Voices are most grateful to our sponsors for making tonight's program possible.



Advocates

25% of the net ticket proceeds from tonight's concert will benefit the Los Angeles County Bar Counsel for Justice and the Beverly Hills Bar Foundation to provide legal services for those who cannot afford them.



Stanley S. Bissey
Executive Director



Marc Staenberg, Esq.
CEO

Musical Program

The Star-Spangled Banner..... Damrosch/Smith; Lyrics by Francis Scott Key, Esq.

Carmina Burana.....Orff

O Fortuna

Espressivo.....Selma Moidel Smith, Esq.

Beguine

Lament and Prayer..... Charles Fox

Prelude

Prayer

Benediction

Conducted by the Composer

You Raise Me Up.....Music by Rolf Løvland; Lyrics by Brendan Graham

Arranged and Conducted by Jim Raycroft

Dave Deno, Baritone

Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso Saint-Saëns

Michael Su, JD, Violin

INTERMISSION

Man of La Mancha Leigh and Darion

I, Don Quixote

Dulcinea

The Impossible Dream

Michael Maguire, Esq., Baritone

Killing Me Softly with His Song Charles Fox

Conducted by the Composer

TV Theme Medley..... Charles Fox

Wide World of Sports

Laverne & Shirley

Love, American Style

Wonder Woman

Happy Days

Love Boat

Conducted by the Composer

Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125.....Beethoven

IV. Finale (Ode to Joy)

Renée Burkett, Soprano

Ana Mihanović, Esq., Mezzo-Soprano

Darron James Flagg, Esq., Tenor

Eric Castro, Esq., Baritone

Musical Points and Authorities

By Bruce Altshuler, Esq., Legal Voices Member

Carmina Burana ("O Fortuna") by **Carl Orff** (1895-1982) for orchestra and chorus in Germanic Latin. It is instantly recognizable to all film and music buffs and one of the most challenging choral works. The text was from a series of 13th Century poems discovered in 1803 in the Benediktbeuern Monastery in Bavaria. Orff used the text of these poems, many of which were risqué, to create his masterpiece. It debuted in Frankfurt in 1937 when Orff had to overcome prudish Nazi censors who tried to prevent its performance. It became a worldwide sensation. The LA Lawyers Philharmonic and Legal Voices performed *Carmina Burana* in its entirety at Disney Hall in 2012.

Espressivo ("Beguine") by **Selma Moidel Smith, Esq.** (b. 1919). It was composed for piano and consists of four dance movements (I. Waltz, II. Tango, III. Beguine and IV. Tango). *Espressivo* was orchestrated for a performance at the LA Lawyers Phil's Disney Hall debut on July 15, 2010. This is just one of her many noted compositions. It is fitting that the "Beguine" from *Espressivo* will be reprised tonight at the orchestra's 10th Anniversary, as Smith celebrates her 100th birthday this year.

Lament and Prayer by **Charles Fox** (b. 1940) is an oratorio for orchestra and chorus in English, Polish and Hebrew. Fox was born in New York and studied music in Paris and at Columbia University. The oratorio is based on the words of Pope John Paul II, who was the first pope to visit the Western Wall in Jerusalem. These words are a prayer to God, asking forgiveness for the suffering of Abraham's descendants throughout history. The Pope inserted a paper into a crevice in the Western Wall containing these words. Fox commented, "Although the words were written in English, I asked that they be translated into Polish and Hebrew before I began my work. I felt that the piece had to be sung in those three languages in order to express the deep and historical significance of those words. At the conclusion of the final movement, after the Pope's words, 'You chose Abraham and his descendants,' I added the words 'to live in peace' because I felt that that was the underlying significance of Pope John Paul's prayer." Fox composed this oratorio for the Poland National Opera and conducted the premiere performance at the Warsaw Opera House in 2009.

"You Raise Me Up" composed by **Rolf Lovland** (b. 1955) with lyrics by **Brendan Graham** (b. 1945) and arranged by Legal Voices' Choral Director **Jim Raycroft**. It became a sensational hit and launched the career of singer Josh Groban when he recorded the song in 2003. It is considered the first great gospel song of the 21st Century. The song bears a strong resemblance to the Irish tune "Londonderry Air" aka "Danny Boy." The composer admits to similarities but denies plagiarism.

Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso by **Camille Saint-Saëns** (1835-1921) for solo violin and orchestra. Saint-Saëns is universally recognized as an all-around genius. At age two, he had perfect pitch; he could read and write at age three; at age four, he performed his first composition; the first concert of his music was performed at age five; he mastered Latin and several other languages at age seven. He was admitted to the Paris Conservatory of Music before his teenage years. In addition to his musical prowess, he was a noted scientist. At an early age, he became the protégé of Franz Liszt who, after hearing one of Saint-Saëns' earlier compositions, ironically noted: "He knows everything, but lacks only inexperience." Saint-Saëns composed *Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso* in 1863 for Spain's preeminent violinist Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908). Saint-Saëns intended it to be the rousing finale of his *Violin Concerto No. 1*, but it was such an artistic success that it became a stand-alone violin solo.

Man of La Mancha composed by **Mitch Leigh** (1928-2014) with lyrics by **Joe Darion** (1917-2001). Selections performed tonight will be **"I, Don Quixote," "Dulcinea"** and **"The Impossible Dream."** The musical is based on Miguel de Cervantes' classic Spanish novel published in two parts in 1605 and 1615 of an aging, delusional knight. *Man of La Mancha* won a Tony Award for Best Musical in 1965.

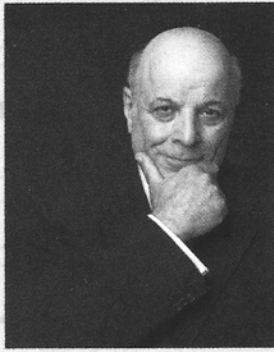
"Killing Me Softly with His Song" is being performed tonight as an orchestral suite that was arranged by the composer, **Charles Fox**. He won a Grammy Award for this 1972 song that was recorded famously by Roberta Flack.

TV Theme Medley by **Charles Fox**. This arrangement features many of Fox's familiar and award-winning TV theme songs which have endured for decades including **"Wide World of Sports," "Love, American Style," "Happy Days," "Wonder Woman," "Laverne & Shirley"** and **"Love Boat."**

Symphony No. 9 in D minor, Op. 125 (4th Movement) for orchestra, chorus and soloists in German by **Ludwig van Beethoven** (1770-1827). The 9th is perhaps the most performed symphony of all time. It was the first symphony to use a choir and soloists and was based on Friedrich Schiller's (1759-1805) "Ode to Joy," a text promoting universal brotherhood. Beethoven assembled a very large orchestra, but only had two rehearsals for the symphony's debut in Vienna in 1824. He conducted the work even though he was completely deaf. The orchestra took its cue from a shadow conductor. There were numerous standing ovations after each movement and more after the finale. Beethoven did not realize the piece had ended and was still conducting as the soprano soloist stopped him and turned him around to face the tumultuous audience hailing him in unanimous appreciation, which he could see but not hear.

For lawyers, Beethoven was perhaps the most litigious of all composers. He was constantly being sued by music publishers as Beethoven developed the habit of granting 'exclusive' rights to his music to several claimants. But Beethoven outsmarted himself. When he later sought to publish his own music for sale, his music was so widespread that no one needed to buy his own self-published collection. It is therefore fitting that we honor Beethoven for his support of the legal profession throughout his career!

Composer Charles Fox Honorary Membership Recipient



Charles Fox is a prolific award-winning composer with hundreds of songs and more than 100 motion picture and television film scores to his credit. They include *Barbarella*, *Nine to Five*, *Goodbye Columbus* and *Foul Play*. Among his popular songs are "Ready to Take a Chance Again," "I Got a Name" and "Killing Me Softly with His Song," for which he received the Grammy Award for the 1973 Best Song Of The Year. He composed theme songs to popular TV shows including *The Love Boat*, *Happy Days*, *Laverne & Shirley* and *Love, American Style*, for which he received two Emmy Awards.

Among the many legendary artists who have recorded his songs are Roberta Flack, Barry Manilow, Jim Croce, Fred Astaire, Johnny Cash, Lena Horne, Jack Jones, Carly Simon, Johnny Mathis, Sergio Mendes, Olivia Newton John, Lauryn Hill & The Fugees and Ice T.



Fox the Composer and Pianist



Fox the Conductor

Fox also composed the oratorio *Lament and Prayer* based on Pope John Paul II's prayer that he placed in a crack in the Western Wall in Jerusalem in 2000: "God of our fathers, you chose Abraham and his descendants to bring your Name to the Nations: we are deeply saddened by the behaviour of those who in the course of history have caused these children of yours to suffer, and asking your forgiveness we wish to commit ourselves to genuine brotherhood with the people of the Covenant."

Fox was inducted into the Songwriter Hall of Fame in 2004. He was awarded Lifetime Achievement awards from the Society of Composers and Lyricists and BMI, and he is a Governor of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences.

Composer Selma Moidel Smith, Esq. Junie Award Recipient



Selma Moidel Smith, Esq., graduated USC's law school in 1942 when there were few women lawyers and few job openings for those women who graduated. Nevertheless, she succeeded in pursuing an illustrious legal career as a private practitioner and later editor-in-chief of *California Legal History* for the California Supreme Court Historical Society. Smith is past president of the Women Lawyers Association and has received numerous honors. She is also a

prominent composer and featured in the *International Encyclopedia of Women Composers*. *Espressivo* is one of hundreds of works she composed for piano. It was orchestrated and performed by the LA Lawyers Philharmonic at its Walt Disney Concert Hall debut on July 15, 2010. It is reprised tonight for the orchestra's 10th Anniversary as Smith celebrates her 100th birthday this year.



Greene and Smith review her *Espressivo* score



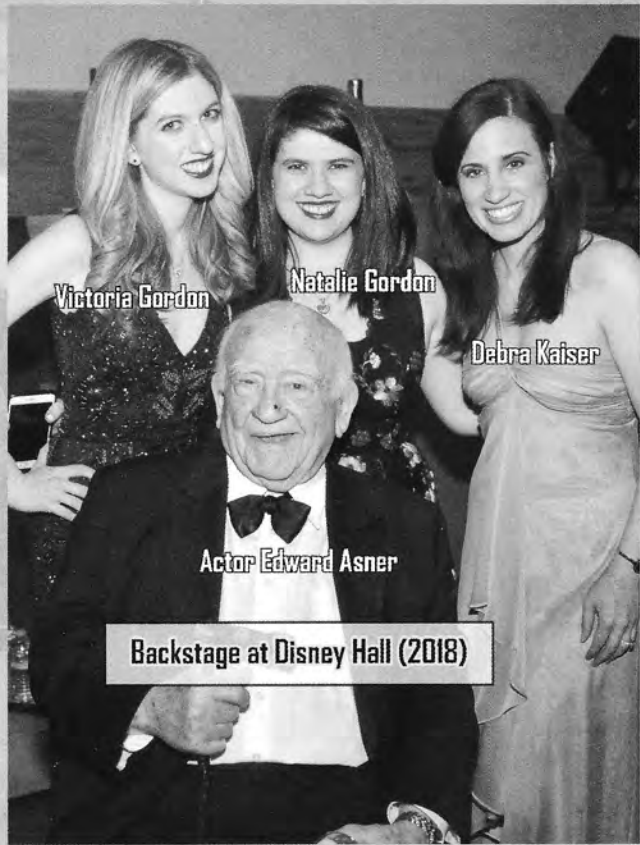
Michael J. Kaiser, Esq.

Richard Sherman

Debra Kaiser

Felice Greene

Songwriter Richard Sherman's 90th Birthday Concert (2018)
Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, Beverly Hills



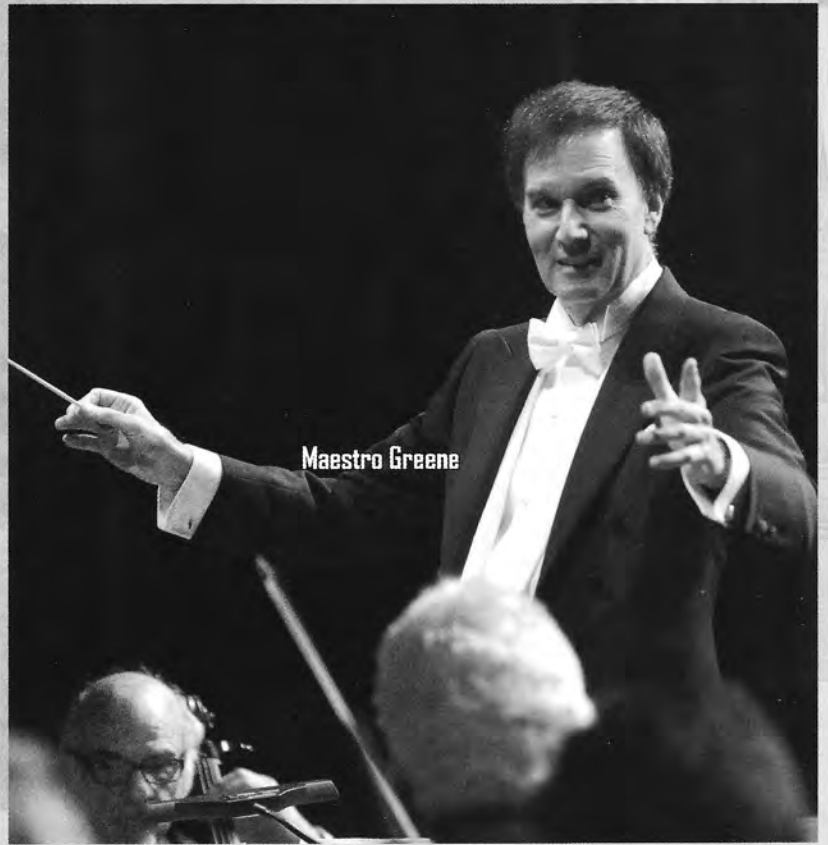
Victoria Gordon

Natalie Gordon

Debra Kaiser

Actor Edward Asner

Backstage at Disney Hall (2018)



Maestro Greene

"Congratulations to tonight's honorees, composers Charles Fox and Selma Moidel Smith, Esq., and to Founder-Conductor Gary S. Greene, Esq., for bringing beautiful music and harmony to the world."

-Debra & Michael Kaiser