

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## "Belle Notte" presents memorable songs of women in Italian opera

*Cos Cob, CT*, April 16, 2013--Juilliard-trained professional opera singers Abby Powell and Amy Buckley accompanied by pianist Larissa Friedenberg will present "Bella Notte," an evening of Italian art songs and arias from the baroque to the bel canto period. The focus of the program will be memorable songs of women in Italian opera: women in love, women rejected, women plotting, women winning over enemies—all from stories by beloved composers. The evening's entertainment complements the Historical Society's current exhibition, *From Italy to America*, which will be open for viewing before the performance.

Mezzo soprano Abby Powell, who graduated from The Julliard School with a Master of Music in Voice, has received numerous awards, including The Rise Stevens Award, G. & M. Grunin Prize for Music, The Aspen Music Festival Voice Competition and the Maxwell H. Gluck Community Fellowship Scholarship. She has appeared on both operatic and world recital stages and currently resides in New York City.

Soprano Amy Buckley has graced both operatic and recital stages throughout the United States and Europe. She received her Bachelor of Music from the University of Connecticut and has trained at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Miss Buckley, who has a Master of Music from The Juilliard School, resides in Greenwich, CT, where she teaches private voice and piano lessons.

Pianist Larissa Friedenberg is a graduate of The Juilliard School of Music. She has performed in Europe, Canada and the U.S. as both a soloist and a chamber musician. She resides in Riverside, CT, where she teaches at her Greenwich Piano Studio.

This beautiful night of wine, women and song will take place in a cabaret-like setting and is one you won't want to miss.

Thursday, May 16, 2013; 7:00 to 8:30 pm Greenwich Historical Society, Vanderbilt Education Center 39 Strickland Road, Cos Cob, CT 06807 Members: \$15; nonmembers \$20 Reservations required. Please visit <u>www.greenwichhistory.org</u> or call 203-869-6899, Ext. 10. The exhibition *From Italy to America* will be open for viewing in the Storehouse Gallery from 6:00 to 7:00 pm prior to the program.