

ARIAS & ENCORES – OPERATIVE GEMS,
MUSICAL THEATRE AND SONG
TUESDAY MARCH 24 – 6PM
SAVANNAH VOICE FESTIVAL ARTISTS APPEAR AT THE
SAVANNAH MUSIC FESTIVAL

SAVANNAH, GA – March 10, 2015, The Savannah VOICE Festival (SVF) and Savannah Music Festival (SMF) unveil the programming for *Arias & Encores* which will be presented at 6pm on Tuesday March 24th at Trinity United Methodist Church, 127 Barnard Street in downtown Savannah. This 90 minute concert of favorites will take place during the first week of the 2015 Savannah Music Festival and follows the opening weekend's performances of the co-produced Puccini operas, the tragedy - *Suor Angelica* and comedy - *Gianni Schicchi*, featuring the Savannah Philharmonic.

Artists from the operas will give an exciting encore performance that includes favorites from the canons of opera, musical theatre and song and this concert is part of the Sherrill Milnes' VOICE Programs celebratory year; the legendary baritone's 80th birthday and 50th anniversary of his debut at New York's Metropolitan Opera. Many of the SVF artists are returning from the 2014 VOICE Festival and the program promises a diverse range of performances many of which will be new to Savannah audiences including Verdi's *Rigoletto* and other operatic favorites.

"We hope people will come to both the opera and this wonderful encore concert." says Maria Zouves, Executive Director of the Savannah VOICE Festival. "It will give a taste of some of the exciting plans that we have in store for the 2015 Festival which will once again take place during the first two weeks of August".

Tickets can be purchased online at www.savannahmusicfestival.org, by phone at 912.525.5050 or in person at the Savannah Box Office at 216 E. Broughton Street. For more information, please visit www.savannahvoicesfestival.org, www.voicexperiencefoundation.com or call 855.76.OPERA.

Editor's Note

Savannah VOICE Festival is a new non-profit arts organization that brings classical vocal excellence to the Savannah area through a two-week celebration of concerts, events and educational presentations during the month of August and throughout the year. Focusing on arts awareness and audience development in the performing arts, it offers music from opera, musical theatre and popular song,

VOICE Experience Foundation is an educational non-profit partner organization to the Festival, helping young artists pursue their careers in the performing arts. It provides crucial outreaches to the communities it serves and perpetuates excellence in the art of singing with its educational programs.

Both organizations were founded by opera legend Sherrill Milnes and soprano Maria Zouves. They work together to serve the community by providing the highest level of education and quality performances by talented artists for all to enjoy.

ABOUT SAVANNAH MUSIC FESTIVAL: The Savannah Music Festival (SMF) is dedicated to presenting world-class celebrations of the musical arts by creating timeless and adventurous productions that stimulate arts education, foster economic growth and unite artists and audiences in Savannah. In addition to year-round broadcast, outreach and music education programs, SMF produces a centerpiece festival each spring with renowned artists in jazz, classical and a wide variety of American and international musical traditions. The 2015 festival runs from March 19 through April 4, including more than 100 performances in intimate venues throughout Savannah's historic district. For more information visit www.savannahmusicfestival.org.

**For media enquiries, interviews and tickets call Lesley Francis at - 912-429-3950
or email lesley@francis.com**