

## ARSC New York Chapter NOVEMBER 2013 Meeting

7 P. M. Thursday, 11/21/13  
at the CUNY Sonic Arts Center  
West 140<sup>th</sup> Street & Convent Avenue, New York  
or enter at 138th Street off Convent Avenue  
Shepard Hall (the Gothic building) – Recital Hall (Room 95, Basement level)  
An elevator is located in the center of the building

### Dame Joan Hammond

A Belated Centennial Tribute to the Australian Soprano

Presented by Gary Thalheimer

Joan Hammond, one of several singers whose international career was curtailed by World War II, during which she served as an ambulance driver in England, with occasional concerts and opera engagements. She had a contract with the Vienna State Opera to sing Butterfly and the Marschallin in 1939 when war broke out. In England, she appeared at Sadlers Wells, toured with the Carl Rosa Opera Company and sang for the troops. One of her early recordings was “O mio babbino caro”, sung in English. It became a best seller and 'went gold'. She recorded many more arias in English in the 1940s; however, by the 1950's she was transferred to the HMV Red Label artist roster and made recordings in Italian, French, German and Russian. She had a wide range, from Marguerite and Mimi to such heavier roles as Aida and Turandot, and was the first English soprano to sing Tatiana in Russian at the Bolshoi. After the war, she appeared on the continent in opera and concerts. Her U.S. Debut in 1949 included concerts and performances at the New York City Opera. Her career was cut short by a heart condition in the 1960s. Among selections to be heard will be her famous Gianni Schicchi aria, “Ocean Thou Mighty Monster” from *Oberon*, Mozart, Verdi and Puccini in English, “*Dépuis le jour*” and the *Rusalka* aria that led to a production with her at Covent Garden.

*Gary Thalheimer has been a record collector since 1942, and a tape recordist since March 1954. His articles and reviews go back to the Saturday Review of the 1950s, plus a monthly New Release Bulletin for Gary Thal Music for more than 20 years. Gary's first ARSC presentation was at the Rochester meeting two decades ago. His major collecting interest is historic recordings and their preservation, in furtherance of which he has made a sizable bequest to the Sonic Arts Department of CCNY to establish both a graduate program and a tenured faculty position to teach Preservation and Transfer Techniques.*

THERE WILL BE NO DECEMBER MEETING.

OUR NEXT PROGRAM WILL BE ON JANUARY 16, 2014

"Getting Back to the Source (or as Close as Possible)" with Seth B. Winner

## DIRECTIONS TO THE SONIC ARTS CENTER

**Subway:** Take the 1 train to 137<sup>th</sup> Street City College and walk north to 140<sup>th</sup> St. & Broadway, then go east to 140<sup>th</sup> St. & Convent Avenue. Take the A, B, C, or D trains to 145th St, go south on St. Nicholas to 141st St, (one long block), then west one block to Convent Avenue, and south one more block to 140th & Convent Avenue.

**Bus:** M4 and M5 on Broadway; M 100, 101 on Amsterdam Ave (one block West of Convent Avenue.)



The **Sonic Arts Center** at CCNY offers 4-year Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in Music with a concentration in Music and Audio Technology. Their program provides an in-depth curriculum emphasizing real-world skills with a project-based approach. Students enjoy a well-rounded program, with emphasis on audio technology, music theory, orchestration, and history to help them compete in a field that today demands an ever-growing and highly diverse skill set.



All ARSC NY Chapter meetings are free and open to the public.

**Voluntary contributions to help defray our expenses are welcome!**

To join ARSC, visit <http://www.arsc-audio.org>