

# Ladies First Vaudeville Concert Salutes Victor Herbert's Leading Broadway Ladies

*Honoring the dreams and ambitions of early 20th century American leading ladies from musical comedies and operettas by Broadway legend Victor Herbert*

NEW YORK, NEW YORK, USA, February 11, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- On the eve of Women's History Month comes [Ladies First, an original concert of music by Victor Herbert](#), performed in the style of American Vaudeville, in homage to the leading ladies of the early Broadway stage. A true early Broadway legend, Victor Herbert was a prolific composer, conductor, and musician. The Irish-born Herbert wrote popular music, as well as for Broadway, including 43 operettas, 2 operas, compositions for orchestra, band, cello, violin, piano.

Thematically, Ladies First is a concert celebrating the dreams and ambitions of many a Herbert leading lady. Would she find love, or wealth, or would she make a name for herself on the stage? Would she travel abroad, marry a Baron, or be mistaken for a Queen? The program includes well-known Herbert favorites from Miss Dolly Dollars, the wealthy American girl in Europe, and Mlle. Modiste, a hat shop girl yearning to sing opera. Lesser known treasures are culled from Herbert's Orange Blossoms, The Idol's Eye, The Debutante, and It Happened in Nordland. A spotlight on rarely heard songs from the sparkling ladies in The Rose of Algeria and The Century Girl promises an extra special performance for even the most steadfast of Herbert's fans.

Why Vaudeville? Ladies First is a concert comprising material from a variety of Victor Herbert's operettas and musical comedies. Stage director for VHRP LIVE!, Emily Cornelius comments, "Vaudeville existed in New York and across the nation from the 1880s to 1930s — almost the same span that the music of Victor Herbert graced the Broadway stage. Performing Herbert through a Vaudeville filter gives our players an opportunity to expand outward from a typically staged concert format. It's a chance to capture the spontaneity and lightness of travelling professional players, pulling ideas and performance material out of thin air to fit the moment."

VHRP LIVE! presents a cast able to create that exciting sense of spontaneity in Ladies First, featuring the singing voices and acting talents of highly-skilled performers from a variety of backgrounds including Joanie Brittingham, Natalie Ballenger, Alexa Devlin, Tanya Roberts, Sarah Caldwell Smith, Daniel Greenwood, Richard Holmes, Anthony Maida, David Seatter, and Matthew Wages. Musical



An original vaudeville-in-concert of music by Victor Herbert, in homage to his leading ladies of Broadway.

direction is by Michael Thomas; stage direction by Emily Cornelius, with libretto by Alyce Mott, and choreography by Susanna Organic.

Ladies First is presented by VHRP LIVE! for two nights only at 8pm, Tuesday February 27th, and 8pm, Wednesday February 28th, 2018 in Christ and St Stephen's Church at 120 West 69th Street (near B'way) in New York City. Tickets are \$15-\$35 with the discounts available on-line at [vhrplive.org](http://vhrplive.org) and [tdf.org](http://tdf.org) till noon on performance days. Full price \$25-\$40 tickets are available at the door at 7:30pm on the dates of the performance. To purchase by phone and for more information call (917) 815-8899. PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE CHURCH!

The Victor Herbert Renaissance Project LIVE! is the world's only company exclusively devoted to bringing to the attention of contemporary audiences the music of Victor Herbert, an Irish-American composer, conductor, musician, and orchestration legend who indelibly influenced the foundations of American popular music as well as musical theater. For more information visit [www.vhrplive.org](http://www.vhrplive.org).

For press requests, reviews and photos contact [press@smallvictorypress.com](mailto:press@smallvictorypress.com) or call (917) 697-6260.

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