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Recital Information: Saturday, May 18, 7:30 p.m., The Baroque Room, 275 East 4th Street, Suite 280, Saint Paul, MN 55101

2010 McKnight Fellowship recipient and composer Jocelyn Hagen has been writing songs since she was a young child. Now an established composer of choral, wind ensemble, chamber and orchestral music, she is thrilled to announce the release of her first dedicated professional recording. The award-winning songs on the program include love. songs, her settings of poetry by E. E. Cummings, as well as a significant and dramatic work entitled Songs of Fields and Prairies, commissioned by the North Dakota Music Teachers Association.

The concert is FREE and open to the public and made possible by a Next Step Grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council.

Jocelyn Hagen is available for a phone interview; please email to set up a time. Visit her website for more information, including a biography and headshot: www.jocelynhagen.com.

Performer Biographies:

Bradley Greenwald has performed opera, theater, music-theater, concert and recital repertoire with several Twin Cities’ arts organizations, including Jungle Theater, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, Guthrie Theater, Children’s Theatre Company, 10,000 Things Theater, Nautilus Music-Theater, Minnesota Dance Theatre, VocalEssence, Frank Theater, Minnesota Orchestra, Lyra Baroque Orchestra, A Prairie Home Companion, Skylark Opera and Ballet of the Dolls.

Soprano Linh Kauffman, praised as “radiant” by the Saint Paul Pioneer Press, most recently made her Latin American debut in Mozart’s Apollo et Hyacinthus at the Teatro Nacional de Panamá. Her other recent performances include Bach’s Mass in B Minor and Haydn's Heiligmesse under the baton of Helmuth Rilling at the Oregon Bach Festival and a tour of Germany with the Festival Ensemble Stuttgart. Ms. Kauffman has also appeared with the Minnesota Orchestra, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Richmond Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Rochester Symphony, Minnesota Bach Society, Oratorio Society of Minnesota, San Francisco City Chorus, and the California Chamber Symphony, among others, in works ranging from Bach cantatas to Orff's Carmina Burana.

A long-time member of Cantus and hailed by the San Francisco Chronicle as "funny and fresh-voiced", tenor Gary Ruschman appears regularly in concert, opera, jazz, theatre,
studio, and chamber music settings, but with special love for contemporary and historically informed performance. His performances include principal light lyric and character tenor roles in thirty operas, musicals, and plays, as well as an extended concert repertoire.

Active as a performer, educator and coach, pianist **Sonja Thompson** has appeared locally and nationally in a variety of performance settings. Her busy performance schedule includes appearances as both soloist and collaborator with singers and instrumentalists in song and chamber music recitals. Other activities include theater, opera, readings and multi-disciplinary events. In addition to performing, Sonja is Assistant Professor of Music at Augsburg College, where she teaches and coaches in the Music and Theater Departments.