

Vienna Presbyterian Church Music Ministries

4:00 pm Sunday, July 26, 2009 – Vienna Presbyterian Church, Vienna, VA

[www.viennapres.org](http://www.viennapres.org)

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**Kevin Thompson, Bass**

*“The voice booms, roars, rumbles through his 6’5” frame and bellows forth when he sings; even when he speaks, a Basso Profundo...”* (The Washington Post).

Mr. Thompson, a native of Washington, DC, is an alumnus of The Juilliard School. He is equally at home in opera and concert venues. In 2008/9 he was awarded top prizes at the Liederkrantz, Florida Grand Opera and Career Bridges. He also made debuts with The New York City Opera (Martel in William Grant Still’s *Troubled Island*), and with Augusta Opera ( Judge Turpin in *Sweeney Todd*). He portrayed Sarastro in *Die Zauberflöte*, Colline in *La Bohème*, Sparafucile in *Rigoletto*, Il Commendatore in *Don Giovanni*, Frank Maurant in Weill’s *Street Scene*, Grandpa Moss in Copland’s *Tender Land*, and Bailli in Massenet’s *Werther*.

Mr. Thompson’s concert hall performances have included the *Requiems* of Verdi and Mozart, Handel’s *Messiah*, Stravinsky’s *Les Noces*, and Haydn’s *The Creation* and *Lord Nelson Mass*. He has given performances in Austria, France, Italy, Germany, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, and Russia. American appearances include Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall, Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall, The Library of Congress, Barns of Wolftrap, The Pentagon and the United States Naval Academy Band (Annapolis). He has sung under the baton of conductors Alexander Kalajdzic, Edoardo Muller, Julius Rudel, Grant Gershon, Andreas Delfs, Mark Flint and David Zimmerman.

He received awards from The Juilliard School, AIMS Graz (American Institute of Musical Studies), Aspen Music Festival, the Paul Robeson Competition, Rosa Ponselle Competition, National Symphony Competition, Don Giovanni International Competition, and the Meistersinger Competition.

As a permanent part of the Smithsonian Institute’s Hirschhorn Gallery in Washington, DC, Mr. Thompson is featured singing “Old Man River” in an audio walk artwork exhibit titled *Words Drawn in Water* by artist Janet Cardiff.

At the end of this month Kevin Thompson will travel to the Mirjam Helin International Competition in Helsinki, Finland and relocate to Germany. In 2009/10 he will be located near Hamburg, performing at the *Oper Kiel* in Kiel, Germany, where he will perform major roles in *Aida*, *Der Meistersinger* and *Faust*.

Representation: Kathy Olsen [www.encompassarts.com](http://www.encompassarts.com)

**Michael K. Santana** is a conductor, pianist, bass-baritone and vocal teacher born in Puerto Rico. He received his Bachelor’s degree in Music Education from Longwood University, Virginia, with a concentration in voice and piano. Mr. Santana is currently Music Director of the Chesapeake Choral Arts Society of Southern Maryland, Choral Director at Pilgrim Church United Church of Christ in Wheaton, MD, and Music History teacher at the College of Southern Maryland. He is the Pianist/ Muse for the touring show called “*Go Diva*” based on the life of mezzo-soprano Jennifer Cooper. He has maintained a private vocal and piano studio for over 20 years.

Michael has recorded a CD titled “You Are the Song We Sing” with the Pilgrim Church choir, and they have toured together to Germany, the Czech Republic, and Austria. He has served as musical director and conductor of the Port Tobacco Players for 20 years. He taught at the Suitland High School Center of the Arts for 12 years as a voice and piano teacher and was Director of Vocal and Piano Activities for Prince George’s Country Public Schools for 5 years. Mr. Santana was Kevin’s first voice teacher and discovered his talent when Kevin was only 14 years old.