

# LEROY ANDERSON

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## F O U N D A T I O N



### AUTUMN 2023

Concerts at the Leroy Anderson House have taken place since 2018 during the months of September through mid June. Performances are indoors October through April. Concerts are outdoors on the terrace and lawn in May, June and September. Admission is free but reservations are required.

Send email to: [leroyandersonfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:leroyandersonfoundation@gmail.com)

### Fanfare Brass Quintet

#### Leroy Anderson House

Sunday, September 24, 2023

The Fanfare Brass Quintet will present an outdoor concert of music for brass instruments at 3 pm on Sunday, Sept 24, 2023.

The Quintet will perform a sampling of classic repertoire written and/or arranged for brass quintet. The genres and eras included are music from the Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Ragtime, Swing, and popular songs from the American Songbook and Broadway musicals.

The Quintet will also showcase arrangements of music by Leroy Anderson, including a new arrangement of "Summer Skies". The concert will take place on the Terrace and Lawn at the Leroy Anderson House.

The Fanfare Brass Quintet concert is made possible by the generous support of the Friends of the Leroy Anderson Foundation.



## Exploring The Creative Process

Being part of the Creative Practice Series at the Leroy Anderson House was a transformative experience for me as a young composer and performer. When Rolf welcomed me into the house, I was immediately shocked with the reality of what this performance meant. Leroy Anderson was such a prolific and accomplished composer — and here I was continuing the legacy of music and outreach in his home! What joy!



**Lauren and Sarah**, August 27, 2023 Photograph by Marc Russell

This event allowed me to create a collaboration between all the people I loved. Most importantly, I was finally able to perform with my little sister Lauren, a senior at Canton High School. She recited poetry and gave background on all the songs we performed. Also dear to me was collaborating with my friends from my undergraduate music degree at the University of Connecticut: the members of the VoiceBox Choir and pianist Emma Bocciarelli. Finally, I was delighted to work with the brilliant poet Sandy Carlson once more, who has energetically supported my music since our first collaboration last summer.

To start the day, I introduced my creative obsession: discovering how words and music can combine to describe my experience of being a human. Then, Emma Bocciarelli and I gave performances of five of my art songs from a project called “Let Us Sing: Contemporary

Art Songs for Young Singers.” Recordings and a free e-book of the project can all be found on my website: <https://www.sarahmarze.com/let-us-sing>

The VoiceBox choir gave a rousing performance of a song called “Day of Fire and Sun” by Dominick DiOrio, and then performed my choir composition based on ancient latin graffiti called “Paries Quid Ama.”

My favorite moment of the day was when we involved the audience with the performance of my composition for Sandy’s poem called “Waking, Dreaming.” Just before this moment, it had started to rain, forcing us to move in our chairs and cuddle up under the awning. We passed out wine glasses that had all been individually tuned to specific pitches. When played together by the audience members, they created a shimmering chord that reflected the beauty of twinkling stars, as described in Sandy’s atmospheric poem that inspired my musical composition. In the video Sandy captured, you can see me absolutely  *freaking out*  over how awesome it sounded:

<https://youtu.be/467mxVA6SRA>

In all, this was a most inspiring day. In three days from the time of writing this, I will be moving to London to pursue graduate studies in music composition. My day in Woodbury was a moving close to this chapter of my life and music-making. I will be forever grateful to the Leroy Anderson Foundation and Rolf Anderson for allowing me the chance to work with the people I love to share the music I love to create.

To learn more about the VoiceBox choir, contact [vbchoir@gmail.com](mailto:vbchoir@gmail.com) or follow @voiceboxchoir on Instagram.

To learn more about Sandy Carlson, visit <https://www.sandycarlson.net/> or follow @woodburypoetlaureate on Instagram.

To follow pianist Emma Bocciarelli, contact [ebocc328@gmail.com](mailto:ebocc328@gmail.com) or follow @emma\_bocciarelli on Instagram.

To learn more about composer/vocalist Sarah Marze, visit: [www.sarahmarze.com](http://www.sarahmarze.com) or follow @thedivacomposer on Instagram.

Exploring The Creative Process



VoiceBox Choir, August 27, 2023 Photograph by Marc Russell

The Leroy Anderson Foundation will host a series of presentations titled *Exploring the Creative Process* at the Leroy Anderson House this fall. Vocalists, instrumentalists, poets, and visual artists will share how they found their passion for their art medium, how they develop their projects, and how others might find their way into the art. The artist presenters will create the opportunity for guests to try their hand at participating in the art they present on.

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Emma Bocciarelli, August 27, 2023 Photograph by Marc Russell

*Exploring the Creative Process*  
at the Leroy Anderson House  
continues with Artist and Poet  
Steve Parlato of Middlebury, Connecticut.



Steve Parlato

The Leroy Anderson Foundation will continue its series of presentations titled *Exploring the Creative Process* at the Leroy Anderson House on October 1 at 2 pm, when visual artist and poet **Steve Parlato** of Middlebury will present on his choice of collage and poetry to depict victims of systemic racism and to honor their lives.

His portrait series, *They Are Not Disposable*, was featured at Waterbury’s Silas Bronson Library in February for Black History Month. This summer, his artwork will be displayed at Mercy by the Sea in Madison. Parlato calls this work “a calling and an opportunity to foster necessary—if often difficult—conversation.” Parlato will invite guests to create collages to express their own passions with materials he will supply.

Professor Emeritus of English at Naugatuck Valley Community College, where he currently teaches Drawing, Parlato is the author of the novels *The Precious Dreadful* and *The Namesake*, published by Simon and Schuster. Steve’s poetry appears in *Freshwater*, *Peregrine*, *MARGIE*, and other journals.



Julie Cook

## LEROY ANDERSON HOUSE

### Historic House Museum

The Leroy Anderson House was the home of the American composer Leroy Anderson and his wife Eleanor Anderson. Leroy Anderson commissioned Modernist architect Joseph Stein to design the house which was built in 1953. The Leroy Anderson House was named to the National Register of Historical Places on December 31, 2012. Following the death of Eleanor Anderson, the house and surrounding 35 acres were transferred to the Leroy Anderson Foundation, a non-profit, charitable organization, and was designated as a historic house museum on March 27, 2018.

**Admission is free but reservations are required.**

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### *Exploring the Creative Process* at the Leroy Anderson House continues with Poetry and Music

The third of the Leroy Anderson Foundation's series of presentations titled *Exploring the Creative Process* will take place on Sunday, October 15 at 2 p.m. at the Leroy Anderson House. Pianist and poet **Julie Cook** and musician, poet, singer, songwriter **Thomasina Levy** will demonstrate how music enhances poetry by playing the piano, dulcimer, and other instruments with poetry readings.

Cook and Levy will invite participants to do the same with a variety of simple instruments and poems that they provide. Cook says, "There's no limit to the joy and creativity that happens when we playfully combine music and words. And the best part – no musical experience required!" In this creative session, Cook and Levy will demonstrate the pairing of music and words



Thomasina Levy at Topsmead, Lenox, Massachusetts

by reading poems accompanied by the dulcimer, piano, and other instruments, showing a variety of ways this can happen. Then the audience will be invited to awaken their inner musicians by picking up easy-to-play instruments to accompany poetry readers— and then trade roles.

Levy, a musician, poet, singer, and songwriter, says she loves her work and calls herself a “creativity midwife” who is a witness to the birthing of others’ creative processes in visual, musical and written arts. She was Connecticut State Troubadour from 2005 to 2006.

Cook, a music educator and a published poet and fiction writer, also composes songs and choral works. She is a Music for People certified improvisation facilitator.

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## Eleanor Anderson

While many European composers' homes have become house museums, few American composers' homes have been preserved in similar manner. Eleanor Anderson was keenly aware of this fact and was determined that the Leroy Anderson House be maintained in its original condition and become a house museum, similar to the homes of Aaron Copland, Stephen Foster, Howard Hanson, Charles Ives, Scott Joplin, Cole Porter, John Philip Souza, and Meredith Willson.



### ***Exploring the Creative Process***

The fourth and final presentation of the Leroy Anderson Foundation's series *Exploring the Creative Process* will take place at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 22, at the Leroy Anderson House.

Commercial and fine-art photographer **Marc Russell** of Bethlehem will explore the confluence of experiences, goals, opportunities as well the inspiration of other artists that led to a career of commercial and fine-art photography. He'll also discuss what it takes to find the balance of commercial work, fine art, family, and teaching—a challenge that many artists regularly face.

Russell says, "My work comes from explorations while hiking and traveling as well as in my gardens, where

nature provides a beautiful, colorful, varied and wonderful array of forms, patterns, shapes and textures. Enhancing and inspiring the evolving relationships between art and nature are curiosity and scientific wonder, history, joy, respect for the earth's spirit combined with a love of light and form."

Guests will have the opportunity to try out some of Russell's ideas by using his 4x5 and 8x10 cameras for hands-on demonstrations and trials. He will also bring a few sculptures and tools for participants to try out.

Russell completed B.A and M.F.A. degrees in photography and sculpture from Brooklyn College. In addition, he studied at the Brooklyn Museum Art School, Cooper Union, The Art Students League, Pratt Institute Study Program in Italy and Maine Photographic Workshops. He has held several commercial (cont'd)



Standing Pod by Marc Russell

photographic assistantships and apprenticed to sculptor Philip Grausman. He has taught in the Industrial Design Department at Pratt Institute and for 20 years was adjunct professor of black and photography and advanced photo studio techniques at Rockland Community College. Russell has exhibited work in group and solo shows including The Rockefeller Gallery, Hopper House, Rockland Center for the Arts, Upstream Gallery, Imaging Arts, Uma Gallery, SUNY Albany, Renaissance Gallery, Blue Door, Washington Art Association, Soho Photography Gallery, Louisville JCC, Olivet College, the Peck School, Blue Hill Plaza and is in numerous private collections.

He will bring an 4x5 and 8x10 cameras for hands on demonstration and trial along with a few sculptures and tools.

**Admission is free but reservations are required.**

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## Thanks to our Volunteers and Friends 7

We are grateful to our volunteers for their help with greeting guests, directing parking, and acting as docents during Open Days.

Adrian Bos, Cynthia Bos, Simeon Bos, Sandy Carlson, Zander Bos, Deb Chester, Mitch Chester, Joseph Darcourt, Linhuang Darcourt. Yulia Fedorov, Val Fedorov, Gillian Griswold, Russell Huff, Polly Kacerguis, Beth Lyons, Fran MacDougall, and Darcy Thurrott.

Thanks to all those who have made donations in support of the programs at the Leroy Anderson House. Become a Friend of the Leroy Anderson Foundation.

Your tax-deductible donation in any amount is appreciated. Thank you !

Link: [Donation Form](#)



For Leroy Anderson, the **quiet** of the rural setting was the critical element in the suitability of the house for composing music.

// In my youth I lived in a Brooklyn apartment and tried to write music while the girl upstairs took turns practicing voice and piano. I was never sure which of her musical aspirations was more frustrating to my work. Yes, I guess you could call it splendid isolation. It's the kind of place a composer needs. "

- Leroy Anderson, 1963

## How I chose the artists for this series

by Sandy Carlson



Sandy Carlson

As Woodbury's poet laureate since 2021, I have had the great opportunity to initiate conversations about poetry in its own right as well as in conversation with other art forms. These conversations have put me in the company of musicians, painters, novelists, and collage artists at Woodbury Public Library and at the Leroy Anderson House, among other nearby places. I have been struck by the considerable talent and deep commitment to the arts of the people I have encountered. Many of the artists involved with this series also participated in the Celebrating Poetry day at Woodbury Public Library in April. That was a special day that put creative people in a public space to talk about the power of poetic language to transform our understanding of ourselves and our relationships to each other.

When Rolf and I discussed this series, I thought of the art these presenters create in a variety of media as well as their ability to communicate their understanding to others.

I also thought of the legacy of the Leroy Anderson House. The House is historic as the home of the composer Leroy Anderson and his family but also as a Midcentury Modern house rich in art that, in its time and now, challenges us to think of how we think of ourselves and our place in the world. These creative people and their love of, and commitment to, the community they call home made them natural fits for this series.



Leroy Anderson House

"To experience the world in which any artist lived is a great way to understand the source and inspiration of their creativity. And a visit to the Leroy Anderson House is a great example of that."

*Dan McGeehan, Chicago, Illinois*

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**Website: [LeroyAndersonFoundation.org](http://LeroyAndersonFoundation.org)**