# VERDI CLUB

Newsletter | November 2023



### **Upcoming Events**

#### Friday, November 3

Cocktails with Jeff

#### Wednesday, November 8

Verdi Club Elections

#### Saturday, November 11

<u>Dinner Dance Party w/ The Bob</u> <u>Gutierrez Band</u>

#### Friday, November 17

<u>Verdi Club Presents:</u> Rami Bar-Niv Performs Gershwin

#### Saturday, November 18

Opera Club Presents:
Viva la Musica - A Classical
Vocal Music Concert w/ Piano
and Violin

#### Saturday, December 16

Holiday Dinner Dance Party w/ Halsey & The Hi-Hats

#### Sunday, December 31

New Year's Eve Dinner Dance
Party w/ The Kleptones

#### **Weekly Events**

Tuesdays - <u>Woodchopper's Ball</u>
Wednesdays - <u>Stud Country</u>
Thursdays - <u>Milonga Malevaje</u>

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### Benvenuti a tutti!

President George Washington proclaimed the last Thursday in November 1789, as our first Thanksgiving Day national holiday. Thanksgiving is a time to adopt an attitude of gratitude. While gratitude for our lives, our friends, and our family, you name it, should be a year-round mind-set, we devote special attention to be grateful on Thanksgiving Day.

We have a great deal to be thankful for at the Verdi Club, but most of all, we are thankful for you, our members, both old and new. Because of you, our beautiful Club is filled with laughter and joy. Your participation in the Verdi Club, and your attendance at the monthly dinner dances and our other events, make the Verdi Club the fabulous destination that it is. Without you, we are just another pretty face.

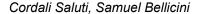


So, from all of us at The Verdi Club, to all of you, Grazie Mille!

Now, show your gratitude to the Verdi Club by choosing to volunteer. Please contact any Officer, Board Member, or Jason Mulvaney, our General Manager, to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

And please RSVP to the Member Meeting on **November 8 at 5:30 PM**, and VOTE. You will be electing the Board and Officers who will serve you in the coming year.

Also, please join us for the November 11 Dinner Dance, featuring the Verdi Club favorite, the Bob Gutierrez Band. Get your tickets for the November 11 Dinner Dance, and for all of the Verdi Club's public events, at <a href="https://www.verdiclub.net/events-calendar/">https://www.verdiclub.net/events-calendar/</a> and just click on the event you want to attend.







#### **Verdi Club Directory**

**President** 

Samuel Bellicini 415-298-7284

**Vice President** 

Mark Schutz 415-641-8759

**Financial Sec.** 

Ed Sutton 415-305-8707

<u>Treasurer</u>

Dennis Davison 415-584-1075

**Secretary** 

Jean Perata 415-584-1075

**Sergeant at Arms** 

Steve Mullarkey 650-255-3023

**Chairman of the Board** 

Delores Homisak 650-996-9060

**Board of Directors** 

 Bonnie McGregor
 415-528-9630

 Melissa Mooney
 415-505-0036

 Steve Mullarkey
 650-255-3023

Jane Russell

Wisdom 415-420-6598 Annette Schutz 415-652-2130

**Alternate Board Member** 

Ron McGoldrick 415-720-5150

**Membership Chair** 

Delores Homisak 650-996-9060

**Sunshine Chair** 

Annette Schutz 415-652-2130

**Manager** 

Jason Mulvaney 510-543-5030

**Verdi Club** 415-861-9199

#### 2024 ELECTIONS

The Board of Directors has decided to hold a single Member Meeting this year for the purpose of electing Officers and Board Members for 2024. The Member Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 8, at 5:30pm at the Verdi Club. We used this format, with great success, last year. The Board feels a single meeting for this year, again, is the safest and most fair way to hold an open election for 2024.

If you want to be nominated for a position, you do not need to be present, but you do have to confirm to the President in advance of the meeting that you will accept the nomination, which is being made on your behalf. You can contact Sam Bellicini at 415-298-7284 or email <a href="mailto:samuel@verdiclub.net">samuel@verdiclub.net</a>.

The current Board will also meet, if necessary, to take any pending actions. We look forward to seeing your active participation in the election. Dinner will be served after the meeting. Please let us know by November 3 if you plan to attend. RSVP by emailing rsvp@verdiclub.net

#### COCKTAILS WITH JEFF



Friday, November 3

7pm-10pm

Members FREE

Non-Members \$25

Settle in for an evening of tales and tipples in our first installment of "Cocktails with Jeff", an exclusive experience at the Verdi Club. The inaugural outing will feature cocktails associated with New Orleans. Learn the legendary history of these drinks, some fun facts about the spirits that go into them, the personalities who had a hand in their creation, and most importantly... how to make and enjoy them!

Please RSVP by emailing <a href="mailto:rsvp@verdiclub.net">rsvp@verdiclub.net</a> by Tuesday, November 3



#### **Birthdays**

Sara Broussard Scott Keller James Landa Greg and Joyce Murphy

#### **Anniversaries**

Fiona Ma & Jason Hodge

#### **Dinner Dance Set Up Team**

Dennis Davison
Ron McGoldrick
Bonnie McGregor
Annette Schutz
Mark Schutz
Jane Russell Wisdom
Bill Russell
Steve Mullarkey
Diane Mullarkey

If you would like to help out at the Club, on the day of the dinner dance we meet at 8am and are usually finished by 10am.

#### To join the crew contact:

Dennis Davison at: <u>dgrizz24@yahoo.com</u> 415-584-1075

#### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

# **Bob Carasik and Mary Dryovage: Their orbit is a spiral**

Mary and Bob have arrived at the Verdi Club through their networks of friends and involvement with swing dancing. They are thrilled to become a part of the Verdi family, as they live nearby in Bernal Heights. Travel has always been a part of their life together. Mary's invitation to four months of backpacking in Europe cemented their relationship years ago. More recently Bob's work led him to an



annual one-week teaching assignment in Wuhan, China. That became a basis for them to make several trips together to other destinations in China including the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze and the karst pillars of Guilin and ZhangJiaJie. China's extra-long Covid shutdown has renewed their interest in Latin America. Last year they went to the less-known Afro-Caribbean side of Costa Rica and overland to Panama's Bocas del Toro beaches and of course, the big canal.

Bob is a longtime IT systems architect and Mary, after years as an employment attorney, is working on a Masters degree in East-West psychology at CIIS. This summer Mary's graduate program organized a short course in India, at the utopian community of Auroville. Bob joined her there after a side trip to catch up with some old colleagues in Singapore. After departing Auroville they got a car and driver and went to a hill station in Tamil Nadu. They spent time on a houseboat in Kerala, then flew to New Delhi before returning home from Mumbai. Somewhere along the way they lost their fear of the unknown, but they do continue to drink bottled water as advised. And to wear bike helmets, always.



#### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

#### **Marco Bass**

After spotlighting Marco's Bass's upcoming Ukrainian humanitarian teaching trip, we'd like to bring you up to date.

Marco embarked on a 9-week odyssey to Lviv in Western Ukraine for an English teaching assignment for a program through Ukrainian Catholic University. Living on the University Campus, Marco worked 9 hour days teaching an English Summer School program with University students. He also enjoyed time with the You Angel organization helping orphans and families. Asking Marco to sum up his experience he said " 9 of the best weeks of my life, visiting a beautiful country and lovely people ".

Highlighting his experience, he was quick to add how easy and affordable the experience was if you feel compelled to participate in such an endeavor. Marco spent many months planning his travel and working through the endless details of such a trip. He now wants to encourage others to consider such travel as there are innumerable opportunities for Volunteerism in Ukraine. Marcos' fervent

wish is to return in 3 years for the graduation of his students from University. If you wish to understand a commitment to Ukrainian Volunteerism, Marco enthusiastically invites you to join him for coffee & discussion (<a href="markwbass@yahoo.com">markwbass@yahoo.com</a>).

If you would like to donate to a secure, vetted organization assisting Orphans and Families visit www.hromada.us

Hromada in Ukrainian translates to "community." A San Francisco based organization runs Anhelyk Foundation, which collects money for children whose families died from fighting in Eastern Ukraine.





# **VERDI CLUB**

presents
A George Gershwin Program
with

**Concert Pianist** 

Rami Bar-Niv

Friday November 17<sup>th</sup> 7PM



Join Us for this once in a lifetime experience presenting the music of George Gershwin at the historic Art Deco Verdi Club 2424 Mariposa Street

Tickets \$75



Friday, November 17

7pm

# **Tickets**

Discount Code for Verdi Club Members and Friends: VerdiSFRami

Rami Bar-Niv is one of Israel's most acclaimed and sought after pianists. He travels extensively and has become an international citizen, concertizing all over the world.

Verdi Club is delighted to welcome internationally acclaimed pianist and composer, Rami Bar-Niv for a special solo performance of Gershwin and more. The bar opens at 7pm with complimentary appetizers. The show will begin at 8pm.

#### **EVENT SPOTLIGHT**



Saturday, November 18 @ 6pm - Tickets

#### Discount Code for Verdi Club Members and Friends: OPERACLUB

Arias and duets from famous operas will be performed, as well as romances in various languages and Italian and Neapolitan songs.

#### Diana Skavronskaya. Soprano, Opera Singer.

One of San Francisco's most captivating opera sopranos. Diana performed on the legendary Perelman Stage at Carnegie Hall in October 2023. It was a return to the stage after her appearance at Weill Recital Hall in 2019.

#### Eugene Brancoveanu. Baritone, Opera Singer.

A graduate of the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz and the Universität Mozarteum Salzburg. Performed in Europe and the US including the Metropolitan Opera, Royal Opera House in London, and Teatro alla Scala in Milan. He was awarded an honorary Tony Award for his performance in Baz Luhrmann's Broadway production of the opera La Bohème.

#### Mariam Abgarian. Concert Pianist.

A graduate of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She holds a Master's degree in Piano. Laureate of numerous International Competitions. She has extensive experience learning from world renowned professors. She participated in the program of the International Charity Foundation established by Vladimir Spivakov.

#### Ani Sophie Bukujian. Concert Violinist.

Ani received her both Bachelor and Masters Degrees from The Juilliard School of Music in NYC . She is a principal 2nd Violinist of the SF Ballet Orchestra. And she is a concertmaster of Marin Symphony.



## Dinner Dance Party w/ The Bob Gutierrez Band

# Saturday, November 11 @ 5:30pm

# **Tickets**

#### **Bob Gutierrez Band**

The Verdi Club is always hopping when Bob Gutierrez comes to play. They play a mixture of ballroom dance and favorites from the 60's, 70's and 80's. Always a crowd pleaser, we're thrilled to have them back for the first time in 2023!

#### **Buffet Menu**

Herb Roasted Turkey or Butternut Squash Baked Pasta

Served with Side, Salad, Vegetable, Dessert and Dinner Wine

#### Schedule

5:30 Doors Open 6:30 Dinner 7:30 Dance





Holiday Dinner Dance Party w/ Halsey & The Hi-Hats December 16 @ 5:30pm

## **Tickets**

#### The Hi-Hats' Holiday Extravaganza:

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas with Halsey and the Hi-Hats playing the very best retro holiday songs and other fun jazz favorites. It may not be a White Christmas in San Francisco, but it will be the Most Wonderful Time of the Year! So get your dancing shoes on and take a Sleigh Ride over to Verdi Club!

#### **Buffet Menu**

Beef Tenderloin w/ Green Peppercorn Sauce or Creamy Gorgonzola Polenta w/ Mushrooms and Roasted Root Vegetables

Served with Side, Vegetable, Salad, Dinner Wine, and Dessert

#### **Price**

\$45 Member \$90 Member +1s \$55 Non-Member \$25 Dance Only



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#### Alex B. Lemberg, Esq. (they/them)

Attorney at Law & Notary Public

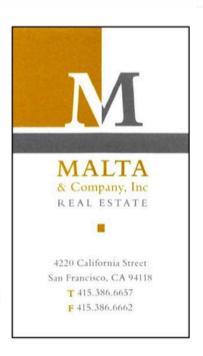
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