carolyn **BLACK Sotir**

"An abundance of beauty and talent...." —*Pittsburgh Press*

Carolyn Black-Sotir is a gifted and versatile artist who enjoys one of the most fascinating and diverse careers imaginable. Few possess her breadth of experience, talent and training. Whether it be as a singer, actress, writer, tv host, stage director, teacher, or producer, Carolyn is first and foremost a communicator. She connects to her audiences—through her music, her written words, her interviewing skills, and her inventive and expressive stagings. She is a special person who embraces life and art with incredible passion and with a voice and musicality that touch the souls of others. "Black-Sotir is a wonderful singer, with beautiful tone, and excellent diction, and her portrayal is spontaneous and superbly characterized."-- Baltimore Sun.

As guest vocal artist, Carolyn has sung with the region's finest orchestras and is in demand on the university and concert circuits presenting any of her thirteen original programs focusing on the American music theatre repertoire. Carolyn's hallmark is her innovative and collaborative programming, combining meticulous research, theatrical production elements, and exceptional musical interpretation. Abandoning the conventions of the predictable concert format, Carolyn combines music, dramatic narrative, and stunning images to create a provocative and multi-dimensional performance experience.

She is the Founder and Artistic Director of *AMTA* (*American Music Theatre Artists*) comprising an eclectic mix of musical and theatrical artists committed to keeping the American music theatre song relevant to today's audiences and alive for future generations. Carolyn and *AMTA* began touring with a performance of BY GEORGE! BY IRA! BY GERSHWIN! in Oldenburg, Germany. Since then, they have presented theatrical concerts in Virginia, Florida, Arkansas, Ohio, Arizona, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Vermont, New Mexico, and Maryland.

Carolyn also works as a producer/director in musical theatre and opera with such productions as her original *Bravo! Bernstein on Broadway,* featuring a cast of 12 singers/actors and the Peabody Orchestra. In collaboration with Center Stage, she produced a new work: *Shadowboxer,* an American jazz opera about boxing legend Joe Louis.

Carolyn's commitment to the arts is illustrated in numerous advocacy efforts. Currently, she serves as Chair of the Baltimore County Commission on Arts and Sciences and sits on the Advisory Board of Pikesville Armory Foundation. She co-founded *The Steinway Series at Silo Hill*, dedicated to reinventing the live classical music experience while raising awareness and research funds for Parkinson's [www.SteinwaySiloHill.org].

Carolyn maintains an active television career, hosting the arts television program *Kaleidoscope*, MPT's *Arts Minute* as well as numerous PBS specials. She has interviewed such notables as Broadway's Stephen Sondheim, Rick Elice, Lonny Price, and Roger Rees. As a film producer, editor and writer, she completed a documentary about the life and music of Dominick Argento which aired on Minnesota Public Television.

Dr. Black-Sotir is a member of the Voice Faculty at Morgan State University, teaching studio voice and musical theatre. She is in demand as a clinician, conducting numerous master classes and lectures on the American music theatre song for college and arts organizations. A classically trained musician, she is a *magna cum laude* graduate of Eastman School of Music with Bachelor and Master Music degrees in Vocal Performance. She holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Voice Performance with a special concentration in Directing from University of Maryland.

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