

Claudia Hommel - singing in French or English - presents a great program!

I have known Claudia and her programs for many years, but I recently had the pleasure of hearing Claudia and Sean Harris in the "Jazz Fauré" concert at the Hothouse in downtown Chicago. What an experience! Claudia and her group presented Fauré art songs jazzed-up, accompanied by a great back-up group. French teachers will be especially interested in this concert, as the songs are based on poetry of some of the greats of the late 19th early 20th century: poets such as Sully-Prudhomme, Verlaine, Leconte de Lisle, Hugo, and others. Included in the group were a few standards such as "Les Feuilles Mortes" (Prévert) which most students will recognize as "Autumn Leaves", with a little Cole Porter and Charles Trenet. There were many francophiles in the audience and the response to the Jazz Fauré project was indeed enthusiastic.

Claudia generously offered a cabaret concert in May to the Groupe Professionnel Francophone which meets at the Renaissance Hotel the last Thursday of every month to speak French and sip a glass or two. Claudia is at her best in this concert setting; she plays to the audience, and the audience response is always positive.

No doubt many of you know Claudia's programs which introduce students to French art songs and jazz of the 50s and 60s. For more information, see the latest *Francofeuilles*, or contact her by phone 888-590-9360 (773-509-9360) to discuss options for school programs. She is also available through clobert@compuserve.com or www.cabaret-paree.com/education.

It's not too late to schedule something for fall - for school programs, for special fund-raising projects, etc.

I highly recommend it!

s/ Anne Hebert

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