

Contact Jennie Litt
jennielitt@gmail.com
(347) 564-6544

For Immediate Release
March 2011

New Songwriter Event Premiere!
Songwriters' Roundtable
*A round robin of original songs and intimate
conversation with four songwriting women of
cabaret*

***Featuring Meg Flather, Jennie Litt, Rosemary
Loar, and Sue Matsuki***

Friday, April 22nd @ 7:30 p.m. at Don't Tell Mama

Songwriters' Roundtable, an all-new songwriter event featuring original songs by some of cabaret's most beloved songwriters, interspersed with Charlie Rose-style interviews, debuts at **Don't Tell Mama** on **Friday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m.** There is a **\$15 cover charge plus a 2-drink minimum.** (Members of MAC, Cabaret Hotline Online: \$10 cover.) Reservations may be placed by calling 212-757-0788 after 4 p.m. daily, or online at <http://www.donttellmamanyc.com/eventdetails.php?day=22&month=4&year=2011&eid=2619>. Don't Tell Mama is located at 343 W. 46th St., between 8th and 9th Aves. in Manhattan.

The brainchild of singer/songwriter Meg Flather and cabaret singer/lyricist Jennie Litt, *Songwriters' Roundtable* is a unique concept in live entertainment: a cabaret show with an informal coffeehouse vibe, interspersed with conversations exploring the craft, inspiration, and art of songwriting. After each songwriter performs and answers questions about her work, she puts on her "Charlie Rose" hat to interview a fellow songwriter, in a round-robin format.

In addition to being songwriters, the four participants in **Songwriters' Roundtable** are also highly-regarded cabaret performers. They include two-time Backstage Bistro Award-winning folk/rock artist **Meg Flather**, whose original songs are regularly featured in her "Home Shopping Diva" series; newcomer **Jennie Litt**, who recently made her NYC cabaret debut in *Composing Ourselves: Songs By Alpher & Litt*, with her husband, pianist, and co-writer David Alpher; Broadway veteran, recording artist, composer, and, most recently, jazz reinterpreter of the Sting songbook, **Rosemary Loar**; and 3-time MAC-Award-winner **Sue Matsuki**, a fixture on New York's jazz/cabaret scene for over two decades as singer, comedian, teacher, producer, columnist, reviewer, and member of the MAC Board of Directors.

Each artist has a unique sound and vision. **Meg Flather** is influenced vocally, lyrically and stylistically by legendary singer/songwriters Joni Mitchell, Carly Simon, Annie Lennox and Suzanne Vega. She developed her "whispering in your ear" approach to telling stories through

song to reflect the authenticity and intimacy of the 1960s folk movement she grew up listening to. Lyricist **Jennie Litt** finds inspiration in the work of legendary 1960s satirists Allan Sherman and Tom Lehrer, as well as cabaret giants Flanders & Swann and Dave Frishberg. Her songs, co-written with her composer husband David Alpher, present idiosyncratic takes on topics as diverse as celebrity chefs, manatees, gym addiction, and the randomness of absolutely everything. **Rosemary Loar** is moved to write songs out of her sheer love of music. She started writing lyrics when she heard Joni Mitchell, Sting and Peter Gabriel. She is influenced most of all by what she experiences as authenticity in storytelling. "I am new to this songwriting thing," remarks **Sue Matsuki**, "but when the second song that I ever wrote won the MAC Award, I started to think I may have a knack for writing. It's now a passion."

The artists' CDs will be available for purchase following the show. Instrumentalists for the evening include pianists David Alpher, John DiPinto, and Paul Greenwood, as well as harpist Marcia Young.

Press/photo inquiries should be directed to Jennie Litt at (347) 564-6544 or via e-mail to jennielitt@gmail.com.

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BIOS

Singer/songwriter and actress **Meg Flather** is a two-time Backstage Bistro Award-winning performer and has garnered glowing reviews from top New York City publications. As a comic actress, she has appeared on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and *The Rosie O'Donnell Show*. (While hosting *The Rosie O'Donnell Show*, Caroline Rhea described Meg's music as "totally beautiful.") As a singer/songwriter Meg was featured performer for The Gay Men's Health Crisis at New York's historic Webster Hall, the 2002 Vermont Film Festival, and the 2003 and 2004 Tribeca Film and Family Festivals. Meg's songs are showcased in the independent film *Nobody's Perfect*, which screened at the 2003 Cannes Film Festival, Off-Broadway's *Acts of Love*, Juilliard graduate thesis film *Betty on the Bed*, and a multi-media project dedicated to mental illness and teen suicide prevention, *A Secret Best Not Kept*. Meg is often compared vocally, lyrically and stylistically to legendary singer/songwriters Joni Mitchell, Carly Simon, Annie Lennox and Suzanne Vega. Her voice is reminiscent of Karen Carpenter's. To listen to or purchase Meg's music, visit Amazon.com or iTunes. Meg performs regularly at The Metropolitan Room (*New York* magazine's number one pick for cabaret), The Sidewalk Bar (NY hot spot for alternative music), Don't Tell Mama (celebrating 25 years in cabaret, comedy and camaraderie), and Wednesday Night at The Iguana (MAC Award—winning weekly singer showcase hosted by Dana Lorge). Meg is a member of ASCAP, and her songs are published by Margaret Hall Music. Meg also makes television commercials and corporate films and is the spokesperson for several brands internationally in the world of home shopping. As an expert in field of health and beauty, Meg has appeared in the USA on HSN, SHOP NBC, QVC, The Discovery Channel and The Shopping Channel of Canada and TVSN of Australia.
www.megflather.com

The husband-and-wife cabaret and songwriting team of David Alpher (pianist/composer) and **Jennie Litt** (singer/lyricist) presented their NYC debut cabaret show at Don't Tell Mama in

2010 and at the Metropolitan Room in 2011, but their career as a duo kicked off in 1999, on their very first date, which they spent singing and playing great American standards in a cabin in the New Hampshire woods. Since then, they have appeared in numerous venues in the northeast and beyond, including the 2005, 2006, and 2007 seasons of The Chamber Arts Festival of Marbletown (with Jay Ungar & Molly Mason; *Poets of Tin Pan Alley* author Philip Furia; and Celtic powerhouse trio Ferintosh, respectively), the Rockport Chamber Music Festival, Bard College, Harvard University, The Albany Institute of History & Art, NYC's Abingdon Theatre, The People's Voice Café, The MacDowell Colony, and The Millay Colony. They headlined the 2007 Dissident Folk & Arts Festival's "Tribute to Bertolt Brecht," at the Howland Cultural Center, and have been featured at Wurtsboro's Broadway Concerts Direct, the Music at Marist concert series, Cape Ann's West End Theatre, and St. Giles Church (Oxford, UK), as well as on WAMC/Northeast Public Radio's popular "Performance Place" and "Dancing on the Air." Recipients of the 2011 ASCAP Plus Award, they are regulars at NYC open-mic venues such as Salon and Wednesday Night at the Iguana. Their songs have been performed internationally, in venues from Poughkeepsie to Melbourne, Australia. www.litt-and-alpher.com

Rosemary Loar is a veteran of five Broadway shows and four national tours. She has sung at many venues including PBS, Carnegie Hall, Town Hall, North Carolina Symphony, and cabarets in New York, LA, Chicago, Kansas City, and most recently Munich. She began to focus on writing music in the early 90s. Her songs have been heard on NBC's *The Today Show*, The Lifetime Network, radio, and in documentaries. Ms. Loar has produced four CDs of her original music under the Atlor Label: her debut CD *Alternative Torch* in 1996; *Take A Look* which features a song that she sang at the Fourth UN World Conference on Women in Beijing; *Water From The Moon*, the score to her original rock musical; and most recently, *Indigo and Iridescent*. Ms. Loar also recorded *The Quando Swing*, a CD featuring her arrangements of jazz standards. She has written the rock score for *Spoolie Girl*, her second full length musical, which will be part of the Musical Mondays series at the Snapple Theater in fall 2011. As a recording artist, besides her own CDs, Rosemary can be heard on Sting's soundtrack for the movie *The Emperor's New Groove*, the cast albums of *Chess* and *Sunset Boulevard* and on the *Listening Library* series. All of Rosemary's CDs are available for download on iTunes©. www.rosemaryloar.com

Sue Matsuki has been singing and performing in New York for over 28 years! Sue is an eight-time MAC Award Nominee (and three-time winner) in 6 different categories: Female Jazz; Female Recording for her first jazz CD, *A New Take*; Duo/Group (two times); Special Productions; Female Vocalist (2 times); Special Material ("One Stop Shopping" by Page/Matsuki/Toroian). Her most cherished award comes from being selected by Julie Wilson herself as the very first Julie Wilson Award Recipient, given by the Mabel Mercer Foundation. This veteran cabaret/jazz singer and comedian has played legendary jazz clubs such as The Village Gate, Birdland, The Iridium, Sweet Rhythm; and cabaret clubs Feinstein's at the Regency, The Metropolitan Room, The Laurie Beechman, Town Hall, Arci's Place, Don't Tell Mama, and literally every cabaret in the city. She has also appeared in Las Vegas, Alaska, California, Florida, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and all over the state of New York. She has three CDs currently out: her jazz CD, *A New Take*; her Christmas CD, *Sue & Edd's FABULOUS Christmas*, with Edd Clark; and a new CD will be released in November called *Christine Lavin presents Christmas Angel*, featuring Sue singing her original song "Christmas Angel." All CDs may be purchased at www.cdbaby.com or www.amazon.com or downloaded on iTunes©. Sue is

also a producer, writer, reviewer, cabaret teacher, and serves on the MAC (Manhattan Association of Cabarets & Clubs) Board of Directors as the Treasurer. www.suematsuki.com

Press photos available upon request.