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Jenny Lind winners sing tonight

Thursday, June 27, 2013 1:07 AM EDT

The Barnum Festival brings Jenny Lind's American tour back to life at the Bijou Theatre in Bridgeport at 7:30 tonight.

The concert will feature the American winner of the 65th Annual Jenny Lind competition, soprano Kathryn Bowden from Glastonbury, and the winner of the Swedish Jenny Lind scholarship, Magdalena Risberg, also a soprano.

The singers will be accompanied by American pianist Andrew Gordon and the Swedish scholar David Huang, respectively.

Hailed as the "Swedish Nightingale," soprano Jenny Lind was considered the most brilliant talent of her time. In 1850, P.T. Barnum orchestrated an extraordinary American tour of the acclaimed songstress, traveling to great cities from Boston to New Orleans.

In 1949, a competition was started in Bridgeport to find vocal artists in both Sweden and America who were most representative of P.T. Barnum's Jenny Lind.

The Bijou Theatre is at 275 Fairfield Ave. For details, call 203-332-3228 or visit thebijoutheatre.com

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 the day of the show.

For details, visit thebijoutheatre.com.

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Icons of Europe wrote on Jun 27, 2013 6:43 AM:

" Our best wishes for a successful Jenny Lind concert at Bridgeport tonight!

With reference to Jenny Lind's tour of America, dramatic elements of her own life and her secret romance with Chopin will be presented, for the first time, on 13 July 2013 at the Jenny Lind Gala Concert in Malvern (UK) where the Swedish Nightingale is buried. All elements of the story are based on historical facts drawn from Icons of Europe's research conducted since 2002.

We hope that both Jenny Lind concerts will inspire new musical initiatives to reinforce the longstanding transatlantic relationship. "

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