

Strong Voice: The Tales of Roswitha

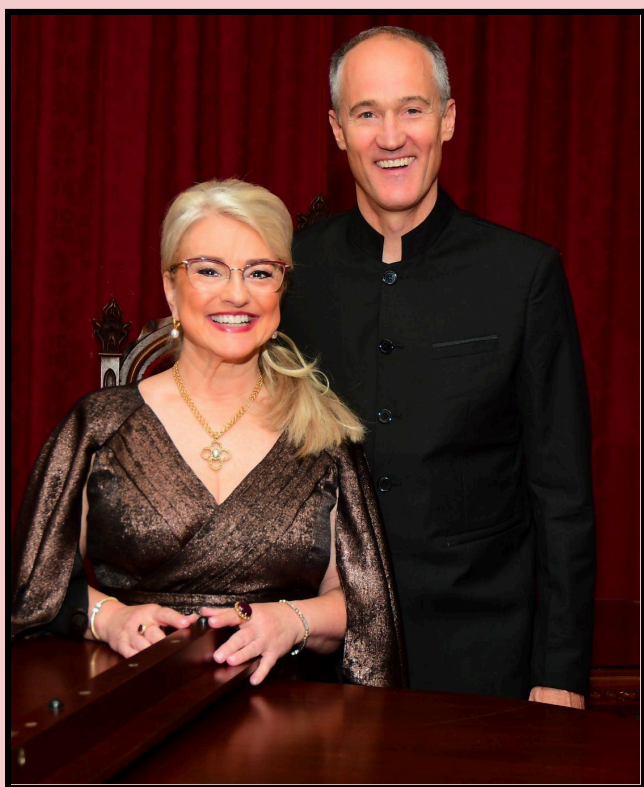
featuring

Jennifer Litwin, soprano

Kevin Bleau, piano

Book and Lyrics by David Schrag

Music and Lyrics by Kevin Bleau



We all tell stories about our lives as we form relationships and pursue our ambitions. What happens when those stories become our truth, even when they no longer reflect reality?

In a distant time and place, a talented young storyteller starts to write the tale of her own life. She wants to free herself from an unfulfilling and dangerous marriage and chart a new course. As she reinvents herself again and again, she discovers her true calling but loses her true self in the process. Can she put her artistic gifts to use while remaining faithful to her friends and her beliefs?

In this original brand-new one-woman performance, coloratura soprano Jennifer Litwin takes on these questions. Based on the plays of 10th-century playwright Hrotsvit von Gandersheim, *Strong Voice* explores the challenges women face as they seek to craft their own narratives. The show features complex yet accessible music

from composer and lyricist Kevin Bleau, ranging from the pulsating “Lower the Drawbridge,” to the plaintive “Stories Save Me” to the angst-ridden “Living a Lie.” Librettist and lyricist David Schrag delivers a tight script and rapid-fire rhymes in crowd-pleasers such as “Leave it to Me.” Litwin’s stunning vocals and Bleau’s virtuosic accompaniment infuse the show with nonstop energy, although they leave room for a couple of musical surprises. The provocative story and the cliffhanger ending are sure to leave audiences with much on their minds, so each performance includes a talkback session with the artists. Hrotsvit may have lived 1,000 years ago, but *Strong Voice: The Tales of Roswitha* will resonate with everyone who is searching for their place in the modern world.



Please [click here](#) to enjoy a short sample of *Strong Voice: The Tales of Roswitha*

Creative Team Biographies



Jennifer Litwin is a classically trained coloratura soprano, storyteller, and speaker whose versatile career spans music, financial services, tech, and executive coaching. A graduate of Yale School of Music and Oberlin Conservatory, she is celebrated for her vocal agility, expressive nuance, and soaring range. She has performed with Sarasota Opera, Liederkrantz Opera Theatre, and Opera East in roles such as Olympia (*Les Contes d'Hoffmann*), Queen of the Night (*The Magic Flute*), and Adele (*Die Fledermaus*).

Jennifer has appeared as a soloist with the Westchester Philharmonic, New Haven Symphony, Chamber Symphony of Princeton, and more. Her recital collaborations include artists like Eliot Fisk, David Leisner, Paul Lustig Dunkel, and Victor Markiw. As

The Litwin-Markiw Duo, they released a widely praised album now streaming on major platforms. The New Haven Register described her voice as a “lemon-tang soprano” with striking clarity and electrifying energy.

Alongside her artistic work, Jennifer is currently Managing Director, Coaching and Strategic Partnerships at Speeko, the leading AI-powered public speaking training platform. She also teaches piano and voice from her studio in Ridgefield, Connecticut, helping students and professionals connect through presence, confidence, and storytelling. Her unique blend of stage artistry and executive insight defines her dynamic professional voice.



Kevin Bleau is a Boston-based composer, arranger, musical theater writer, pianist, and vocalist. He and collaborator David Schrag recently reimaged their two-act musical as the one-woman show *Strong Voice: The Tales of Roswitha*, now touring the Northeast. His satirical musical *CORONA BROs* earned honorable mention at the 2021 London Worldwide Comedy Short Film Festival. *Awaken Youth* premiered in Shanghai in 2020. His musicals have also been featured at International Cringefest and the Birth of a Musical Festival.

The Air Force Band of Liberty has brought Kevin’s arrangements to more than a million audience members. Crystal Gayle, the Platters, and Broadway stars have performed his work. A longtime Berklee College of Music faculty member, Kevin organized and administered the Musical Theater Intensive and taught songwriting and arranging. He holds degrees from Eastman and Oberlin and lives in Milton, MA. At Belmont Light, Kevin oversees energy procurement and helps customers fully electrify their homes.

David Schrag makes his debut as a musical theater writer with *Strong Voice: The Tales of Roswitha*. His ten-minute plays have appeared and won audience awards in several festivals in New York, Boston, Los Angeles, and other cities. He has appeared on stage with Boston-area community theater groups including Theatre on Fire, Fiddlehead Theatre Company, Hovey Players, and Woodland Theatre Company. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Boston University’s Questrom School of Business. By day, he is Director of Information Technology for a large law firm. He lives with his family in Providence, Rhode Island.

