

Broadway Classics in Concert, the latest addition to the campus Lyceum series, debuts tonight at 7:30 in the McKay Auditorium.

Internationally renowned soprano Diana Walker will be accompanied by David Glen Hatch as she sings a variety of music from classical and religious to Broadway favorites.

"Miss Walker had the most impressive voice—a strong, beautiful soprano with a

gleaming accuracy everywhere in its range," said the New York Times when Walker, the youngest contestant, placed second in the

Walker's favorite type of music is "that which touches people" through lyrics, melody, or a combination of both.

International American Music Competition at Carnegie Hall.

Originally from Salt Lake City, Utah, Walker learned to love music from an early age. Before she could even speak, she would listen to and sing along with records. At the age of five when her mother took her to see "The Sound of Music" and "My Fair Lady" Walker knew what she would do with her life.

In response to having that kind of conviction at such an early age, Walker said

that it's really not that unusual if we have the opportunity to be "exposed to something that triggers that understanding of who we are."

Walker received her masters degree at the University of Missouri, Kansas City and moved to New York City at age

22.

A few years later she was making her debut with the New York City Opera. Walker has since performed in numerous operas and musicals across the world.

Among Walker's credits are the roles of Gilda in "Rigoletto," Micaela in "Carmen," Carrie in

Diva sings

■ Diana Walker returns to BYUH with songs from Broadway and some all-time favorites ■

By Keri Gunter ~ Staff Writer



Soprano, Diana Walker

"Carousel," and most recently the roles of Carlotta and Madame Firmin in "Phantom of the Opera."

She has also performed Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana" and Handel's "Messiah" multiple times.

In addition to stage, Walker has appeared on the soap opera "Another World" and has starred in a film funded by the National Endowment of the Arts titled "Look at Me."

When asked what the single most important musical event in her life was, Walker replied that it could have been any number of debuts, performing in "Phantom," or even performing for dignitaries.

However, the event that stands out took place on July 9th, when, while performing at the Assembly Hall on Temple Square, a very special friend asked her to marry him.

Whether it is religious, contemporary, or classical, Walker's favorite type of music is "that which touches people" through lyrics, melody, or a combination of both.

Reflective of this belief, the program for tonight includes selections from "My Fair Lady," "Carousel," "Les Miserables," and "Phantom of the Opera," to name a few.

Walker will also perform pieces by Mozart, Schubert, and Debussy capped off by some favorite folk and church hymns.