

A NOTE FROM LUCY SHELTON

Why unaccompanied song? A singer's career includes glorious moments in front of the public, but far more time is spent in solitude – in studying scores, and developing skills. It is therefore of utmost importance to find enjoyment and satisfaction in these hours of practice (or composing) and to treasure the process of preparing for a concert. By choosing unaccompanied song for this residency, I have given the singers the opportunity to sing songs just for and BY themselves (what we do in “practice” time). The fear of vulnerability (“nothing to hang on to” or “where do the pitches come from”) is soon replaced by an excitement in discovering solutions. The singer becomes totally self-reliant, replacing fear with commitment. I imagine it to be equally vulnerable for a composer to write a single vocal line with no obvious vertical harmony, though it might be considered the most basic building block for larger compositions. It is my hope that “The Art of the Unaccompanied Song” workshop has enlivened the imagination and developed a more reliable ear in each of the 12 composers and 18 singers whose accomplishments the public may now sit back and enjoy.

I fully appreciate the support that both the Composition Faculty and Voice Faculty have given to their students for this project and want to thank them all: David Crumb, Ruth Dobson, Nicholas Isherwood, Eric Mentzel, Ann Tedards, and Laura Wayte. But special thanks I owe to composer Robert Kyr, who coordinated and prepared the Composers Forum participants, and to my dear friend Milagro Vargas, without whom my residency could not have flourished. THANKS!

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110th Season, 91st program



SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE

Beall Concert Hall
7:00 p.m.

Sunday evening
April 18, 2010

“The Art of Unaccompanied Song”

***A WORKSHOP PERFORMANCE of
TWELVE PREMIERES***

***Composed by UO Graduate Composers for Singers
in the UO Vocal Studies Department for the Residency of
Robert M. Trotter Visiting Professor Lucy Shelton, soprano,
who mentored all composers and singers in this project.***



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

PROGRAM

8 SOLOS

Eastern Ballad Charlie Gurke
(Allen Ginsberg) M.M. in Jazz Studies (Second Year)
Bereniece Jones, soprano (D.M.A.)

Sea Lily Simon Hutchinson
(H.D.) D.M.A. in Composition (Second Year)
Katherine Price, soprano (M.M.)

Quia abominatio est? Jeffrey Parola
(from Leviticus 18:22) D.M.A. in Composition (First Year)
Heather Holmquest, soprano (Ph.D. in Theory)

Cassandra Hau-Wei Chang
(Hau-Wei Chang) M.M. in Composition (First Year)
Leah Allen, soprano (D.M.A.)

... And Thereafter Krista Abrahamson
(Hau-Wei Chang) M.M. in Composition (First Year)
Derek Larson, tenor (M.M.)

Cloths of Heaven Timothy Francis
(William Butler Yeats) D.M.A. in Theory with a
Secondary Area in Music Composition
Josh Heying, tenor (Junior)

A Winter Triptych Aaron Pergram
(Aaron Pergram) D.M.A. in Bassoon with a
Secondary Area in Music Composition
Steven Gutierrez, baritone (Senior)

Snap Jason Gerraughty
(from poems by M.M. in Composition (2009)
e. e. cummings, Emily Dickinson,
Rainer Maria Rilke and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow)
Jason Williams, baritone (Sophomore)

2 DUOS

Beauty's Birth Sam Richards
(John H. Richards) M.M. in Composition (Third Year)
Alli Bach, soprano (Senior)
Juliana Urban, soprano (Junior)

The White Birds Christopher Prosser
(William Butler Yeats) M.M. in Composition (Third Year)
Janene Kirkpatrick, mezzo-soprano (D.M.A.)
Matt Carey, baritone (M.M.)

2 TRIOS

Love's Philosophy Seth Stewart
(Percy Bysshe Shelley) M.M. in Composition
Kari Burgess, soprano (Junior)
Catherine Olson, soprano (M.M.)
Shaffer McGee, tenor (D.M.A.)

Father, How Long Must I Wait? Ethan Gans-Morse
(Ethan Gans-Morse) M.M. in Composition (Second year)
Harry Baechtcl, baritone (D.M.A.)
Aaron Caine, baritone (D.M.A.)
John Harrison, bass (M.M.)

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If you are in the company of a small child or someone who may inadvertently cause distractions, kindly sit near a rear exit and be prepared to leave in a timely fashion. Please respect our artists and your fellow concert goers. House management reserves the right to request exiting the Hall when appropriate.