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Concert: Composition Premieres I

Ithaca College Composition Studios

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Composition Premieres I

Hockett Family Recital Hall
Monday, October 24, 2011
7:00 p.m.
Program

Rebotes Y Texturas
I. Oeste
II. Este

Marco Schirripa, percussion

To One in Paradise

Ryan Zettlemoyer, baritone
Katie Ahrens, piano

Serenade

Text by Edward Coote Pinkney
David Klodowski, baritone
Kamila Swerdloff, piano

The Iris

Christopher M. LaRosa
Christopher M. LaRosa, piano
Johann Petris, piano

Improvised Piece

Ben Conlon, guitar
Michael Isabella, percussion
Alen Rosetti, french horn and piano
Nils Schwerzmann, electric violin
Erin Snedecor, cello
Seth Waters, piano

Improvisation Ensemble
Neuromancer                        Amanda Morrell

Lucas Matheson, piano

Taxi!                           Ransom Aaron Walters

Josh Zimmer and Ethan Zawisza, trombone
Taylor Eddinger, percussion
Seth Waters, piano

Vino Antigua                    Renato Hanriot

Natalie Brandt, violin I
Alyssa Jutting, violin II
Dan Martinez, viola
Erin Snedecor, cello

Aviary for Oliver               Justyne Coville Griffin

Michael Reinemann, conductor
Christina Santoro, piccolo
Corinne Shirk and Sophia Ennocenti, flute
Savannah Clayton, alto flute
Ransom Aaron Walters, vibraphone
Rosie Brand and Lauren Barchi, soprano
Jenna Fishback and Anna Kimble, alto

Student composers are from the studios of Drs. Jorge Grossman and Dana Wilson. The Improvisation Ensemble is directed by Dr. Louise Mygatt.
Program Notes

The Iris - Christopher M. LaRosa
for Laura September 29, 1990 – June 3, 2010 Well’s Falls In late afternoon, we threw sunflowers, Irises, and lilies, your favorites. The flow swept them away in the sun’s gleam, But one Iris defied the tide’s powers With grace for five miraculous minutes, Then submerged, surrendering to the stream. A year later, I returned to the falls Where memories and thoughts of you still lurk. Unchanging trees with shallow roots listened To the dull roar echoing off the walls. Nearby, tiny streams trickled, latticework Along the forest floor. The ground glistened. A rainbow stretched across the broad cliff base. Everywhere I looked, I could see your face. [Original version for symphony orchestra.]

Neuromancer - Amanda Morrell
Neuro from the nerves, the silver paths. Romancer. Necromancer. I call up the dead. Neuromancer is a super computer or Artificial Intelligence (AI) featured in William Gibson’s novel of the same name. AIs in Gibson’s world are supremely intelligent, but the computer and persona, Neuromancer, is distinguished by its ability to create—to envision and personify the souls of the dead. At the novels dramatic end, Neuromancer creates its own identity—transcending the matrix and achieving full human consciousness. Neuromancer’s story is beautiful and philosophically intriguing. I wanted to express this character’s personal development, and to do so, I had to imagine the ‘musical mind’ of a super computer. I chose a minimalist style to express the computer’s constant flow of information, patterns, sequences, the ceaseless ‘chugging’ of a machine. The melody in the left hand represents Neuromancer’s human persona, his creative mind. As the piece starts to develop, so do Neuromancer’s thoughts and expressions—like the blinking pulse of a computer ‘waking up’. By the end of the piece, Neuromancer’s persona has become fully conscious and begins the poignant accent to a new form of being.

Aviary for Oliver - Justyne Coville Griffin
Aviary for Oliver is a sound environment created entirely from the calls of eight Northeastern birds. Transcribed both from nature and also from the archives of the Cornell Ornithology Lab, listeners will hear the sounds of the Ruffed Grouse, White-throated Sparrow, Black Capped Chickadee, Northern Mockingbird, Mourning Dove, Northern Cardinal, Red-winged Blackbird, and Western Meadowlark. This piece was written in honor of French composer, Olivier Messiaen, in hopes of celebrating his love for birds, the organization as well as the chaos of nature, and it’s power to influence humanity. “I give bird songs to those who dwell in cities and have never heard them, make rhythms for those who know only military marches, and paint colors for those who see none.” - Oliver Messiaen
Upcoming Events

October

25 - Hockett - 8:15 p.m. - **Ithaca Bach Ensemble**. Deborah Montgomery, soprano; David Parks, tenor; Wendy Mehne, flute; Paige Morgan, oboe; Nicholas DiEugenio, violin; Elizabeth Simkin, violincello; Jean Radice, organ and harpsichord.

27 - Hockett - 8:15 p.m. - **Ithaca Jazz Quintet**.

28 - Hockett - 7:00 p.m. - **Liszt Festival Lecture**. *Liszt the Collaborator: Instrumental and Vocal Chamber Music*. Frank Cooper, guest lecturer, University of Miami.

28 - Hockett - 8:15 p.m. - **Liszt Festival Concert**. *Liszt the Collaborator: Instrumental and Vocal Chamber Music*. Charis Dimaras and Jennifer Hayghe, piano; Brad Hougham, baritone; Deborah Montgomery-Cove, soprano; and the Sheherazade Trio: Sysan Waterbury, violin and Elizabeth Simkin, cello.

30 - Hockett - 4:00 p.m. - **Faculty Recital**: Steve Mauk, saxophone. With Diane Birr, piano; Mike Titlebaum, saxophone; Pablo Cohen, guitar; and Nicholas Walker, bass.

31 - Hockett - 7:00 p.m. - **Octubafest**.

31 - Ford - 8:15 p.m. - **Guest Recital**: Sqwonk.

31 - Nabenhauer - 9:00 p.m. - Gordon Stout and the Bob Becker Ensemble.