

3-4-2012

## Faculty Recital: Patrice Pastore, soprano

Patrice Pastore

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Pastore, Patrice, "Faculty Recital: Patrice Pastore, soprano" (2012). *All Concert & Recital Programs*. 666.  
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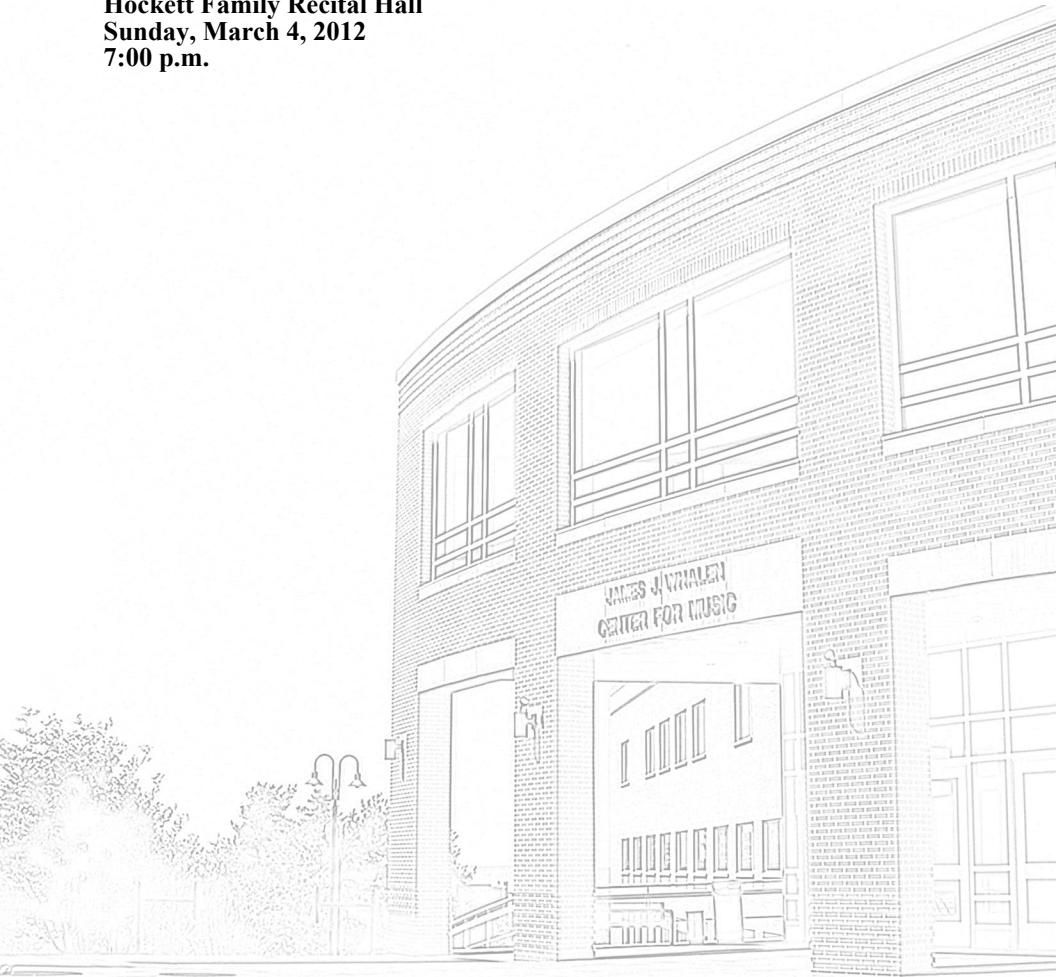
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**Faculty Recital:  
Patrice Pastore, soprano**

**Diane Birr, piano**

**Stage Direction: David Lefkovich**

**Hockett Family Recital Hall  
Sunday, March 4, 2012  
7:00 p.m.**



**ITHACA COLLEGE**

**School of Music**

## Program

Twelve Poems of Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

- Nature, the gentlest mother (1863)
- There came a wind like a bugle (1883)
- Why do they shut me out of Heaven? (1861)
- The world feels dusty ( 1863)
- Heart, we will forget him (1858)
- Dear March, come in! (1874)
- Sleep is supposed to be (1858)
- When they come back (1866)
- I felt a funeral in my brain (1861)
- I've heard an organ talk sometimes (1860)
- Going to Heaven! (1859)
- The Chariot (1863)

Aaron Copland  
(1900-1990)

## Intermission

From the Diary of Virginia Woolf (1882-1941)

- I. The Diary (April, 1919)
- II. Anxiety (October, 1920)
- III. Fancy (February, 1927)
- IV. Hardy's Funeral (January, 1928)
- V. Rome (May, 1935)
- VI. War (June, 1940)
- VII. Parents (December, 1940)
- VIII. Last Entry (March, 1941)

Dominick Argento  
(b. 1927)

## Notes

### Emily Dickinson Songs

These songs are not intended as a cycle although Copland preferred them to be done together. The poems range widely over Emily Dickinson's life and like all the rest of her poems except a very few, were written after she had chosen the reclusive life. The themes of nature, of religion, faith, and of immortality were persistent themes in Dickinson's work. The backdrop of her life included the Civil War and a second wave of religious revivalism in America.

I have chosen to stage this cycle as the transition period between Emily's death and her entrance into Heaven. She is at the "station grand" and recalling various scenes of her life before she can cross over.

### From the Diary of Virginia Woolf

**I. The Diary** - Virginia Woolf was a prolific diarist and had actually started one in 1915. This entry, dated April 1919, came after she had read the diary of Daniel Defoe. She was impressed with Defoe's literary skill in the diary and asks herself at this point if her diary could be more refined, if it could have more consciousness to it rather than being a collection of unedited unconscious thoughts.

**II. Anxiety** - The phrase that life is "like a little strip of pavement over an abyss" became a favorite of Woolf's. She uses the phrase in subsequent entries in her diary and even in one of her novels, *Jacob's Room*.

**III. Fancy** - Prior to this entry, Virginia had just published *To the Lighthouse* (now considered one of her most brilliant works). The early reviews were mixed, however, and in this entry she muses about writing a new kind of play/novel in a more "concentrated" style. Subsequent entries show that in fact, *To the Lighthouse*, was extremely well received by other reviewers and was selling well. By July over 3000 copies had been sold.

**IV. Hardy's Funeral** - Woolf was a good friend of Hardy's as well as of other literary figures of her day. One sees in this entry her candid remarks about her mind wandering during the service and also her suspicions about religious formalism. More importantly the service reminds her that she, too, is mortal and she questions the meaning of her own fame in light of that mortality.

**V. Rome** - The Woolfs loved traveling to Italy. But like so many other entries, this one shows that Virginia's observations of others often led back to self-conscious reflections and a negative self image. The Companion of Honour was an award given to prominent British people in the arts. Woolf turned down this award out of a sense of unworthiness.

**VI. War** - Virginia Woolf had already lived through the First World War. Another world war proved to be more than she could bear. Her house in London was bombed. Despite her depression Woolf seemed to enjoy the company of others and the war made visits with friends few and far between. Walks outside became dangerous because of all the bombing raids. Food was scarce. Income from book sales dropped significantly. This entry is a shocked reflection on what the war has done to her sense of self. She also accurately predicts that there will not be a June 27, 1941 for her.

**VII. Parents** - This entry is description of how Woolf would have liked her parents to be, not of who they really were. She muses on them as a way to avoid thinking about the war.

**VIII. Last Entry** - Written about 5 days before her death. The entry shows the ongoing struggle of maintaining some kind of balance between her interior life and the goings on of everyday life. All through her diaries there is a sense that observing life was important to one's sanity and that thinking about one's feelings was ultimately a dangerous activity. Unlike most suicide victims, Woolf left 3 notes, 2 to her husband Leonard and one to her sister Vanessa. The second note to Leonard included "So I am doing what seems the best thing to do...If anybody could have saved me it would have been you. Everything has gone from me but the certainty of your goodness..V." On March 28, 1941 Virginia Woolf drowned herself in the Oise River. She was 61 years old.