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Master Class: Stephanie Blythe, mezzo-soprano

Stephanie Blythe

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Blythe, Stephanie, "Master Class: Stephanie Blythe, mezzo-soprano" (2019). *All Concert & Recital Programs*. 6384.

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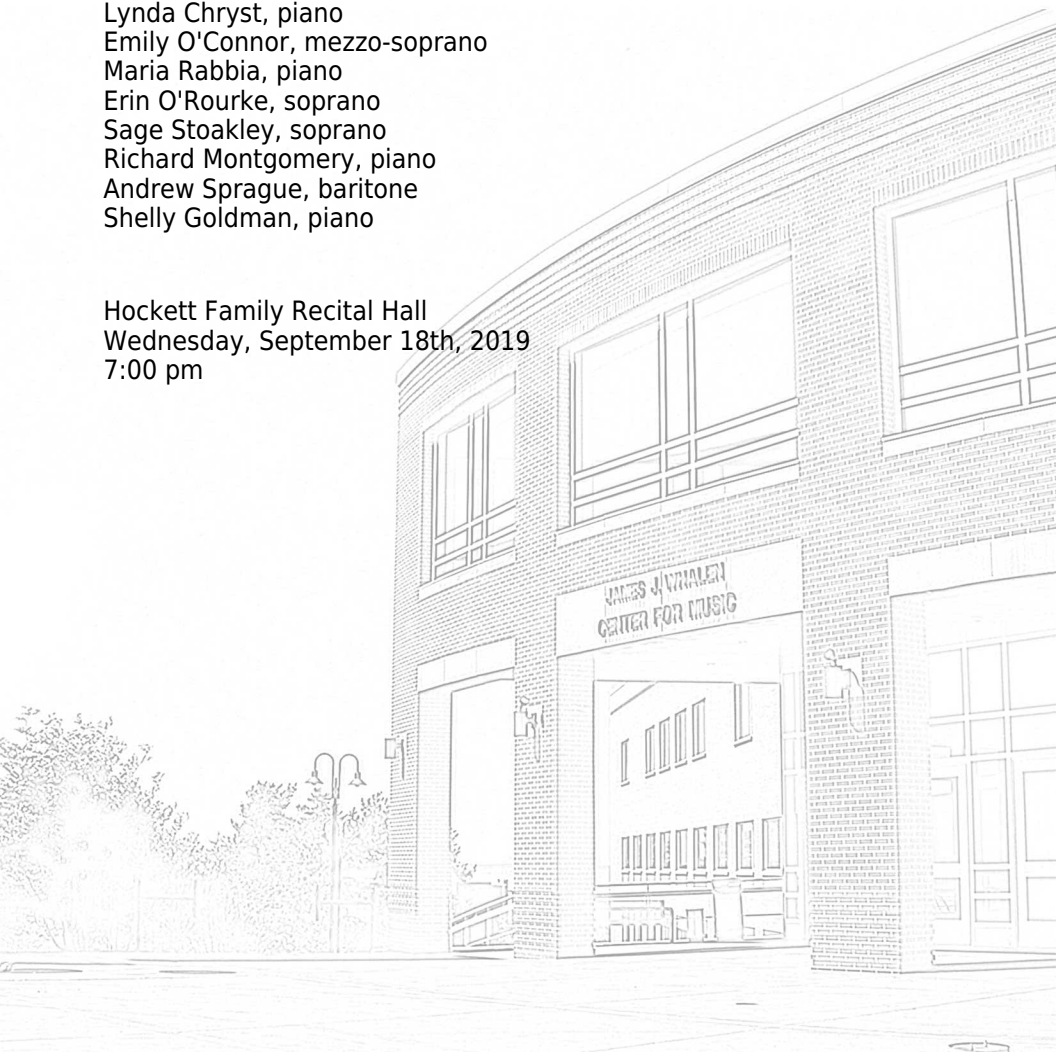
MASTER CLASS

STEPHANIE BLYTHE, mezzo-soprano

Presented by The Manley and Doriseve Thaler Vocal Concert Series

Catherine Condi, soprano
Lynda Chryst, piano
Emily O'Connor, mezzo-soprano
Maria Rabbia, piano
Erin O'Rourke, soprano
Sage Stoakley, soprano
Richard Montgomery, piano
Andrew Sprague, baritone
Shelly Goldman, piano

Hockett Family Recital Hall
Wednesday, September 18th, 2019
7:00 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

"Noble Seigneur, Salut!"
from *Les Huguenots*

Emily O'Connor, mezzo-soprano
Maria Rabbia, piano

Giacomo Meyerbeer
(1791-1864)

"The Trees on the Mountains"
from *Susannah*

Sage Stoakley, soprano
Richard Montgomery, piano

Carlisle Floyd
(b. 1926)

"Eccomi in lieta vesta...Oh quante volte ti
chiedo"
from *I Capuleti ed i Montecchi*

Catherine Kondi, soprano
Lynda Chryst, piano

Vincenzo Bellini
(1801-1835)

"Look! Through the Port"
from *Billy Budd*

Andrew Sprague, baritone
Shelly Goldman, piano

Benjamin Britten
(1913-1976)

(Alternate)
"Quando M'en Vo"
from *La Bohème*

Erin O'Rourke, soprano
Maria Rabbia, piano

Giacomo Puccini
(1858-1924)

Biographies

Stephanie Blythe

Mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe is considered to be one of the most highly respected and critically acclaimed artists of her generation. She has sung in many of the renowned opera houses in the US and Europe including the Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Seattle Opera, Royal Opera House Covent Garden, and the Opera National de Paris. In concert, Ms. Blythe has appeared with many of the world's finest orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Orchestra of New York, Minnesota Orchestra, Halle Orchestra, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, the Ensemble Orchestre de Paris, and the Concertgebouworkest.

Emily O'Connor

Emily O'Connor is a soprano from Middletown, NY, in the Catskills. At Ithaca, she is a senior Vocal Performance major with a minor in German Area Studies. Having previously studied with Dr. Brad Hougham, she is now a student of Dr. Rachel Schutz. Emily was a chorus member of Ithaca College's mainstage production of Cendrillon in February 2018, and in February 2020 she will play Dido in their production of Dido and Aeneas. Ms. O'Connor has been a finalist in both a regional NATS Competition in fall 2018 and the Ithaca College Concerto Competition in January 2019. During the summer of 2019, Emily was fortunate enough to be a young artist at the International Performing Arts Institute in Kiefersfelden, Germany, as well as a young artist at the Opera Company of Middlebury, Vermont. Emily also enjoys collaborative music in the Ithaca College Choir and the Ithaca College Vocal Jazz Ensemble.

Maria Rabbia

Maria Rabbia, from New Hartford, NY, recently received her masters in Collaborative Piano from Ithaca College where she studied with Dr. Diane Birr. Prior to that, she received her bachelors degree in Piano from the College of Saint Rose, studying under Dr. Young Kim. Recently she participated as a Young Artist with Opera Company of Middlebury in Middlebury, VT, and attended the International Performing Arts Institute in Kiefersfelden, Germany for the third summer. Passionate about both art song and opera, she was a part of the Middlebury Song Festival and served as chorus master for Opera Ithaca's production of Carmen in 2018. She will serve as the rehearsal pianist for Opera Ithaca's production of La Bohème this fall.

Sage Stoakley

Sage Stoakley is a senior vocal Music Education and Performance major from Austin, TX. She has performed in Ithaca College's "Semele" as well as opera scenes through the Ithaca College Opera Workshop. Sage has competed in the CNYFL-NATS for three years. In 2019 she was a finalist in the Ithaca College Concerto Competition, and has been a featured soloist with the College Choir in such notable performances as "Considering Matthew Shepherd". She was also a chosen soloist in Composer Libby Larsen's residency and performed a collaborative piece from the "Try Me Good King" song set last fall. She has held numerous internships and summer teaching experiences in music education, and looks forward to pursuing a future in music education and outreach.

Catherine Kondi

Catherine Kondi, soprano, is a Master of Music candidate in Vocal Performance at Ithaca College under the tutelage of Patrice Pastore. Kondi completed her undergraduate studies at Hartwick College in Music Education, studying with Steven Nanni. In her time at Ithaca College Kondi has sung for esteemed artists such as Graham Johnson, Martin Kats, and Susan Ashbaker. This Fall, Kondi has been invited back to Hartwick where she will perform a guest artist recital and masterclass; additionally, she will be showcased in the residency of John Musto, Amy Burton, and the Cincinnati Art Song Initiative at Ithaca College.

Lynda Chryst

Lynda Chryst is a graduate student in Collaborative Piano from East Stroudsburg, PA. She also has a bachelor's degree from Ithaca College in Piano Performance where she studied with Nathan Hess and Phiroze Mehta. Previous teachers also include Tomoko Kanamaru at The College of New Jersey. Last year, she performed for composer Libby Larsen, Graham Johnson, and Martin Katz. Lynda is looking forward to the Cincinnati Art Initiative, as well as more music opportunities following graduation.

Andrew Sprague

Andrew Sprague is a baritone from Binghamton, New York. A senior at Ithaca College, Andrew is currently completing a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance with a minor in Business Administration. Andrew is in the studio of Professor Marc Webster, after spending time studying under Dr. Brad Hougham. In his undergraduate career at Ithaca, Andrew has been seen in the chorus of *La clemenza di Tito* and *Cendrillon* as well as Bob in Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief*. This spring, Andrew will be singing the role of Aeneas in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*. This past summer Andrew was fortunate to attend Summerfest at the Curtis Institute of Music under the direction of Mikael Eliassen.

Shelly Goldman

Shelly Goldman is from Long Island, New York. At Ithaca, she is receiving her B.M.O in piano and theater as well as pursuing a Music Education Degree. She is a senior and studies piano with Charis Dimaras. This past summer she traveled to Minnesota and participated in The Collaborative Piano Institute at Shattuck Saint. Mary's, studying with world renowned faculty such as Martin Katz, Rita Sloan and Howard Watkins. Aside from her interest in art songs, she is very passionate about musical theater and hopes to be a music director one day. She is currently a rehearsal pianist for Ithaca College's production of Sister Act, and she similarly was a rehearsal pianist for their production of Cabaret. Shelly has been a pianist as well as a vocal participant of the Summer Vocal Arts Program at Brooklyn Music School for the past four years, playing for their cabaret shows and acting as a rehearsal pianist for the operas.

Erin O'Rourke

Erin O'Rourke is a soprano from Bronxville, NY. She is in her final semester at Ithaca College. She will soon be graduating as a double major in Voice Performance and Music Education. She has the pleasure of studying under Dr. Alison Wahl. Erin is enjoying her time as a Young Artist with Opera Ithaca. She is currently preparing for their production of La Bohème. Erin is also preparing for her final Senior Recital in October, and then headed to the Celia Cruz High School in the Bronx for her senior student teaching experience. Last year Erin was cast in the Ithaca College Mainstage Opera of The Medium and portrayed the role of "Mrs. Gobineau." She also portrayed the role of "Meg" in Little Women with Ithaca College's Opera Workshop. Erin is honored to enjoy collaborative music within the Ithaca College Choir and the Ithaca College Jazz Vocal Ensemble.