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## Concert: 2009 Anniversaries: Hayden and Mendelssohn

Dawn Pierce

Nicholas DiEugenio

Elizabeth Simkin

Charis Dimaras

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ITHACA COLLEGE

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SCHOOL OF MUSIC

2009 Anniversaries: Haydn and Mendelssohn

Dawn Pierce, mezzo-soprano  
Nicholas DiEugenio, violin  
Elizabeth Simkin, violoncello  
Charis Dimaras, piano

Hockett Family Recital Hall  
Thursday, December 3, 2009  
7:00 p.m.

ITHACA

## PROGRAM

An evening of solo and chamber music  
celebrating the 2009 rotund anniversaries of  
Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) and  
Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

Piano Sonata in B-Flat Major,  
HobXVI/2 (c before 1760)

Franz Joseph Haydn  
(1732-1809)

*Moderato*  
*Largo*  
*Menuet*

*Arianna a Naxos*: cantata for solo voice and  
keyboard accompaniment, HobXXVIb/2 (c 1789)

*Recitativo: Largo e sostenuto*  
*Aria: Largo*  
*Recitativo: Andante – con piu moto – adagio*  
*Aria: Larghetto – presto*

## INTERMISSION

Piano Trio No. 1 in d minor,  
Op. 49 (1839)

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy  
(1809-1847)

*Molto allegro agitato*  
*Andante con moto tranquillo*  
*Leggiero e vivace*  
*Finale: Allegro assai appassionato*

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## Performer's Biographies

Praised by the Cleveland Plain Dealer for his "invigorating, silken" playing and "mysterious atmosphere," violinist **Nicholas DiEugenio** leads a versatile musical life performing composers from Buxtehude to Carter. He has performed as soloist with Interlochen's World Youth Symphony Orchestra, Long Bay Symphony, Cleveland Pops, CIM Orchestra, National Repertory Orchestra, and the Cleveland Bach Consort. As a founding member of the Biava Quartet, Mr. DiEugenio was a prizewinner at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. He has also been a member of the iO Quartet, and is now violinist of the Lorien Trio. Mr. DiEugenio has premiered chamber works of Yevgeniy Sharlat, Stephen Gorbos, Matthew Barnson, and Timo Andres, and has performed works of living American composers in Carnegie's Weill Hall, Merkin Hall, Seattle Town Hall, and Roulette. Other venues have included the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and Brooklyn's BargeMusic. A member of the violin faculty of the ENCORE School for Strings from 2005-07, Mr. DiEugenio has taught undergraduate students at Yale, and is Assistant Professor of Violin at the Ithaca College School of Music. He holds degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music (BM, MM) and the Yale School of Music (Artist Diploma, MMA).

Greek international concert pianist and conductor **Charis Dimaras** has presented numerous solo recitals, has collaborated in chamber music concerts, and has been featured as soloist with orchestras throughout Europe, Turkey, Russia, Brazil, and the USA. He has been the recipient of numerous awards and prizes (among them, the British Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music Award, the Alexandros S. Onasis Beneficiary Foundation Scholarship and the International Richard-Wagner-Foundation Scholarship), has been featured on NY's WQXR, on several Dutch, Italian and Greek radio stations, and on Greek national television. He has recorded works by Franck, Bartok, Prokofiev & Stravinsky. His latest CD featuring piano works by contemporary Greek composers D. Mitropoulos and Y. Sicilianos is due for release in the fall of 2009. Dr. Dimaras, who holds degrees in piano performance from the Royal College of Music in London and from New York's Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music, is currently associate professor of piano and collaborative studies at Ithaca College. Elsewhere he was the artistic director of an international summer festival of classical music in Sparti, Greece, as well as the artistic director of the Renaissance Academy Chamber Music Concerts in Naples, Florida. During a recent sabbatical leave from Ithaca College, Dr. Dimaras completed an additional master's degree in orchestral conducting at Bard College. Since then, he has appeared as guest conductor on both sides of the Atlantic, with such orchestras as the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra and the Symphony Orchestra of the Greek National Opera.

Mezzo-soprano Dawn Pierce is a native of Olean, New York. She received a performing artist certificate in opera performance and a master's degree invoice from the North Carolina School of the Arts. Pierce holds a bachelor degree in vocal performance and music education from Ithaca College. She has apprenticed with Lake George Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Opera in the Ozarks and the A. J. Fletcher Opera Institute.

Recently she was seen with Pensacola Opera as Margarite in the world premiere of *The Widow's Lanter*, as Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, and as Second Lady in *The Magic Flute*. Other recent operatic credits include Contessa Madelon in *Andrea Chenier* with Mobile Opera, Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly* with Capitol Opera, and Carmen in *Carmen* with Opera in the Ozarks. On the lighter side her credits include *The Grand Dutchess* in *The Student Prince* with Nashville Opera, Franca in *The Light in the Piazza* with Piedmont Opera and Jo in *Little Women* with Opera in the Ozarks. The A. J. Fletcher Opera Institute featured Ms. Pierce as Lucretia in *Rape of Lucretia*, Idamante in *Idomeneo*, Irene in *Belisario* and Elmire in *Tartuffe*.

Dawn presently studies with Penelope Bitzas and Bill Schumann. Her primary teachers have included Marilyn Taylor, Elizabeth Mannion and Carol McAmis. In her free time, Dawn enjoys making jewelry, reading, dancing, pilates and weight training.

Cellist Elizabeth Simkin joined the IC School of Music faculty in the fall of 1994. She has also served for seven summers on the artist faculty of the Bowdoin International Music festival. Prior to that, she was the teaching assistant and student of Janos Starker at Indiana University, Bloomington. She received her Master of Music degree with the Performer's Certificate from Eastman with Steven Doane and her bachelor's from Oberlin with Richard Kapuscinski, where she won the John Katz prize in cello performance as well as the Oberlin Concerto competition.

As a United States Artistic Ambassador, Elizabeth has performed extensively in International recitals with pianist Karl Paulnack. She has held summer chamber music residencies at Tanglewood and at the Spoleto festival in Italy. She has been a returning guest artist at numerous chamber music festivals including: Olympic, Roycroft, Skaneateles, Chenango, Garth Newel, and Heifetz. As a founding member of Ithaca's New Music Group Ensemble X, she has toured to major concert halls and universities, and worked personally with many of today's leading composers.

These days, she is staying closer to home; recent projects include featured performances on several tracks of a soon-to-be released CD, "Beauty Crowds Me" for hospicare of Ithaca, her first performance of all six Bach Suites last January, and regional performances with the Sheherezade trio with violinist Susan Waterbury and Pianist Jennifer Hayghe. She lives with her husband Nicholas Boyar and their six year old son, Cole.