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Masterclass: Roberta Peters Scholarship Masterclass: Sharon Sweet

Sharon Sweet

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Roberta Peters Scholarship Masterclass:

Sharon Sweet

Hockett Family Recital Hall
Friday, February 19th, 2016
3:00 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

The Roberta Peters Vocal Masterclass

This masterclass is made possible thanks to a generous gift from Paul Fields '79, the son of famed opera star Roberta Peters, who also served on the Ithaca College Board of Trustees. Each year selected students work with a guest master teacher and the winner of the Roberta Peters scholarship is recognized.

This year's guest teacher is Sharon Sweet, who earned her Master of Music degree at Ithaca College in 1978 and was awarded an honorary doctorate from the college in 2009. Sweet began her international career with a concert performance of "Aida" in Munich, which served as a springboard to landing lead roles in the opera houses of Berlin, Vienna, Zurich, Paris and Rome, among others. She made her debut with the Metropolitan Opera in the spring of 1990 in "Il Trovatore," and in subsequent seasons she performed in such works as "Don Giovanni," "Tannhäuser" and "Turandot." She returned to the Met in the fall of 1999 for a staging of "Aida."

Sweet has devoted a substantial part of each season to her appearances in concert, collaborating with such conductors as James Levine, Zubin Mehta, Kurt Masur, Robert Shaw and Sir Georg Solti. Her discography includes recordings of "Don Giovanni" and "Lohengrin," Beethoven's Symphony no. 9 and Mahler's Symphony no. 8, and Verdi's "Requiem." Her honors include the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation and the Maria Callas Debut Artist of the Year from the Dallas Opera Company.

Since 1999 Sweet has been on the voice faculty of Westminster Choir College (which from 1929 to 1932 was part of Ithaca College). She is in frequent demand to judge international competitions and to lead master classes. In 2008 she sang the soprano solo with musicians from the Ithaca College Choir, Chorus, Women's Chorale and Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Verdi's "Requiem" at Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center.

Program

- "Que fais-tu, blanche tourterelle"
from *Roméo et Juliette*
Mattina Keith, mezzo-soprano
Alexander Greenberg, piano
Charles Gounod
(1818-1893)
- "Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante"
from *Carmen*
Emily Beseau, soprano
John McQuaig, piano
Georges Bizet
(1838-1875)
- "Steal Me Sweet Thief"
from *The Old Maid and The Thief*
Josi Petersen, soprano
Amy Brinkman-Davis
Gian Carlo Menotti
(1911-2007)
- The Greatest Man
Bradley Whittemore, tenor
Amy Brinkman-Davis, piano
Charles Ives
(1874-1954)
- "To This We've Come"
from *The Consul*
Ariana Warren, soprano
Amy Brinkman-Davis, piano
Gian Carlo Menotti
(1911-2007)

Alternates

- "I Want Magic"
from *A Streetcar Named Desire*
Amanda Galluzzo, soprano
Mary Ann Erickson, piano
André Previn
(b. 1929)
- "Where'er you walk"
from *Semele*
Joseph Lupa, tenor
G.F. Handel
(1685-1759)