

Spring 3-5-2016

Senior Recital: Rachel Fuerstman, mezzo-soprano

Rachel Fuerstman

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THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
VASSAR COLLEGE

Senior Recital

Rachel Fuerstman, *mezzo-soprano*

assisted by

Richard Mogavero, *piano*

Saturday, 5 March 2016

1:30 PM

Martel Recital Hall

Skinner Hall of Music

Please silence all cellphones and refrain from using handheld devices during the performance. Use of these instruments will disturb other audience members and cause interference with in-house recording and webcasting.

Program

Seguidilla, from *Carmen* Georgez Bizet
(1838-1875)

Zwei Gesänge, Op. 91 Johannes Brahms
Gestillte Sehnsucht (1833-1897)
Geistliches Wiegenlied

Daniel Melody '19, *viola*

Card Aria ("En vain pour éviter"), from *Carmen* Bizet

from Fünf Lieder Alma Mahler
In meines Vaters Garten (1879-1964)
Laue Sommernacht
Bei dir ist es Traut

L'amour est un oiseau rebelle ("Habanera"), from *Carmen* Bizet

INTERMISSION

Konchakovna's Cavatina, from *Prince Igor* Alexander Borodin
(1833-1887)

Lilacs, Op. 21, No. 5 Sergei Rachmaninoff
(1873-1943)

Was I Not a Blade of Grass? (Op. 47, No. 7) Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(1840-1893)

The Potion is Prepared, from Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov
Katchei the Immortal (1844-1908)

Bewitched, Bothered, and Bewildered, from *Pal Joey* Richard Rodgers
(1902-1979)
Lyrics by Lorenz Hart

Bei Mir Bistu Shayn Sholom Secunda
(1894-1974)

Ethan Cohen '16, *guitar*

The Very Thought of You Ray Noble
(1903-1978)

Just in Time Jule Styne
(1905-1994)

☪☪☪

I certainly would not be up here singing today if it weren't for the guidance, support, and wisdom of a number of people. According to my older brothers, when I was seven years old and American Idol first came out, I spent most of my waking hours butchering all of the songs they sang on the show. Clearly, it took a lot of help to get me from attempting to belt "Natural Woman" like Kelly Clarkson (poorly) to the point I'm at now.

Mary, I don't think a little blurb in this program could ever do justice to all you've done for me and how much you mean to me, but thank you for simply being the greatest teacher and friend. Thank you for working so hard to understand all of the spaces in my head, for being patient when I'm human, for sharing my odd taste in music (and helping me build a strange, but very us program), for laughing at my curl-backs,

and most of all, for always making sure that I walk out of my lessons feeling bigger and stronger than when I walked in. You have not only taught me about singing, but most of all about being my best self, and I am forever grateful for that.

Richard, thank you so much for all of the hard work you put into this program. I'm sorry that I'm usually singing something like "row row row you're boat" over your much more complicated piano part, but you take every challenge with grace, professionalism, and an immense amount of talent. Basically, thank you for dealing with all of the hard Russian rep. Working with you over the past four years has been an incredible learning experience and an immense joy.

Christine and Drew, thank you for building a choral program with such a high level of musicianship that's filled with so much camaraderie, support, and joy. I have learned so much from both of you and am incredibly grateful for all of the opportunities for growth you have given me. I feel very lucky to be able to do this recital today and to feel so at home in Skinner Hall despite having majored in History, and that is in large part because of the welcoming environment you have both created in the vocal program here. A hearty thank you to the entire music department for letting me pretend to be a music major for four years, and to Ms. Kawa for all of your help preparing for this recital.

Finally, I certainly would not be singing today without my family. Michael and Danny, thank you for always cheering me on (except during my American Idol phase...) and helping me to find ways to keep music in my life. Mom and Dad, thank you for being my biggest fans, for ushering me to rehearsals, watching performance after performance, and always reminding me that I'm "some maideleh." Most of all, thank you for loving me and supporting me in all of my decisions, not just the musical ones. And Ari, thanks for being my housemate, wife, grandma, and friend. You say tomato, I say banana.

Thank you all so much for coming today, from near and far. I really appreciate your willingness to let me sing to you for an hour. I hope you enjoy!