

Spring 4-25-2015

# Senior Recital: Jacob Damsky, baritone, and Frank Hoffman, piano

Jacob Damsky

Frank Hoffman

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THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC  
VASSAR COLLEGE

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## Senior Recital

Jacob Damsky, *baritone*  
and  
Frank Hoffman, *piano*

Assisted by  
David Alpher, *piano*

Saturday, 25 April 2015  
1:30 PM  
Martel Recital Hall  
Skinner Hall of Music

Please silence all cell phones or other personal electronic devices and refrain from texting. Use of these instruments may disturb other audience members and will cause interference with in-house recording and webcasting.

## Program

Excerpts from *The House of Life*  
Love-sight  
Silent Noon  
Heart's Haven

Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872-1958)

Prelude in F Minor  
(from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*, Book II)

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

Trois mélodies  
Chanson triste  
Soupir  
Phidylé

Henri Duparc  
(1848-1933)

Fantasia in D Minor, K. 397

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756-1791)

Largo al Factotum (from *Il barbiere di Siviglia*)

Gioachino Rossini  
(1792-1868)

### INTERMISSION

June (from *The Seasons*)

Piotr Illych Tchaikovsky  
(1840-1893)

Drei Michelangelo Lieder  
Wohl denk' ich oft  
Alles endet, was entstehet  
Fühlt meine Seele

Hugo Wolf  
(1860-1903)

October (from *The Seasons*)

Tchaikovsky

Mama Says (from *Footloose*)

Words by Dean Pitchford  
Music by Tom Snow

Stars (from *Les Misérables*)

Claude-Michel Schönberg

Soliloquy (from *Carousel*)

Rodgers and Hammerstein



Frank and I have had quite the journey together over the past four years. At the beginning of our freshman year when our novice rowing team exceeded 50 bright eyed, optimistic young souls, I only knew him as the hilarious guy with a perfect sense of comedic timing. Though he has retained these qualities, I have grown to know Frank for much more than just his comedy; he is truly an incredible person and one of the best friends I'll ever have. Over the years we have tackled many challenges, led a team, conquered music courses, survived as housemates, and now even prepared a senior recital.

I'm so proud to be sharing this stage with Frank. I have had the opportunity to produce music with a lot of people on campus, but my Vassar music experience wouldn't have been complete without Frank's incredible dedication and talent. Thank you, Frank, for helping make my senior year the best year of my life.

I would also like to thank Dr. Osborne for teaching me so much over the past four years. You have helped expand my range, repertoire, and most importantly my passion for singing. Additionally, I want to thank David Alpher for your countless hours of practice and your infinite level of patience. You have been so helpful over the years and it is always a pleasure to work with you. I also want to thank Gregg Michalak for working with me during Monday recitals and for coaching me earlier in my Vassar singing career.

Thank you to everyone who has helped make my time at Vassar so special. Thank you to my *a cappella* group, the Vassar Devils, for being the best college family I could ever ask for. You have filled my heart with so much warmth and music. Thank you Ari for always being such a loving support in my life, I couldn't be here without your selfless kindness and unwavering affection.

Finally, thank you to my family for everything! My gratitude to you all is beyond words and I can never thank you enough for the love and support you give me every day. I wouldn't be here at Vassar without you, and more importantly, I may not even be singing. Thank you for helping me discover my passions and for always giving me the freedom and strength to forge any path. I love you all so much.

-Jacob

My first solid memory of Jacob is from a typical 6 am crew practice our freshman year. We all had the responsibility of bringing oars down to the docks and then making our way back to the boathouse to stretch and get the boats. I was walking back, talking to some of the other novices, when a streak of blue spandex leaving nothing to the imagination flew by, running like a banshee toward our coach. That's my first solid memory of Jacob, to go along with my first solid thought: "What a goody two-shoes."

I still think Jacob's a goody two-shoes. I also think he's an amazing singer and an even more amazing person. I also think he's persistent, loyal, hilarious, and up for any challenge life throws his way (okay, maybe I had to give him a slap in the face once in a while). What I know is that he's one of the best friends I've ever had and ever will have. Preparing for this recital has brought us together in a new way, and I couldn't ask for a better person to collaborate with for my first real adventure out of solo piano, even if he's probably spoiled me for any future singers.

I'd like to thank Anna for being the wonderful teacher that she is. Her patience and her kindness and her sense of humor have made our lessons a highlight of my time at Vassar. She's taught me more than she knows. I'd like to send out love to Christie and Dr. Sato, two people who showed me how to love music the way I do now. I'd also like to thank Dr. Osborne and David for their constant advice and gentle guidance throughout this whole process.

Thank you to my friends in and out of Vassar for always being people to talk to and grow with. Thank you to No Offense, my comedy group, for being some of the brightest out of those friends and more often than not the brightest part of my day. And thank you to Ari, for not once pretending to be anyone other than you in front of Jacob and me.

Finally, thank you to my family, for always fueling me with confidence since I started playing piano, which is about as far back as I can remember anyway. To my parents: I may be playing someone else's songs today, but you're why I play them the way I do. Thank you for putting me on this path and giving me more love than one person should be allowed to get.

To Natalie: thanks for the piano. I miss you every day.

- Frank