

HAMILTON COLLEGE PERFORMING ARTS
PRESENTS

Elena Nezhdanova, piano
and Friends

Music for Piano, Cello and Voice by Award-Winning
Women Composers



Sunday, October 12, 3:00 pm
Wellin Hall, Schambach Center for Music and the Performing Arts

**Music by Award-Winning Women Composers
A Recital for Piano, Cello, and Voice**

Zahrada Srdce (The Garden of the Heart)

Ema Destiniová (1878-1930)

No. 5 – Já pozdě nasei srdce Tvé

No. 6 – Námluvy

No. 10 – Zvadlé listí

No. 11 – Vzpomínky

Julia Ebner, soprano
Elena Nezhdanova, piano

Six Chansons Françaises

Germaine Tailleferre (1892-1983)

No. 1 – Non, la fidélité...

No. 2 – Souvent un air de vérité

No. 3 – Mon mari, m'a diffamée

No. 4 – Vrai Dieu, qui m'y confortera

Julianna Sabol, soprano
Elena Nezhdanova, piano

Dvě písně, Op. 4

No. 1 – Jitro

No. 2 – Osířely

Vteřiny, Op. 18

No. 7 – Můj milý člověče

Sbohem a šáteček, Op. 14

Vítězslava Kaprálová (1915-1940)

Julia Ebner, soprano
Elena Nezhdanova, piano

Polish Songs

Grazyna Bacewicz (1909 – 1969)

No.1 – Roze (Rose)

No.2 – Inna

No. 3 – Srocзка (Magpie)

Julianna Sabol, soprano
Elena Nezhdanova, piano

❖ INTERMISSION ❖

Mythologies

Danaë Xanthe Vlasse (b. 1981)

The Sirens

Penelope

Julia Ebner and Julianna Sabol, sopranos
Elena Nezhdanova, piano
Roman Placzek, cello
Caroline Burd and Katharine Powers, dancers

Spanish Wedding

Gena Branscombe (1881-1977)

Bridesmaids' Song

Julia Ebner, Julianna Sabol, Olya Swart, sopranos
Elena Nezhdanova, piano
(21st Century World Premiere)

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Soprano, Julia Ebner's 2025-2026 season includes the soprano solos in Beethoven's C Major Mass with the Syracuse Archdiocese, a recital of Music by Award-Winning Women for Hamilton College and the role of the Neuro Specialist in the premiere of Susan Kander's opera *Carry My Own Suitcase*, with Buffalo Opera Unlimited. Ms. Ebner's recent performances include Older Alyce in Tom Cipullo's opera *Glory Denied* with Chelsea Opera, Violetta in *La Traviata*, with Oswego Opera Theater, Musetta in *La Boheme* with Buffalo Opera Unlimited, as well as recitals with Civic Morning Musicals, the 315 Ensemble and recital of all Czech art song with Dr. Nezhadanova.

Some of Ms. Ebner's additional operatic credits include the title roles in *Suor Angelica*, *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, and *The Merry Widow*. She has also appeared as Marguerite in *Faust*, Hodel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, and Mrs. Hayes in *Susannah*, Olga in *La Grand-Duchesse de Gérolstein*, Stella in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Micaela in *Carmen*, Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*, Pamina in *Die Zauberflöte* and Lucy in *The Threepenny Opera*. She has taken the stage for companies including The Santa Fe Opera, The Florida Grand Opera, Opera North, Virginia Opera, Winter Opera St. Louis, Opera San Antonio, Ash Lawn Opera, St. Petersburg Opera, Bel Cantanti Opera, Chelsea Opera, Green Mountain Opera Festival, Syracuse Opera, Opera in the Heights, The Tri-Cities Opera, Amherst Early Music Festival, and The Charleston Chamber Opera. Ms. Ebner has also had the honor of singing in the chorus of the Metropolitan Opera for productions of *Fidelio*, *Otello*, and *Turandot*.

Ms. Ebner teaches music at Syracuse University, Onondaga Community College and LeMoyne College.

Julianna Wrycza-Sabol (soprano) has concertized in Canada, the United States, and Poland, as a soloist with orchestras, as a recitalist, and on the opera stage. She is also the winner of many prestigious competitions, including the NOA (National Opera Association); the Jerome Hill Memorial Award in the Metropolitan Opera auditions; the NATSAA (National Association of Teachers of Singing Artist Auditions); and vocal winner in the Mu Phi Epsilon International Competition.

Ms. Sabol has appeared as a soloist with the Bach Aria Festival in Stonybrook, NY., and in chamber/recital/choral performances with Syracuse Camerata, Dorothy Goff Frisch Concert Series, New York City Merkin hall, Syracuse Symphony, Syracuse Vocal Ensemble, Masterworks Chorale, Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, Dubuque Symphony, Toledo Symphony. On the operatic stage she has been cast in roles with Syracuse Opera, Minnesota Opera and Dorian Opera Theatre. Currently, she serves as Associate Professor of Voice in the Setnor School of Music at Syracuse University. She holds a DMA degree from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati.

Olya Swart (soprano) was born in Ulyanovsk, Russia. She showed prodigious singing gift from a young age and was featured on Ulyanovsk's regional television as a soloist with the Young Artists Choir group and at the age of 18 was invited to audition at the St. Petersburg Conservatory. She received her Bachelor of Music at the Ulyanovsk College of Music and Master of Music degree from Kazan State Conservatory. As a student at the Conservatory, she performed roles of Susanna (*Marriage of Figaro*), Mademoiselle Silberklang (*Der Schauspieldirektor*), Frasquita (*Carmen*), Snow Maiden (*The Snow Maiden*), Marfa (*The Tsar's Bride*), Eliza Doolittle (*My Fair Lady*), and Adele (*Die Fledermaus*). These performances were broadcast on Tatarstan regional television. From 1987-1991 Olya was a soloist with The Theater of New Musical Forms (Experimental Theater Nouveau) "Ekipazh" performing across the Tatarstan Republic and Poland in different productions, including two original rock-operas based on Aleksander Pushkin's *A Feast in Time of Plague* and *The Stone Guest*. In 1995, Olya was invited and participated in the masterclass with Italian opera singer Cecilia Fusco in Giuseppe Tartini of Trieste Conservatory, Trieste Italy.

Czech-American **cellist Roman Placzek, DMA**, is a passionate chamber musician and a member of the Nezhadanova-Placzek Duo with his life partner, pianist Dr. Elena Nezhadanova. He is a respected and admired cellist, music teacher, and the author of *The Physiology of Cello Playing*, a method known as The BumbleBee Method. Dr. Placzek is also a published composer.

He has performed alongside a diverse group of world-renowned artists, including American violinists James Buswell and Charles Treger, Russian pianist Konstantin Lifschitz, renowned British actor Corin Redgrave, and legendary American singer Roberta Flack, among others. His studies and participation in masterclasses with legendary performers such as Yo-Yo Ma, Carlos Prieto, Nathaniel Rosen, and Charles Treger have further honed his skills and expanded his expertise.

Beyond performing, Dr. Placzek is the founder and co-owner of BumbleBee Notes™ Inc. Music Corporation, a music company in Manlius, NY, where he serves as CEO, chief publisher, and cello instructor.

Dr. Elena Nezhdanova (piano) has performed in United States, China, and Europe as an orchestral soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. In October 2015, Elena had an opportunity to perform Peter Tchaikovsky's first piano concerto with Sichuan Philharmonic Orchestra in Chengdu, China. As a solo performer, Elena has given lecture recitals at the La Frontera International Piano Conference (Brownsville, TX), Music by Women Festival at Mississippi University for Women, Civic Morning Musicals concert series (Syracuse, NY), Music House Recital Series (Greenville, SC), Steinway Piano Gallery (Charlotte, NC), and Bösendorfer Hall (Raleigh, NC). She performed at the Interlochen Center for the Arts Summer Camp and was invited to perform four times at the Lives of the Piano concert series at Manhattan School of Music in NYC.

An avid chamber musician, Elena is a co-founding member of the Nezhdanova-Placzek Duo (piano/cello). Their professional engagements include China, Inner Mongolia, American East Coast, London U.K., Dresden, and Chemnitz's performances in Germany, and four prominent Czech cities, including Prague. In September 2021, the Duo received "Gold" and "Best Chamber Ensemble" award at the 3rd World Piano Teachers Association – Singapore International Piano Competition (Chamber Music category). Dr. Nezhdanova is on the piano faculty at Hamilton College where also teaches both solo performance and the piano duos class. She maintains a vibrant and full studio at the Bumblebee Notes Music Academy in Manlius, NY.

More Music in Wellin Hall, Schambach Center

Jupiter String Quartet
Friday, November 14 at 7:30 pm
\$20/\$15/\$5

Performing Haydn's Quartet in C Major, Op. 33 No. 3 "The Bird," selections from Florence Price's *Five Folksongs in Counterpoint*, and Schumann's Quartet in A minor, Op. 41 No. 1

Tickets and information at www.hamilton.edu/performingarts

Late arrivals will be seated at appropriate intervals. Food and beverages are not allowed in Wellin Hall. Please turn off phones and other devices. Schambach Center is a smoke-free building.