

Spring 2-1-2016

MUSI 343.01: Vocal Repertoire II

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MUSIC 343**VOCAL REPERTOIRE II T-R 1:10-2:00**

Professor: Anne Basinski

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Texts: SONG: A guide to style and literature.....Carol Kimball
 The Interpretation of French Song.....Pierre Bernac

Course Objectives: This is part two of the survey course of classical song literature. It is intended to acquaint you with some of the major composers of French and American art song, as well as some of their important works. You will continue to develop your understanding of style.

Course Activities: Reading about and listening to various composers and styles. Performance of two songs for each individual. There will be a paper, a mid-term, and a final exam. Homework assignments will be your best preparation for exams. You will also do one or two presentations in class.

Grading:	Song Assignments	10%
	Midterm	20%
	Homework (points docked if late)	10%
	Class Presentation(s)	20%
	Paper	20%
	Final	20%

Song Assignments: You will choose one song by a French composer, and one by an American composer. You will perform these for the class for a grade. Grade will be based on correctness, musicality and expressiveness, and on verbal presentation of information about the song – about the composer, the translation, context of the piece (is it part of a cycle or group? Circumstances in which it was written). Be sure to bring a copy of the music for the accompanist.

The goal is a recital-quality performance, except that memorization is not required.

The French song will be performed on March 8 .The American song will be done on May 3.

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 10 1:10-3:10 pm

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by course instructor and /or a disciplinary sanction by the university.

All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at [http:// life.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/studentconduct.php](http://life.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/studentconduct.php)

MUSIC 343

Basinski

Spring 16

Vocal Repertoire –French and American Song

PAPER

Make a recital program for yourself using *only* French and American song. Plan on 50 minutes worth of music, and include timings for each group. (Check recordings for timings if you aren't sure) At least half of your choices must be music which you have not sung, and aren't planning to perform on a junior or senior recital this academic year. You may include one French or American operatic aria. Choose music which is well-suited to your voice, and explain why it fits well. If you choose something that is beyond you technically or for a different voice type, you will need a thorough and detailed explanation of how you plan to be successful singing this music. Otherwise points will be deducted.

Include program notes. Program notes should include composer information, translations of the French, and about the pieces themselves (is it a cycle or from one? , a cantata or from one?, etc..) and timings of the pieces.

Talk about your voice, and how this program works (ie, this piece gives me an opportunity to move my voice quickly, which I really like, etc...) Describe your voice. What does it sound like? What does it do well? What kinds of phrases and ranges does it 'like'? What pieces are more of a challenge for you? Where did you put them in your program and why? Which pieces feel the best? Where did you put those, and why?

Discuss your programming. What is there to give it shape, structure? (Groups or cycles by one composer, groups related by subject or story line, even one that you make up..)

What is there to give variety? (Key, tempo, texture and /or instrumentation of accompaniment, rhythm, text-driven changes of mood and character...) Be detailed: "In the first song Poulenc uses his trademark arpeggios and extended, jazzy harmonies. It has dreamy long vocal lines in the middle of the staff, where I like to sustain. The mood is melancholy but also a little lazy – a challenge to portray! The next piece is quick, bright and energetic so the audience will have a change of mood and tempo. The exuberant character will be fun, and it will take a great deal of work to have all the words fly by smoothly and correctly. "

Suggested structure for your paper:

- I Recital program
- II program notes
- III discussion of programming choices
- IV discussion of your voice and how the program shows off and / or challenges you....

Part of your grade will be based on the quality of the writing. If you need help, consult Strunk and White's *The Elements of Style* or Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Write with correct grammar, spelling, diacritical marks and sentence structure. Proofread carefully, especially for titles and composers.

Rough draft is due April 14nd at midnight.

Final papers are due May 6 by midnight. Late papers will not be accepted.