



## The John R. Stratton Visitor in Music Denyce Graves, Mezzo-soprano

Named for a great collector of vocal music and historical recorded sound, the Stratton Visitor brings distinguished specialists in the field of voice, opera, and collaborative piano to the Faculty of Music. This year we are delighted to welcome celebrated mezzo-soprano, **Denyce Graves**. Recognized worldwide as one of today's most exciting vocal stars, Denyce Graves continues to gather unparalleled popular and critical acclaim in performances on four continents. *USA Today* identifies her as "an operatic superstar of the 21st century," and the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* exclaims, "If the human voice has the power to move you, you will be touched by Denyce Graves." For the first in a series of three master classes the repertoire will focus exclusively on **Art Song** and features singers from our graduate and undergraduate Voice programs, as well as pianists from our graduate program in Collaborative Piano.

### Art Song Masterclass

December 1, 2020 1:30pm – 4:00pm

Gabrielle Turgeon, soprano Ryoko Hou, piano	Après un Rêve	Gabriel Fauré
Bradley Christensen, baritone Vladimir Soloviev, piano	3. Four Nights	Ralph Vaughan Williams (Four Poems by Fredegond Shove)
Leslie Higgins, soprano Pascale Menke, piano	Elle est gravement gaie	L. Boulanger
Ineza Muguisha, soprano Christine Bae, piano	1. Heart	Robert Owens (Heart on the Wall)
Jamal al Titi, baritone Vladimir Soloviev, piano	Wie bist du meine Königin	Johannes Brahms

**Statement of Acknowledgement of Traditional Land:** We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.



## The John R. Stratton Visitor in Music Denyce Graves, Mezzo-soprano

Named for a great collector of vocal music and historical recorded sound, the Stratton Visitor brings distinguished specialists in the field of voice, opera, and collaborative piano to the Faculty of Music. This year we are delighted to welcome celebrated mezzo-soprano, **Denyce Graves**. Recognized worldwide as one of today's most exciting vocal stars, Denyce Graves continues to gather unparalleled popular and critical acclaim in performances on four continents. *USA Today* identifies her as "an operatic superstar of the 21st century," and the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* exclaims, "If the human voice has the power to move you, you will be touched by Denyce Graves." Today's master class, the second in a series of three, concentrates on **Opera** and features singers from our graduate Opera program and Faculty pianists.

### Opera Master Class

December 2, 2020 12:00pm – 2:30pm

Danlie Rae Acebuque, baritone Andrea Grant, piano	<i>O Tixo, Tixo, Help Me!</i>	Lost in The Stars, Weill
Renee Fajardo, mezzo-soprano Sandra Horst, piano	<i>Se Romeo t'uccise un figlio</i>	I Capuletti e i Montecchi, Bellini
Juliana Krajčovič, soprano Andrea Grant, piano	Lo vidi e'l primo palpito	Luisa Miller, Verdi
Sacha Smith, soprano Sandra Horst, piano	<i>Отчего это прежде не знала</i> ( <i>Why haven't I known this before?</i> )	Iolanta, Tchaikovsky
Alessia Vitali, mezzo-soprano Sandra Horst, piano	<i>Va! Laisse couler mes larmes</i>	Werther, Massenet
Alternate: Noelle Slaney, soprano Dr. Phil Roberts, piano	<i>Regnava nel silenzio</i>	Lucia di Lammermoor, Donizetti

**Statement of Acknowledgement of Traditional Land:** We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.



## The John R. Stratton Visitor in Music Denyce Graves, Mezzo-soprano

Named for a great collector of vocal music and historical recorded sound, the Stratton Visitor brings distinguished specialists in the field of voice, opera, and collaborative piano to the Faculty of Music. This year we are delighted to welcome celebrated mezzo-soprano, **Denyce Graves**. Recognized worldwide as one of today's most exciting vocal stars, Denyce Graves continues to gather unparalleled popular and critical acclaim in performances on four continents. *USA Today* identifies her as "an operatic superstar of the 21st century," and the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* exclaims, "If the human voice has the power to move you, you will be touched by Denyce Graves." Today's third of three master classes concentrates on **Crossover repertoire** and features singers from our graduate and undergraduate Voice and Opera programs, as well as pianists from our graduate program in Collaborative Piano and Faculty pianists.

### Crossover Master Class

December 4, 2020 10:00am – 12:30pm

Tiffanie Samuels, soprano Sandra Horst, piano	<i>Colored Woman</i>	Memphis, Brian & DiPietro
Vanessa Oude-Reimerink, soprano Vladimir Soloviev, piano	<i>No One Else</i>	Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812, Malloy
Olivia Guselle, mezzo-soprano, Alex Samaras, piano	<i>How High the Moon</i>	Two for the Show, Lewis
Lindsay Connolly, mezzo-soprano Sandra Horst, piano	<i>Playing Nancy</i>	Groundhog Day, Munchin
Nicholas Higgs, baritone Andrea Grant, piano	<i>If Ever I Would Leave You</i>	Camelot, Lerner & Loewe
Alternate: David Walsh, tenor Sandra Horst, piano	<i>Maria</i>	West Side Story, Bernstein

**Statement of Acknowledgement of Traditional Land:** We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.



## Denyce Graves, mezzo-soprano

Highlights of the 2018-2019 season include Ms. Graves' highly anticipated return to the Metropolitan Opera in Nico Muhly's new opera *Marnie*, revisiting her signature role of Carmen performing the opera in concert with the Richmond Symphony, and singing a gala recital presented by Annapolis Opera Company in the spring. In the 2017-2018 season, she was seen in recital at Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires before going on to perform the role of The Old Lady in *Candide* at both Washington National Opera and Palm Beach Opera. She appeared at the Gala de Danza in Los Cobos, Mexico. In addition, Ms. Graves sang recitals at Bob Jones University (Greenville, SC) and the Academy Art Museum (Easton, MD).



Denyce Graves has become most beloved to operatic audiences for her portrayals of the title roles in *Carmen* and *Samson et Dalila*. These signature roles have brought her to the Metropolitan Opera, Vienna Staatsoper, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, San Francisco Opera, Opéra National de Paris, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Washington National Opera, Bayerische Staatsoper, Arena di Verona, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Opernhaus Zürich, Teatro Real in Madrid, Houston Grand Opera, The Dallas Opera, Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, Los Angeles Opera, and the Festival Maggio Musicale in Florence. Ms. Graves has worked with the finest symphony orchestras and conductors in a wide range of repertoire. She has performed with Riccardo Chailly, Myung-Whun Chung, Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, James Levine, Zubin Mehta, Lorin Maazel, Kurt Masur, Riccardo Muti, and Mstislav Rostropovich. For nearly two decades, Ms. Graves has been a prolific recording artist.

Ms. Graves is a native of Washington, D.C., where she attended the Duke Ellington School for the Performing Arts. She continued her education at Oberlin College Conservatory of Music and the New England Conservatory. She is the recipient of many awards, including the Grand Prix du Concours International de Chant de Paris, the Eleanor Steber Music Award in the Opera Columbus Vocal Competition, and a Jacobson Study Grant from the Richard Tucker Music Foundation. In 1991, she received the Grand Prix Lyrique, awarded once every three years by the Association des amis de l'opéra de Monte-Carlo, and the Marian Anderson Award, presented to her by Miss Anderson. In addition she has received honorary doctorates from Oberlin College, the College of Saint Mary, Centre College, and the New England Conservatory. Ms. Graves' dedication to the singers of the next generation continues to be an important part of her career and recently she joined the voice faculty of the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore.

Please visit the artist's website at [www.denycegraves.com](http://www.denycegraves.com).