

# **Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth**

presents

## **Dartmouth College Glee Club**

Filippo Ciabatti, conductor

Erma Mellinger, assistant conductor and vocal coach

with

Henry Danaher, pianist

**Sunday, March 6, 3 pm**

**Church of Christ at Dartmouth • Dartmouth College • 2022**

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# Program

Approximate duration: 60 minutes

## *Hope is the Thing*

Lyrics by Emily Dickinson; Composed by Emma Lou Diemer

- I. *Hope is the thing with feathers*
- II. *A Bird came down the walk*
- III. *If you were coming in the fall*
- IV. *Some things that fly there be*

*Der Gang zum Liebchen, Opus 31, No. 3*  
*The Great Clear Twilight*  
*Wayfarin' Stranger*  
*I Hunger and Thirst*  
*There Will Be Rest*  
*The Road Home*  
*Sleep*  
*Ain'-a That Good News!*

Johannes Brahms  
Austin Schend  
Gilbert M. Martin  
Kevin Siegfried  
Frank Ticheli  
Stephen Paulus  
Eric Whitacre  
William L. Dawson

## About the Artists

A native of Florence, Italy, **Filippo Ciabatti** is the Music Director of the Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra, the Dartmouth Opera Lab and the Interim Music Director of the Dartmouth's Choral Ensembles. He is also the Artistic Director of the Upper Valley Baroque professional choral and instrumental ensembles. He is the recipient of the 2020 American Prize in Conducting (college/university division).

He has appeared as a guest conductor with opera companies and orchestras including Opera North (New Hampshire), Lyric Theatre at Illinois, Aurora Festival Orchestra (Stockholm, Sweden), Vermont Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Toscana dei Conservatori (Italy), ICM Orchestra and the Universidad Central Orchestra (Bogota, Colombia). He served as assistant conductor for the Portland Symphony Orchestra (Maine) and as chorus

master and vocal coach for the Middlebury Opera (Vermont). In 2020, he also conducted a project with the Martha Graham Dance Company.

Artists with whom he has collaborated include the concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra David Kim, American opera star Nathan Gunn, pianist Sally Pinkas, flutist Luciano Tristano, mandolinist Carlo Aonzo and cellist Gabriel Cabezas. A passionate advocate for contemporary music and collaborations between musical genres, he has premiered a secular oratorio composed by the renowned jazz composer Taylor Ho Bynum and commissioned a cello concerto by the composer Noah Luna, aired during the NPR show *From The Top*. In 2018, he led the Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra in an Italian tour in collaboration with the Orchestra Toscana dei Conservatori in prominent venues and festivals, including the Puccini Days in Lucca.

During the summer of 2018, he was invited to be a Conducting Fellow at the Aurora Music Festival in Stockholm, under the direction of Jukka-Pekka Saraste. During the festival, he conducted Hannah Kendall's 2017 composition, "The Spark Catchers", in a concert that also featured legendary cellist Mischa Maisky in the Konserthuset Stockholm.

As a pianist and vocal coach, Mr. Ciabatti is on the faculty of Camerata de' Bardi, the Young Artists Program of Teatro Grattacielo in New York City, and of the summer opera programs "Opera Viva!" in Verona (Italy) and "Scuola Italia per Giovani Cantanti Lirici" in Sant'Angelo in Vado (Italy). He has played for masterclasses of Renée Fleming, Nathan Gunn, Isabel Leonard, William Matteuzzi, and Donald George. In Italy, he worked as vocal coach for the Cherubini Conservatory, Maggio Musicale Fiorentino and Florence Opera Academy.

Mr. Ciabatti holds degrees in piano, choral conducting and orchestral conducting from Italy and the United States.

Mezzo-soprano **Erma Gattie Mellinger** has been a principal artist with many opera companies across the United States including the Cleveland Opera, the Florida Grand Opera (Miami), the Dallas Opera, the Pittsburgh Opera Theater, the Fresno International Grand Opera, Opera Maine and the Chautauqua Opera. Her roles, in over 30 operas, include Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*, Dorabella in *Così Fan Tutte*, Cherubino in *Le Nozze Di Figaro*, Ottavia in *L'incoronazione Di Poppea*, and Preziosilla in *La Forza Del Destino*. She has performed with Sherrill Milnes, James Morris, Diana Soviero and David Daniels and has sung masterclasses with Frederica Von Stade and Mignon Dunn. Conductors with whom she has worked include Harry Bicket, Stephen Lord, John DeMain and Willie Waters.

Hailed for her "rich, vibrant, creamy voice," Ms. Mellinger is also at home on the concert stage appearing as soloist with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the Monterey Symphony and the Florida Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Mellinger appeared as soloist with the Handel Society of Dartmouth College in tours of England, France, Germany and Italy, performing in venues including Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris and St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

Ms. Mellinger has been a member of the Dartmouth College faculty since 1996. In addition to her duties as Voice Instructor, she serves as the Assistant Director and Vocal Coach of the Handel Society and the Glee Club and Co-Director of the Dartmouth Opera Lab. Ms. Mellinger presents solo recitals and chamber music concerts on campus through the ChamberWorks series. Ms. Mellinger is a former Director of Cantabile, a Women's chorus based in Vermont and New Hampshire. In addition, Ms. Mellinger has directed church choirs and has served as both Stage Director and Music Director for numerous community theater productions. She is a sought-after clinician in the field of vocal production, having most recently worked with the University Chorus and the Chamber Singers of Brandeis University.

Ms. Mellinger earned her Bachelor of Music Degree with Highest Distinction (*First in Class*) from Northwestern University. She received the Performer's Certificate and the Opera Certificate as well as a Teaching Excellence Award while at the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester where she earned her Master of Music Degree and began her Doctor of Music Arts Degree before embarking on her singing career.

**Henry Danaher** serves as the Director of Music at The Church of Christ at Dartmouth College, and he is a Dartmouth College alumnus with a degree in Mathematics, belonging to the class of 2008. As an undergraduate, he sang with the Glee Club under the direction of Louis Burkot, won the Mark L. Lebowitz 1977 Memorial Prize in the Performing Arts (2008), earned citations for coursework in Counterpoint and the Psychology of Learning, and was awarded an American Mathematical Society scholarship to study Mathematics in Moscow, Russia in 2005. Besides accompanying the Dartmouth College Glee Club this term, his recent musical work at the College includes collaborations with the Barbary Coast, accompanying the Joseph Keckler masterclass with the Dartmouth Opera Lab, performing during the Hop's Explore the Arts event, providing music for alumni memorial services, and assisting with musical direction and piano accompaniment for the First-Year Project with the Department of Theater. He is an Associate of the American Guild of Organists, attaining professional certification with them in 2019.

# Dartmouth College Glee Club

Filippo Ciabatti, director

## Sopranos

Brianna Aubrey '22  
Breanna Boland '23  
Avery Fogg '24  
Ella Grim '25  
Caroline James '22  
Abigail Johnson '23  
Izzy Lust '25  
Marisa Natarajan '23  
Danielle Tamkin '23

## Altos

Ora Cullen '24  
Skye Ekern '24  
Jennifer Hansen '85  
Erma Mellinger  
Julia Reed '23  
Maansey Rishi '24

## Tenors

Jason Carenz '25  
Brian Clancy  
Thaddeus Goratowski '23  
Nicolás Macri '24  
H. Nephi Seo '23  
Samuel Xiong '24

## Basses

Samuel Bonasso '24  
Matthew Dempsey '23  
Wesley Liao '24  
Colby Lish '25  
Cole Minsky '22  
Mark Parrino '22  
Peter Scalise '22  
Christopher Smith '25

## Soloists

Brianna Aubrey '22–*I Hunger  
and Thirst*  
Breanna Boland '23–*The Road Home*

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