

Senior Recital

MUS500



Madeleine Cron '23, soprano

Jacob Hiser, *piano*

Charlie Scales, *bass*

Ayaan Akhtar, *guitar*

Will Simpson, *drums*

Phillips Exeter Academy
Forrestal-Bowld Music Center

“The Bowld”

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

7:00 pm

Program

Saint Honesty

Sara Bareilles
(b. 1979)

Ease My Mind

Ben Platt
(b. 1993)

Still

Seinabo Sey
(b. 1990)

Walked Away

Madi Cron
(b. 2004)

Easy On Me

Adele
(b. 1988)

Virtual Insanity

Jamiroquai
est. 1992

Tokyo

Lianne La Havas
(b. 1989)

You Know I'm No Good

Amy Winehouse
(1983-2011)

Program Notes

I have been so lucky to spend this past year at Phillips Exeter, and I have never felt so welcome and at home in a music department. As I was planning this recital, my vision was to choose a wide variety of compositions, each of which is very special to me in its own way. Tonight's program includes contemporary, pop, and R&B music by artists who have had a significant influence on me as a musician, and songs that have been special to me during my time at Exeter. Tonight, you will hear pop compositions by Ben Platt, Adele, and Sara Bareilles. These artists have inspired me with their vocal control, their performance styles, and their moving sentiments told through song. You will also hear R&B/jazz/soul compositions by Amy Winehouse, Lianne La Havas, Jamiroquai, and Seinabo Sey. Listen for their incredible vocal details and driving rhythms. I will also be performing one of my own compositions, "Walked Away". Songwriting has been a happy discovery and has quickly become a passion during my year at Exeter, and I have fallen in love with the art. It is my privilege to be performing alongside the wonderful Mr. Hiser, and my friends Charlie, Will, and Ayaan.

I'm grateful for the constant presence of music in my life: Growing up, as a child with my mother, brother, and father, my uncles, aunts and cousins, my grandparents and great uncle, at my treasured Camp Billings, and with my voice, piano, and dance teachers. Everywhere I've been, music has been the foundation. Through everything, there has always been music to lift, to comfort, to celebrate, to create. It has been central to my profoundly wonderful experience here at Exeter, and for that I am immeasurably thankful. I am excited to share this senior recital experience with all of you.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to Mr. Johnson, Dr. Christenson, Mr. Hiser, Dr. Schultz, Mr. Rabb, and Ms. Darby for your guidance and unwavering support throughout this year in the music department.

I would like to offer special thanks to Mr. Johnson for all that he has done for me this past year. We are all very lucky to have you in the music department, and I am privileged to have been able to spend my time learning from you in Gli Scalatori, Concert Choir, on the Puerto Rico tour, in various

concerts, and now in the Music 500 course. I will never forget the valuable lessons you have taught me.

I would also like to say a special thanks to Dr. Christenson for encouraging such a creative, happy, and welcoming space in our voice lessons this school year. I am thrilled to have found a love for songwriting, and I thank you for your guidance and encouragement as I jumped into putting my ideas, experiences, and thoughts together with the music that's always dancing in my mind. I never would have thought I would be entering a competition with a song of my own creation!

Thank you to Mr. Hiser for all of the time and effort you have dedicated to the music students this year. We are incredibly fortunate to have you here at Exeter, and never before have I been able to rehearse, learn, and perform with a collaborative pianist as thoughtful, talented, and incredible as you are. Thank you to Ms. Darby for helping me through all the technicalities of this recital, and for all of your work this year in the music department. You do so much for everyone, and we are all very thankful for you and all that you do.

Thank you to Ayaan Akhtar, Charlie Scales, and Will Simpson for jamming out with me in rehearsals and adding your spirit, talent, and hard work to this performance. I have absolutely adored playing with you this year. Thank you to my newfound family in Dow House (the best dorm on campus), and to my friends Bridgette Martin, Malachi Johns, Stellan Aalto, and Angela Zhang for making this year amazing, and for supporting me in everything I do. I would also like to thank my teachers, my advisor, Mr. Talla, Dean Weatherspoon, and Principal Rawson for fostering a welcoming environment for me as a new student at Exeter. This past year as a postgraduate will always be a prominent and pivotal experience that has shaped my life forever.

And finally, thank you to my mother, Ellen Smith, my brother, Henry Cron, and my grandmother, Sandra Freitas Smith, for helping me get to where I am today. I could not have done it without you. Thank you to everyone who has helped to bring this recital to life. Having all of you in my life is a gift and a privilege, for which I am grateful.