



Celebrating
the music of
Black American Composers

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Black Artistry Takes Center Stage in Concert Series' Debut Performance

Roxbury, MA: Castle of our Skins, a newly created chamber music concert series dedicated to celebrating the music of African American composers, will make its debut Friday, May 23rd at 8pm at Roxbury Community College. The program, entitled *Love Affects...*, will pair music with spoken word of noted African Americans including H.T. Burleigh, Martin Luther King Jr. and President Barack Obama.

“With *Love Affects...*, we really wanted to create a narrative already embedded in the concert experience,” Artistic Director and violist Ashleigh Gordon describes. “The program weaves together chamber music, poetry and speeches in an effort to explore how love can affect our sense of self, responsibility to humanity, feeling of cultural pride and dedication to our future.” Chamber works by Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson, H.T. Burleigh and Adolphus Hailstork intertwine with the poems and speeches of Nikki Giovanni, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Martin Luther King Jr. and President Barack Obama.

While *Love Affects...* marks the debut concert performance of Castle of our Skins, the young organization has already reached over 200 elementary students in the greater Boston area through its educational workshops held earlier this year. “Castle of our Skins is not only celebrating the music of Black composers with audiences young and old, but is also celebrating the achievements of diverse artists, in spite of our struggle,” Assistant Director and Composer-in-Residence of the series Anthony Green notes. “We hope that our work of celebrating these artists will spread not only to the general public, but also to working professionals - the respected performers and educators in this field who are not aware of these achievements.”

Friday, May 23, 2014 at 8:00 p.m.
Roxbury Community College
1234 Columbus Ave, Roxbury
*Tickets: \$10 Adults; \$5 Seniors (60+)
Children 10 and under FREE

Program: *Love Affects*
Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson: “Calvary” String Quartet No. 1
Adolphus Hailstork: Songs of Love and Justice
H.T. Burleigh: Deep River
Poems/speeches of Nikki Giovanni, Paul Laurence Dunbar,
Martin Luther King Jr. and President Barack Obama

Artists

Olga Patramanska-Bell; James Dargan, violins
Ashleigh Gordon, viola
Javier Caballero, cello
Farah Darliette, soprano
Anthony Green, piano
Laurelle Mathison; Patrick Rogers Dailey, narrators

About Castle of our Skins: Castle of our Skins invites exploration into the rich heritage and modern culture of Black America through the realm of Classical and Contemporary chamber music. The series pairs music of past and present Black composers with dialogue, interactive youth education projects, and creative artistic collaborations in engaging and accessible ways. Seeking to help foster cultural curiosity, Castle of our Skins strives to showcase the multi-dimensional identity encompassing Black American culture.

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