

## **Guest musicians to perform new American music at AU**

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Soprano Linda Larson, who has concentrated on new American music in her developing career, and pianist Read Gainsford will perform 20th-century American music Sunday, Sept. 23, in the first installment of Alfred University's Guest Artist Series. The recital is at 3 p.m. in Howell Hall. Admission is free; the public is invited. As part of the program, Larson and soprano Luanne Clarke Crosby, associate professor of voice and chorus at the University, will perform several duets. Larson has emphasized new American music in her wide-ranging career. Recent concert appearances have featured Richard Einhorn's "Voices of Light" with Anonymous 4 and the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra and Robert X. Rodriguez's opera "Monkey See, Monkey Do" with the Dallas-based ensemble Voices of Change. She has also sung the traditional concert repertoire, including Handel's "Messiah" with the Syracuse Symphony and a Mozart Requiem, Bach Magnificat, and Poulenc Gloria with groups such as the Erie Philharmonic, Westchester Concert Singers, New Texas Festival, Champlain Valley Oratorio Society, and Ithaca Community Chorus. She is also a featured singer on "The Pulse of an Irishman," a CD of Beethoven arrangements of British Isles folksongs. A graduate of the Resident Artist Training Program at Tri-Cities Opera in Binghamton, NY, she has sung nine leading roles with that company. This season she will sing Humperdinck's "Gretel" with Opera Illinois. Larson holds degrees from the universities of Texas and Michigan. Read Gainsford, a native of New Zealand, has performed widely in the USA, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa as a solo recitalist, concert soloist, and chamber musician. He has performed solo at Wigmore Hall and Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall and has performed at the John F Kennedy Center, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Barbican Centre, Birmingham Town Hall, and St.-Martin-in-the-Fields. A member of the Ithaca College piano faculty since 1997, Gainsford has recorded for the Amoris label, BBC Radio Three, and Radio New Zealand's Concert Programme.