**Longy School of Music of Bard College**

**Graduating Student Recital**

**Victor Obo-Okon Effiong (Tenor) MM, BA, AA**

**Certified Music Practitioner**

**Pianist: Ling Guo**

**Voice Instructor: Professor Karyl Ryczek**

**Can We Heal?**

The world is so beautiful! But there rose from the souls of men, certain lyrics, ranging within the agonizing darkness of the dehumanization and degradation of the world’s present situation. Instead of love, compassion and beauty to guide man, hatred, violence, racism, abduction/kidnap, killings, politics and its corruption, insecurity, divorce, separation, and the most recent Corona virus seep through the pores of healthy bodied and ravage it beyond repair.

Man has become an agent of pain to his fellow man; Man has become savage beast, man has become prey, and man has become death. In one day, the world changes. Death lurks in the shadows. But amidst the chaos and anarchy, there is still hope for us all. Let’s dialogue, and let’s reconcile and come back together so that we might heal.

Now, to all those who are angry with us, and to all who are planning evil against us, may you never have powers over us. “Let your anger subside”. Let there be peace and love among men and peace in the world forever more. “Let good conquer evil, let us unite; for we are all Americans!

Can we heal? I think we can if we obey the rules and live-in peace and harmony.

PEACE: BE STILL!

**Life, Love and Happiness**

My Life’s delight Roger Quilter (1877 – 1953)

Im Wunderschonen monat mai – Dichterliebe 1. (1840) Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Vaga Luna Che Inargenti (1820s) Vincenzo Bellini (1801-1835)

Ombra Mai fu (1738) George F. Handel (1685-1759)

Sogna, sogna (1916) Francesco Tosti (1846-1916)

**Lust, Sorrows and Transition**

The cradle will Rock (1938) Marc Blitzstein (1905-1964)

Malinconia, Nimfa gentile (1820s) Vincenzo Bellini (1801-1835)

In der Fremde – Liederkreis 1. Op.39(May 1840) Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Las Bas, vers L’eglise (1904) Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

Weep you no more, sad fountains Roger Quilter (1877 – 1953)

Total Eclipse Oratorio, Samson (1743) George F. Handel (1685-1759)

**Intermission Intermission Intermission**

**Recollection, Reconcilliation, and Healing**

Sure, on this shining night Op. 13 (1940) Samuel Barber (1910-1981)

Turn thee to me (1894) Antonin Dvorak (1841-1904)

Pie Jesu from Requiem (1984) Guest Artist: Hannah Johnston, Soprano Andrew Lloyd Webber (1948)

Psalm 23 Asian Prayer

**Bio**

**Sir Victor Effiong,** tenor, MM, BA, AA – hails from Calabar, Cross River State of Nigeria, in West Africa.

He is the first of five Children. He studied Social Work from the University of Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria before opting for music later. Victor’s inspiration came after watching the Opera legend Pavarotti on television.

He applied and auditioned at Berklee College of music in Boston, Massachusetts, and was admitted in January 2013. Since Opera and conducting was his passion and not Jazz, he later moved to Oklahoma, where he continued his studies and obtained an Associate of Arts Degree in Liberal Studies, Music Option, from Rose State College in Midwest City, Oklahoma in the Spring of 2015.

In the fall of 2015, Victor continued school, studying Opera/vocal performance and conducting at Cameron University, Lawton Oklahoma. His performances in academics, Choir and Opera earned him the McMahon Scholar of the year and the most exemplary chorister of the year 2015/2016. Victor graduated with Honors with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music and a minor in Psychology and was the only graduating student from the music department of Cameron University in the fall of 2016.

Victor has a master’s degree in music from the Longy School of Music of Bard college, in Cambridge Massachusetts.

​Victor is also in his last semester for his second master’s degree at Longy school of music of Bard College studying Master of Music in Music Education. He is graduating in May 15, 2021. He is a Certified Music Practitioner, a Graduate fellow, and was the Vice President of the Longy Students Association in the 2019/2020 school year. He plans to work in a hospital as a licensed/certified Music Practitioner after graduate school and later, go into Medical School to become an Optometrist. He also hopes to become a Professor at a College or University in the years that follow. Victor plans to start a school in Nigeria to help children from poverty-stricken homes acquire formal education.

Victor is a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus and a member of the largest philanthropic organization in the world, The LIONS Clubs International.

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