Accompanied Repertoire for High Holidays
CG-CANTR-596
Fall 2013 – 3 credits
9:00-11:00 Thursdays
Cantor Louise Treitman
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday or Thursday by appointment
Phone: 617-559-8647 (Hebrew College);
617-699-8864 (cell in case of emergency only)
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students learn cantorial and congregational repertoire for High Holy Days that uses instrumental accompaniment. Music is selected from nineteenth-century European classics through twentieth/twenty-first century American contemporary. The class will focus on learning to interpret a significant amount of repertoire for the contemporary synagogue, using organ, piano, guitar and other instrumental accompaniment. We will also examine the machzor Shaarei Teshuvah: Gates of Repentance, noting differences from the Conservative machzor. 

Prerequisites: MUSIC 302 (Musicianship Skills 2) and LITGY 225 (Liturgy and Poetry of the High Holidays) or LITGY 593 (Liturgy of the High Holidays) or permission of the instructor.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Attendance: Students are expected to attend each class session and to participate fully in the music and discussion. Problems affecting attendance should be brought to the instructors' attention immediately.
- Learning Repertoire: Students are expected to go over the music from class, and to learn other pieces as required.
- In-class performances will take place on a regular basis. Before the end of the semester each student will plan a sample Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur service and perform selections for the class.
- If you are submitting papers after the due date, please contact the instructor.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:
All assignments will be submitted in “Google Docs” and hard copy using 12 point font and double spacing. More details will be available at the first class session.

1) High Holy Day Recollection (1-2 pgs/~500 words): Due at second class session - 10/4
Begin by thinking back over your life, recalling your memories of being deeply affected by music or liturgy of the High Holy Days. Spend some time remembering the places, people, and experiences that most influenced this experience. Write about one (or two) of these recollections and its meaning for you today. This will not be graded.
2) Book Review (2-3 pages/750-1000 words): Due at seventh class session - 11/7
Choose one of the following books, and write a reaction to the reading. You may use the following questions to guide you, if you wish:
A) What is/are the main point(s) the author is making?
B) Do you agree or disagree with the opinions expressed?
C) How might you apply what you have learned from this to your future as a cantor and a vessel for the musical heritage of our people?

- One of these four books in “Prayers of Awe” series edited by Lawrence A. Hoffman (Jewish Lights Publishing).
  - All These Vows-Kol Nidre
  - Who by Fire, Who by Water-Un’taneh Tokef
  - We Have Sinned: Sin and Confession in Judaism—Ashamnu and Al Chet
  - May God Remember: Memory and Memorializing in Judaism-Yizkor
- This Is Real and You Are Completely Unprepared: The Days of Awe as a Journey of Transformation by Alan Lew (Little, Brown and Company, 2003).
- I am open to other suggestions of books and extended articles. Please check first.

3) Final Project (3 separate service outlines): Due as noted (10/31, 12/5, and 12/19)
Using machzor: Shaarei Teshuva.

- Annotated Rosh Hashanah Service Outline - Each student will create an annotated outline for accompanied Rosh Hashanah morning service. Due: 10/31
- Annotated Yom Kippur Service Outline - Each student will create an annotated outline for an accompanied Yom Kippur morning service. Due: 12/5
- Choice of one of the following for third outline: Due: 12/19
  - Annotated Yom Kippur Service Outline - an annotated outline for an accompanied Kol Nidre/Yom Kippur evening service.
  - Annotated Yom Kippur Service Outline - an annotated outline for an accompanied Yizkor/Yom Kippur service.
  - Annotated Yom Kippur Service Outline - an annotated outline for an accompanied Neilah/Yom Kippur afternoon service.

Annotations (sentence or two on each piece) should explain briefly why you chose that composition. Please include page numbers and other relevant information, such as performance notes and choreography. Connecting readings/kavannot are optional.
EVALUATION:

The final grade will be based on:
1) Attendance, participation, preparation and performance of assigned music (60%)
2) Written Assignments (40%): Your written assignments will be graded, based on such factors as quality of writing, clarity of expression, and care taken in editing (especially grammar) and timely submission of assignment. Please follow guidelines concerning the number of pages required.

MATERIALS:

Required:
*Shaarei Teshuvah: Gates of Repentance, The New Union Prayer Book for the Days of Awe (CCAR Press). Official machzor of the Reform movement. Used copies are available and affordable from various on-line sellers. It is possible that I could get copies of this machzor for you to borrow (since they are working on a new machzor that will be published soon) - let me know if you are interested in this.


A comprehensive High Holy Days resource for solo voice and accompaniment, from Jewish liturgical music’s major composers.

Very Strongly recommended. These should be in your Jewish music personal library:
*Yamim Noraim: Days of Awe, Volumes 1 & 2 (in a combined volume; or used copies in separate volumes). Edited by Samuel Adler, Transcontinental Music Publications, #991600 and #991601.


Optional:
CLASS SCHEDULE:

CLASS 1: MONDAY, September 23rd (please note Monday due to holidays)
Repertoire: Selichot; Maariv l'Rosh Hashanah - Opening through Sh'ma U'virchoteha
Discussion: Preparing oneself spiritually for the High Holy Days; Hin'n'ni in the Reform machzor. Overview of planning services.

CLASS 2: October 3rd
Written assignment due: High Holy Day Recollection
Repertoire: Maariv l'Rosh Hashanah - T'filah, Avinu Malkeinu through conclusion
Discussion: Styles of worship, variety of accompaniment

CLASS 3: October 10th
Repertoire: Maariv l'Rosh Hashanah - final details
Repertoire: Shacharit l'Rosh Hashanah - Opening through Sh'ma U'virchoteha
Discussion: Maintaining vocal health at this time of year; High Holy Day choir - Volunteer and Professional choirs

CLASS 4: October 17th
Repertoire: Shacharit l'Rosh Hashanah - T'filah with Un'taneh Tokef, Kedushah, Uv'chein paragraphs
Discussion: Un'taneh Tokef prayer

CLASS 5: October 24th
Repertoire: Shacharit l'Rosh Hashanah - Torah service and Shofar service
Discussion: Shofar service

CLASS 6: October 31st
Written Assignment due: Service outline for Rosh Hashanah morning
Repertoire: Kol Nidre service - opening
Discussion: Instrumental accompaniment for Kol Nidre; "performance" of the Kol Nidre

CLASS 7: November 7th
Written assignment due: Book Review
Repertoire: Kol Nidre service - Sh'ma U'virchoteha & T'filah
Discussion: Student performances of Kol Nidre

CLASS 8: November 14th
Repertoire: Shacharit l'Yom Kippur - Sh'ma U'virchoteha, T'filah, Vidui, Selichot
Discussion: Experience of the Vidui
CLASS 9: November 21st
Repertoire: Shacharit l'Yom Kippur - additional selections as needed
Discussion: Sermon Songs on High Holy Day themes.

THANKSGIVING BREAK - No class on November 28th

CLASS 10: December 5th
Written assignment due: Service outline for Yom Kippur morning.
Repertoire: Minchah l'Yom Kippur - including Ochilah la'Eil; Yizkor
Discussion: Yizkor service

CLASS 11: December 12th
*Student Presentations - accompanist may be joining us
Repertoire: Neilah l'Yom Kippur
Discussion: Using High Holy Day nusach in a liberal congregation

CLASS 12: December 19th - LAST DAY OF CLASS
Written assignment due: Service outline for Yom Kippur (choice of three)
Discussion: Any other issues of leading High Holy Days in a Liberal setting.
*Student Presentations - accompanist will be joining us

This schedule is subject to change - adjustments to syllabus will be addressed in class.