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Green's Composition to Premiere at Carnegie Hall

December 13, 2013

Provost and Dean of Faculty,
Jonathan Green

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— During the holiday season, Jonathan Green, Illinois Wesleyan's provost and dean of faculty, will have one of his compositions receive its world premiere at New York City's **Carnegie Hall**.

The event will take place on December 20 at 8 p.m. in Weill Recital Hall as part of the Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) Artist Series.

Opening the program, in her recital, mezzo-soprano Hope Fairchild Thacker will perform, *A Devil's Abecedarium: 26 of Ambrose Bierce's Cynic's Definitions* set to music by Green. The compilation of entries was written by Ambrose Bierce (1842 to c. 1913) for the *San Francisco News Letter* and originally published under the title *The Cynic's Word Book* in 1906 and revised as *The Devil's Dictionary*. It is a collection of revised definitions to words with comedic political and social references. The term "abecedarium" refers to the form in which the piece is written—one entry for each letter of the alphabet.

"I was delighted to receive the commission from Hope and her excellent ensemble to compose a piece. The venue for the concert was certainly an added enticement. It was a fun combination to write for: voice, percussion, trombone, and piano is not a standard ensemble, but has lots of potential. These texts also presented many opportunities. They are sarcastic and often funny, but a number of them contain provocative and important social criticisms."

Green, who joined Illinois Wesleyan in 2011, also serves as a professor in the School of Music and directs on the University Choir. The conductor and composer has received awards from The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), the North Carolina Arts Council and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts for his compositions. He is the author of seven music-reference books and his compositions include songs, choral works, three piano concertos and seven symphonies.

Previously, Green served as Dean of the College and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Sweet Briar College in Virginia, where he received the Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1999. He has earned degrees from SUNY Fredonia, the University of Massachusetts and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where he was a University Excellence Fellow. Green, who is a member of ASCAP, the Conductors Guild and Phi Mu Alpha serves on the boards of the Illinois Symphony and Illinois Shakespeare Festival.

For additional information, contact Sherry Wallace, director for news and media relations at (309)-556-3181.



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