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PURCHASE COLLEGE LECTURER DU YUN WINS PULITZER PRIZE FOR HER OPERATIC WORK *Angel's Bone* is About Human Trafficking

Purchase, NY, [April 12, 2017]: Purchase College, SUNY is pleased to announce that Du Yun, a lecturer in the School of the Arts, has been awarded a Pulitzer Prize in music for her groundbreaking operatic work about human trafficking, *Angel's Bone*, which was first produced at the Prototype Festival, 3LD Arts and Technology Center, New York City in January 2016. The piece includes a libretto by Royce Vavrek.

The Pulitzer jury described it as a “bold operatic work that integrates vocal and instrumental elements and a wide range of styles into a harrowing allegory for human trafficking in the modern world.”

Du Yun, who is known for her cutting edge work, told *NPR* that “When we look at human trafficking, we always think that it's far away from us. We all have our own narrative of what human trafficking is supposed to be, but if you do a little research, human trafficking happens, in many different forms and shapes, right in our backyard.”

Born and raised in Shanghai, China, and currently based in New York, Du Yun is a Pulitzer Prize-winning composer, multi-instrumentalist, performance artist, activist, and curator for new music, working at the intersection of orchestral, opera, and chamber music, theatre, cabaret, oral tradition, public performance, sound installation, electronics, and noise.

Hailed by *The New York Times* as a leading figure in China's new generation of composers, Du Yun's music is championed by some of today's finest performing artists, ensembles, orchestras, and organizations. The National Public Radio (USA) has recently voted her as one of 100 composers under 40.

Du Yun's music can be heard on the New Focus, Oxingale, ATMA Classique, and Deutsche Grammophon labels. An alumna of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Oberlin Conservatory (BM), and Harvard University (PhD), her principle composition teachers include Deng Erbo, Randolph Coleman, Joshua Fineberg, Bernard Rands, and Mario Davidovsky.

She currently teaches Electroacoustic Music and Intro to World Music at Purchase College.

James Undercofler, Director of the Conservatory of Music, said, "We at Purchase are all deeply proud of Du Yun's remarkable award. Her music, her teaching and she, herself, demonstrate a far-reaching imagination and cunning spirit. She is a treasure, without question."

Purchase College President Thomas J. Schwarz said, "We congratulate Du Yun on this accomplishment. We're proud that her unique voice and dedication to expanding the definition of classical music is being recognized by this prestigious award. We're grateful that she is equally dedicated to teaching the next generation of composers at Purchase College."

About Purchase College–SUNY

Purchase College, part of the State University of New York (SUNY) network of 64 universities and colleges, was founded in 1967 by Governor Nelson Rockefeller. His aspiration for Purchase was to create a dynamic campus that combined conservatory training in the visual and performing arts with programs in the liberal arts and sciences, in order to inspire an appreciation for both intellectual and artistic talents in all students. Today, Purchase College–SUNY is a community of students, faculty, and friends where open-minded engagement with the creative process leads to a lifetime of intellectual growth and professional opportunity. For more information about the College, visit www.purchase.edu

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