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Department of Music to Present "Dido and Aeneas" Feb. 2-5

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop's Opera Theatre will present Henry Purcell's short Baroque opera "Dido and Aeneas" Feb. 2-5 in Barnes Recital Hall. Performances Feb. 2-4 will be at 8 p.m., while the Feb. 5 performance will be at 4 p.m.

Purcell's work is loosely based on portions of Virgil's "Aeneid," focusing mainly on the ill-fated love of the Queen of Carthage and the Prince of Troy, and her tragic end.

Directed by faculty members Meredith Nutter and J.L. McDaniel, Winthrop's Opera Theatre will be accompanied by a period instrumental ensemble made up of string quintet, harpsichord and lute. Local artists and Winthrop students make up the quintet. Faculty members Jennifer Austin will accompany on harpsichord; L.H. Dickert will play lute; and Katherine Kinsey will conduct.

The cast is made up of 14 Winthrop music students ranging from freshmen to graduate students. The title roles are double cast and will be played by senior Kayla Baker and junior John Kaneklides on Feb. 2 and 4 and by senior Keefee Arthur and junior Zach Hugo on Feb. 3 and 5. The hour-long opera is in English.

Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for students. For more information, call the Department of Music at 803/323-2255.