

HOUGHTON
COLLEGE
GREATBATCH SCHOOL OF MUSIC

presents

Danielle Ferris, Soprano
Caleb Durant, Baritone
With Andrew Reith, Piano

In

Love and Loss; Life and Death

A Junior Recital

Recital Hall
Center for the Arts
Monday, October 12, 2020
6:30 pm
Program

Life Begins:

Songs of Travel:
I. Vagabond

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

The Tender Land:
Laurie's Song

Aaron Copland (1900-1990)

Love:

Atalanta:
Care Selve

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Sogno

Paolo Tosti (1846-1916)

Le Nozze di Figaro:
Un moto di gioja

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Di Zauberflöte:
Pa-Pa-Pa-Papageno

- Brief Pause -

Heartbreak:

Songs of Travel:
V. In Dreams

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Tristesse

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

L'absent

Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

Sakura Iro No Yume

The Last Five Years:
Still Hurting

Jason Robert Brown (b. 1970)

Death:

Der Tod und das Mädchen

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Neue Liebe

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Songs of Travel:
IX. I Have Trod the Upward and the Downward Slope

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Ghost Quartet:
Any Kind of Dead Person

Dave Malloy (b. 1976)

We would like to thank the Houghton College administration for its faithful support of the Greatbatch School of Music.

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As a courtesy to the performers and your fellow audience members, please be certain that all cell phones, watch alarms, and pagers are either turned off or set for silent operation. Flash photography can be very disconcerting to performers and is not permitted during the performance. Thank you for your cooperation.

Love and Loss; Life and Death
Junior Recital
Caleb Durant and Danielle Ferris
Accompanied by Andrew Reith

*The performers are spaced out around the stage in order to ensure both their personal safety and that of the audience

Life Begins

Songs of Travel is a song cycle written by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). The title and the text for each of the nine songs in the cycle were taken from a collection of poems by Robert Louis Stevenson. The cycle follows a traveler who disconnects himself from society and wanders the world on his own. Each song visits the traveler at a different stage in his journey, including excitement, wonder, and loneliness, among others.

"The Vagabond" is the first song in the cycle and introduces the traveler as he sets off on his journey, excited for the future.

The Tender Land is an opera written by Aaron Copland, which premiered in 1954. The opera takes place in the 1930s and focuses on Laurie, a soon-to-be high school graduate, living on a farm with her family. In "Laurie's Song", Laurie contemplates her life up until this point and how she wants it to change, despite the expectations she had while growing up.

Love

Atalanta is a pastoral opera written by George Fredric Handel in 1736. Handel was a Baroque composer. He is best known for his operas and oratorios. Though he was born in Germany, he spent most of his composing career in London.

This opera is based on Atalanta, the female athlete and heroine from Greek mythology. The first aria in the opera is "Care Selve", which is sung to Atalanta by her lover, Meleagro.

CARE SELVE

Care Selve, ombre beate,
Vengo in traccia del mio cor.

BELOVED FORESTS

Beloved forests, joyous shadows,
I come in search of my heart.

Translation © Emily Ezust

Paolo Tosti (1846-1916) began his composing career humbly, living off of oranges and stale bread. As his music gained more popularity, he rose through the ranks. He eventually became the singing master to the Queen of Italy and the British Royal Family, among many other honors and recognitions. *Sogno* tells a story of someone who has been greatly wronged by their lover. He sees his lover on their knees, begging for forgiveness, but resists the desire to give in, refusing to acquit them. It is not until the two kiss and he finally decides to forgive his lover that he realizes the whole thing had been a dream.

Sogno

Ho sognato che stavi a' ginocchi,
Come un santo che prega il Signor ...
Mi guardavi nel fondo degli occhi,
Sfavillava il tuo sguardo d'amor.

Tu parlavi e la voce sommessa...
Mi chiedea dolcemente mercè...
Solo un guardo che fosse promessa,
Imploravi, curvata al mio piè.

Io tacevo e coll'anima forte

Dream

I dreamt that you were on your knees
Like a saint praying to the Lord.
You were looking deep into my eyes,
With a glowing look of love.

You were speaking quietly,
Asking me sweetly for forgiveness.
That she be allowed just one glance,
You begged, curled at my feet.

I stayed silent and, with a strong will,

Il desio tentatore lottò.
 Ho provato il martirio e la morte
 pur mi vinsi e ti dissi di no.
 Ma il tuo labbro sfiorò la mia faccia...
 E la forza del cor mi tradì.
 Chiusi gli occhi, ti stesi le braccia...
 Ma, sognavo...E il bel sogno svanì.

Fought the irresistible desire.
 I had faced martyrdom and death;
 Still, I forced myself to say no.
 But then your lips touched my face,
 And my heart betrayed me.
 I closed my eyes, reached out to you;
 But I had been dreaming, and that beautiful dream vanished.

Translated by Hugo Poon

“Un moto di gioia” is a substitution aria from *Le nozze di Figaro*, which was composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in 1786. The opera follows the story of servants Susanna and Figaro as they enact a plan to get married against the will of their master, the Count, who tries to seduce Susanna. In this song, Susanna looks ahead to the future, hoping that she and Figaro can find love without the fear of oppression from the Count.

UN MOTO DI GIOIA
 Un moto di gioia
 mi sento nel petto,
 che annunzia diletto
 in mezzo il timor!
 Speriam che in contento
 finisca l'affanno,
 non sempre è tiranno
 il fato ed amor.

AN EMOTION OF JOY
 An emotion of joy
 I feel in my heart,
 that says happiness is coming
 in spite of my fears!
 Let us hope that the worry
 will end in contentment,
 fate and love are
 not always tyrants.

Translation © John Glenn Paton

Die Zauberflöte is an opera written in 1791 by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. In it, the Queen of the Night enlists the help of the prince Tamino to rescue her daughter Pamina from the abductor, Sarastro. Along the way, Tamino is joined by a bird named Papageno, a hopeless romantic whose mouth always gets the best of him. As Tamino works to save Pamina, discover the true villain, and eventually devote himself to a religious order, Papageno is much more concerned with finding his “papagena.” In Act Two he meets a woman who refers to herself as Papagena, but she disappears before Papageno gets a chance to talk to her. She appears again only to disappear too soon. When all seems lost, he is reminded to play his magic chimes in a last-ditch attempt to summon the object of his affection. She appears, and this time stays long enough for the two of them to sing a love song to each other, rejoicing over the prospect of raising chicks together.

Pa-Pa-Papageno

PAPAGENO: Pa-Pa-Pa-Pa-Pa-Papagena!
PAPAGENA: Pa-Pa-Pa-Pa-Pa-Papageno!
PAPAGENO: Bist du mir nun ganz ergeben?
PAPAGENA: Nun bin ich dir ganz ergeben!
PAPAGENO: Nun so sei mein liebes Weibchen!
PAPAGENA: Nun so sei mein Herzenstäubchen!
PAPAGENO & PAPAGENA:
 Welche Freude wird das sein,

Pa-Pa-Papageno

PAPAGENO: Pa-Pa-Pa-Pa-Pa-Papagena!
PAPAGENA: Pa-Pa-Pa-Pa-Pa-Papageno!
PAPAGENO: Are you now completely loyal to me?
PAPAGENA: Now I am completely loyal to you!
PAPAGENO: So now be my dear little wife!
PAPAGENA: So now be the little dove of my heart!
PAPAGENO & PAPAGENA:
 What joy would it be

wenn die Götter uns bedenken,
uns'rer Liebe Kinder schenken,
so liebe kleine Kinderlein!

PAPAGENO: Erst einen kleinen Papageno!

PAPAGENA: Dann eine kleine Papagena!

PAPAGENO: Dann wieder einen Papageno!

PAPAGENA: Dann wieder eine Papagena!

PAPAGENO: Papageno!

PAPAGENA: Papagena!

PAPAGENO & PAPAGENA:

Es ist das höchste der Gefühle,
wenn viele, viele Papagena/Papageno
der Eltern Segen werden sein!

If the gods think of us
Bestow children to our love
Such dear little children!

PAPAGENO: First a little Papageno!

PAPAGENA: Then a little Papagena!

PAPAGENO: Then another Papageno!

PAPAGENA: Then another Papagena!

PAPAGENO: Papageno!

PAPAGENA: Papagena!

PAPAGENO & PAPAGENA:

It is the ultimate feeling
When many, many Papagenas/Papagenos
Will be a blessing for their parents!

-Brief Pause-

Heartbreak

"In Dreams" is the fifth song in *Songs of Travel*. In it, the traveler is tormented by the memories of the loved ones he left behind. His loneliness seems to be getting the better of him. Are those he left behind as tormented by his absence as he is, or have they forgotten him altogether?

Tristesse is song two of Gabriel Fauré's "Trois Mélodies, Op. 6". This collection was written early in his career. It resultantly has a more romantic harmony and style than most of his later works, which were more impressionist in style. Fauré is considered a master of the "mélodie", or french art song.

TRISTESSE

Avril est de retour,
La première des roses
De ses lèvres mi-closes.
Rit au premier beau jour,
La terre bien heureuse
S'ouvre et s'épanouit,
Tout aime, tout jouit.
Hélas! j'ai dans le cœur une tristesse affreuse.

Les buveurs en gaîté,
Dans leurs chansons vermeilles,
Célèbrent sous les treilles
Le vin et la beauté ;
La musique joyeuse,
Avec leur rire clair
S'éparpille dans l'air.
Hélas ! j'ai dans le cœur une tristesse affreuse.

En [déshabillés blancs]¹
Les jeunes demoiselles
S'en vont sous les tonnelles
Au bras de leur [galants]² ;
La lune langoureuse
Argente leurs baisers
Longuement appuyés,
Hélas ! j'ai dans le cœur une tristesse affreuse.

Moi, je n'aime plus rien,
Ni l'homme, ni la femme,
Ni mon corps, ni mon âme,

SADNESS

April has returned,
the first of the roses
with its half-opened lips.
Smiles at the first fine day,
the happy earth
opens up and out,
everything loves and rejoices.
Alas! in my heart I have a terrible sadness.

Gaily the drinkers
with their rosy songs
under the lattices celebrate
wine and beauty.
The joyful music
and their bright laughter
float out in the air...
Alas! in my heart I have a terrible sadness!

In scant white dresses
the girls walk off
under the arbours
arm in arm with their suitors.
The languid moon
shines its silver light on their
kisses long pressed...
Alas! in my heart I have a terrible sadness!

As for me, I love nothing any more:
neither man nor woman,
nor my body, nor my soul,

Pas même mon vieux chien.
Allez dire qu'on creuse,
Sous le pâle gazon
Une fosse sans nom.
Hélas ! j'ai dans le cœur une tristesse affreuse.

not even my old dog:
Go tell them to dig
under the pale lawn
a grave without a name!
Alas! in my heart I have a terrible sadness!

Translation © Peter Low

L'absent was composed by Charles Gounod (1818-1893) . His writing of the song was prompted when his love affair was exposed. He and his wife had escaped to London to find refuge from the Franco-Prussian war of 1870. His wife returned to France, but he stayed in England working on the Oratorio *Gallia*. and subsequently had an affair with one of his singers, Georgina Weldon. When he returned to France and left her behind, she exposed him through a series of interviews and sued him. In order to avoid paying for the damages, Gounod never returned to England again. After the fact, he wrote *L'absent* to express his repentance for his actions.

L'absent

O Silence des nuit dont la voix seule est douce,
Quand je n'ai plus sa voix,
Mystérieux rayons, qui glissez sur la mousse
Dans l'ombre de ses bois,

Dites-moi ses yeux, à l'heure où tout sommeille
Se rouvrent doucement
Et si ma bien-aimée alors que moi je veille,
Se souvient de l'absent

Quand la lune est aux cieux, baignant de sa lumière
Les grands bois et l'azure;
Quand des cloches du soir qui tintent la prière
Vibre l'écho si pur,

Dites-moi si son âme, un instant recueillie
S'élève avec leur chant,
Et si de leurs accords la paisible harmonie
Lui rappelle l'absent!

The Absent One

O silence of the night, whose voice alone is sweet
When I no longer hear her voice
Mysterious rays, gliding over the moss
In the shade of her woods-

Tell me if her eyes, at the hour when all sleeps
Reopen gently
And then if my beloved, when I am waking,
Remembers the absent one.

When the moon is in heaven, bathing with its light
The great forests and the sky;
When the evening bells, tolling for prayer
Awaken so pure an echo-

Tell me if her soul, musing for an instant
Raises her voice with their song,
And if the peaceful harmony of their sounds
Reminds her of the absent one!

Translated by the Hal Leonard Corporation

Spoiler alert

Sakura iro no yume is featured in the video game Deemo. The song conveys a feeling of melancholy and nostalgia. The singer has lost a loved one and their life without them is vastly different. The first verse reminisces about the treasured memories between the two. The second verse reflects on the profound loneliness the singer feels now that their loved one is gone.

Sakura iro no yume

Wasurerarenai hito no omokage
Tooi sora ni kaeshitara sakura maichiru

Kawazoi no michi wo futari de aruita ano hi

Yuki doke no mizu ga kawamo ni kirameite
Mankai no sakura no shita de kimi to mirai wo katari
atta noni

Furui machinami wo hitori de aruku kono haru

Cherry blossom-colored dreams

The face of a person that I can't forget,
when I look back to the sky, the cherry blossoms
flutter down

That day when we walked down the path along the
river,

The water of melted snow was twinkling,
We had talked about our future under the cherry
blossoms in full bloom

This spring which I am walking down the old town

Yama kara fukiorosu kaze wa tsumetakute	alone,
Imada ieteinai kizu wo kakaeta boku wo tsutsumu hidamari	The wind blowing down from the mountain is cold
Wasurerarenai hito no omokage	Not even the sun wrapping around me can heal my wound
Tooi sora ni kaeshitara sakura maichiru	The face of a person that I can't forget,
	when I look back to the sky, the cherry blossoms flutter down

Jason Robert Brown composed the musical *The Last Five Years*. The show opens with the song "Still Hurting", as Cathy expresses her emotions following her husband, Jamie, leaving her. The show alternates between songs sung by Cathy and Jamie. Jamie's songs tell the story of their relationship for the last five years chronologically and Cathy's songs tell the story in reverse chronological order. While Jamie's career takes off immediately and continues to grow, Cathy is unable to live her dream and do what she loves. Jamie doesn't give time to Cathy due to his concern with his work, causing Cathy to resent his easy success and feel alone in her struggle to obtain her dream career. It is a heart wrenching series of songs, with musical themes returning throughout the show.

Death

Der Tod und Das Mädchen, composed by Franz Schubert (1797-1828), contains two different characters: the maiden, and the manifestation of death pursuing her. The first theme is frantic, with a leaping melodic line depicting the woman as she desperately pleads for her life. The second theme depicts death speaking to the woman. The steep drop in tempo and steady block chords in the piano paired with the still, persistent repeated notes of the singer shows that death is not violently chasing the woman; rather, it is gently luring her in and then lulling her to sleep with its haunting lullaby.

DAS MADCHEN

Vorüber,ach,vorüber!

Geh, wilder Knochenmann!

Ich bin noch jung, geh, Lieber!

Und rühre mich nicht an.

DER TOD

Gib deine Hand, du schön und zart Gebilde!

Bin Freund und komme nicht zu strafen.

Sei gutes Muts! Ich bin nicht wild,

Sollst sanft in meinen Armen schlafen!

THE MAIDEN

Pass by, ah, pass by!

Away, cruel Death!

I am still young; leave me, dear one

and do not touch me.

DEATH

Give me your hand, you lovely, tender creature.

I am your friend, and come not to chastise.

Be of good courage. I am not cruel;

you shall sleep softly in my arms.

Translation © Richard Stokes

Neue Liebe is one out of a set of six songs. The songs are musical settings of poetry by Heinrich Heine. This piece has a fantastical nature setting depicting elves and forest fairies. Neue Liebe is an example of how Mendelssohn's romantic vocal music is lighter than those of his romantic contemporaries. Mendelssohn (1809-1847) lived in Germany for the entirety of his life. Despite living only 38 years, he was extremely accomplished as a conductor, composer, pianist, and organist. He composed concertos, symphonies, chamber music, piano music, and organ music.

NEUE LIEBE

In dem Mondenschein im Walde
sa ich jüngst die Elfen reiten;
ihre Hörner hört' ich klingen,
ihre Glöcklein hört' ich läuten.
Ihre weissen Rösslein trugen
gold'nes Hirschgeweih und flogen rasch
dahin; wie wilde Schwäne
kam es durch die Luft gezogen.
Lächelnd nickte mir die Kön'gin,
lächelnd im Vorüberreiten.
Galt das meiner neuen Liebe,
oder soll es Tod bedeuten?

NEW LOVE

In the moonlit forest
I watched the elves a-riding;
I heard their horns sound,
I heard their bells ring.
Their white horses with
golden antlers flew on
swiftly like white swans
travelling through the air.
The queen nodded at me and smiled,
smiled as she rode overhead.
Was it because of my new love,
or does it mean death?

Translation © Marty Lucas

In the ninth and final song in *Songs of Travel*, the traveler comes to the end of his journey. He reflects on his life, feeling fulfilled and satisfied. He does not regret his choices, for he has lived and loved. "I Have Trod" opens with the theme from "Vagabond," bringing the journey full circle, and ends with the theme from the sixth song in the cycle, "The Infinite Shining Heavens", which portrays the traveler walking on to the next life.

Ghost Quartet is a musical-like song cycle composed in (b.1976) by Dave Malloy. The storyline is an amalgamation of several different stories that take place in different times and planes of existence. These include Edgar Allen Poe's "The Fall of the House of Usher" and "Arabian Nights". The stories are interwoven and told out of order, but roughly center around the character "Rose Red." At the end of act II (or as the narrators refer to it, side 2), all of the narrators ask Rose what she would want to be if she were to die.

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