



Rudi E. Scheidt  
School of Music

# JUNIOR RECITAL

Shawn Campbell, baritone  
Alex Benford, piano

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OCTOBER 6, 2023 | 5:30 PM

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HARRIS CONCERT HALL

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music  
Kevin Sanders, Director  
College of Communication and Fine Arts  
Ryan Fisher, Interim Dean

## PROGRAM

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| In the Spring<br>Silent Noon  | Ralph Vaughan Williams<br>(1872-1958) |
| Aimer sans pouvoir le dire, from <i>L'amant anonyme</i>   | Joseph Bologne<br>(1745-1799)         |
| "Vecchia zimarra, senti," from <i>La Bohème</i>   | Giacomo Puccini<br>(1858-1924)        |
| Sento nel core  | Stefano Donaudy<br>(1879-1925)        |
| Piango gemo, from <i>Tito Manlio</i>  | Antonio Vivaldi<br>(1678-1741)        |
| Du bist wie eine Blume, from <i>Myrthen</i>   | Robert Schumann<br>(1810-1856)        |
| Breit über mein Haupt<br>Allerseelen  | Richard Strauss<br>(1864-1949)        |
| The Three Shakespeare Songs<br>1. Come Away, Death<br>2. O Mistress Mine<br>3. Blow, blow, thou winter wind | Roger Quilter<br>(1877-1953)          |

## PROGRAM NOTES

### *In the Spring and Silent Noon*

**Ralph Vaughan Williams**

Ralph Vaughan Williams, an English classical music composer, wrote two lovely compositions, "*In the Spring*" and "*Silent Noon*," that illustrate his profound connection to nature and the use of musical narrative. "*In the Spring*" is a bright homage to the season, with lavish orchestration and sweeping melodies portraying visions of blossoming life and nature's rebirth after the stillness of winter. In contrast, "*Silent Noon*" is a moving exploration of silence and reflection that depicts the hushed tranquility of a summer day. Williams' exceptional ability to convey intense emotions through his music, whether it's the joyfulness of spring or the quiet reflection of a silent noon, is demonstrated in both pieces, leaving an unforgettable impression on the world of classical composition.

### *Aimer sans pouvoir le dire*

**Joseph Bologne**

Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges, a great 18th-century Afro-French composer and violinist, left an unmistakable influence on the world of classical music. Bologne's one-act opera "*L'Amant Anonyme*," which translates to "*The Anonymous Lover*" in English, premiered in 1780. This is a delightful and lighthearted opera that highlights Bologne's musical abilities and unique compositions. In this scene, the main character's friend, Ophémon, describes how the Anonymous Lover fears that Léontine, the love interest, will be unable to love him. Singing the aria "*Aimer sans pouvoir le dire*". The opera is recognized for its lovely arias and ensembles, and it makes an important contribution to the 18th-century French operatic canon.

### *Vecchia zimarra, senti*

**Giacomo Puccini**

Giacomo Puccini was an Italian composer who lived in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. He is best known for his lyrical and melodically rich operas. "*Vecchia zimarra, senti*" is a moving aria from the opera "*La Bohème*." Colline, one of the Bohemian friends, shows his intense sorrow and love for his old overcoat, which he intends to sell to afford medicine for his dying friend, Mimi. As Colline gives up a prized coat to help someone in need, the aria is a melancholy reflection on the sacrifices made for love and friendship. Puccini's composition captures the spirit of the characters' compassion and emotional depth, making "*Vecchia zimarra, senti*" a memorable and affecting moment within the opera.

## PROGRAM NOTES

### *Sento nel core*

**Stefano Donaudy**

Stefano Donaudy was an Italian composer and pianist best recognized for his contributions to Italian art songs. His compositions are treasured pieces in the classical vocal repertory, illustrating his ability to create music that speaks to both singers and listeners. "*Sento nel core*," a well-known Italian art song, displays the spirit of Italian musicianship and the rich history of lyrical expression. This song, which is frequently played romantically and passionately, tackles themes of love and desire. With its haunting melodies and expressive harmonies, Donaudy's work allows the vocalist to convey deep feelings and sentiments with grace and intensity. "*Sento nel core*" is a testament to Donaudy's ability to create lovely vocal music that continues to resonate with audiences.

### *Piango gemo*

**Antonio Vivaldi**

The renowned Italian composer of the Baroque era, Antonio Vivaldi, is known for his magnificent compositions, and "*Piango, gemo, sospiro e peno*" is no exception. This aria, from his opera "*Tito Manlio*," demonstrates Vivaldi's mastery of emotionally intense and powerful vocal music. "*Piango gemo*" provides a platform for the vocalist to portray the different depths of sadness and mourning, reflecting Vivaldi's ability to infuse his music with strong emotional strength. This aria exemplifies Vivaldi's ongoing effect on the world of classical music, as well as his amazing skill for composing songs that speak to the human soul.

### *Du bist wie eine Blume*

**Robert Schumann**

The great German Romantic composer Robert Schumann composed the peaceful and majestic lied "*Du bist wie eine Blume*" as part of his "*Myrthen*" song cycle. "*Myrthen*" is a well-known song cycle consisting of 26 Lieder. This collection displays Schumann's romantic sensibility and emotional connection to poetry, as he set texts by a variety of poets, including his wife, Clara Schumann, to music, making "*Myrthen*" a significant picture of the Romantic era's union of literature and music. By comparing a loved one to a delicate flower, "*Du bist wie eine Blume*" provokes feelings of love, respect, and fragility. This lieder illustrates Schumann's ability of combining poetry and music, making it a treasured jewel in the realm of German lieder.

## PROGRAM NOTES

### *Breit über mein Haupt and Allerseelen*

**Richard Strauss**

Richard Strauss, a German composer of the late Romantic and early twentieth centuries, is known for his beautiful lieder, two of which are "*Breit über mein Haupt*" and "*Allerseelen*." Strauss skillfully combines text and melody in "*Breit über mein Haupt*," creating an intimate and ethereal setting that speaks to the complexities of love and longing. "*Allerseelen*," on the other hand, is a moving composition that embodies the essence of remembering and contemplation, and it is frequently played in a large and emotional way. Both songs are great examples of Strauss' gift for melodic richness and expressive depth, earning their places as cherished treasures in the realm of German art songs and demonstrating his music's profound emotional impact.

### *The Three Shakespeare Songs*

**Roger Quilter**

Roger Quilter, an English composer from the early twentieth century, is well-known for his contribution to the art song genre, and his "*Three Shakespeare Songs*" are proof of his skilled artistry. Quilter's ability to capture the essence of Shakespearean verse in music is on display in these songs, which are set to lines from Shakespeare's plays. The "*Three Shakespeare Songs*" deliver the beauty and timelessness of Shakespeare's texts with their beautiful melodies and sensitive harmonies, while Quilter's delicate and passionate settings add a layer of musical enchantment. These songs are treasured by both performers and audiences for their capacity to transport listeners into the world of Shakespearean drama and create profound emotions, making them enduring gems in the world of classical musical.