



department of **music**
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

STUDENT RECITAL SERIES

presents a

Senior Recital

Amor, Vitae et Damni

featuring

Jemma Allen, soprano

with

Ethan Hayward, piano

December 6, 2024, 6:00 pm
Doudna Fine Arts Center
Recital Hall

Program

The Silver Swan

Orlando Gibbons
(1583-1625)

Honor Baker, mezzo soprano
Mason Kurtz, tenor
Carter Davis, baritone
Dr. Howard Eckdahl, bass

I. Love

Dovo sono

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

Alma Adorata

Francisco Mignone
(1897-1986)

Měsíčku na nebi hlubokém

Anonin Dvořák
(1841-1904)

II. Life

Make Someone Happy

Jule Styne (1905-1994),
Adolph Green (1914-2002), and Betty Comden (1917-2006)

De los álamos vengo, madre

Joaquín Rodrigo Vidre
(1901-1999)

Je suis Titania

Ambroise Thomas
(1811-1896)

III. Love Lost

Kennst du das Land
Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt
Heiss' mich nicht reden
So last mich scheinen

Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

IV. Loss

Black Coffee

Sonny Burke & Paul Francis Webster
(1914-1980)(1907-1984)

Ethan Schobernd, oboe

The Parting Glass

Traditional

Charlotte Hedberg, soprano
Olivia Theirl, soprano

Love, life and loss are themes that unify the human experience. The incandescence of love and the desolation of loss affect every person regardless of their race, gender, class or orientation. Each of these experiences are multifaceted and can look different depending on the light. I invite you to step into these stories and hold these characters close. Together, through their love, life and loss we will gain a deeper understanding of ourselves.

“The Silver Swan” was written by Orlando Gibbons, a keyboard player and one of the last masters of the English Madrigal School. He is often viewed as a transitional figure between the Renaissance to Baroque periods. The piece was first published in Gibbons’s *First Set of Madrigals and Motets of 5 Parts* (1612). The Swan knows what is inevitably coming for her, and when faced with death, she opens her beak to sing in defiance of her fate.

Love

“Dove sono” is an aria from the third act of *Le nozze de Figaro* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Mozart was an influential composer of the Classical period. Mozart wrote over 800 works during his short life that represented virtually all of the genres that existed at the time. During this aria the Countess Almaviva laments that her husband has been unfaithful to her and declares that her persistent love may yet reclaim his wandering heart. The Italian text is as follows:

*And Susanna doesn't come!
I'm anxious to know how the Count took the proposal.
The scheme seems too bold to me, and to a husband so wild and jealous...
but what harm is there? Changing my clothes with those of Susanna and hers with
mine... shielded by the night... oh heavens, to what humble and dangerous state am I
reduced by a cruel husband, who, after marrying me with an unheard of mixture
of infidelity, jealousy and disdain first loved, then offended and at last betrayed me,
now makes me seek my maid for help!*

*Where are the beautiful moments of sweetness and pleasure,
where are the promises gone of that deceitful tongue?
Why has everything changed into tears and pain for me,
why has the memory of that happiness never left my breast?
Ah! If only my devotion in longing for his love
could give me some hope of changing that ungrateful heart!”*

“Alma Adorata” is an art song by Francisco Mignone, who was a significant Brazilian composer. He was a member of the Brazilian Academy of Music and founder of the Brazilian Conservatory of Music.

*Adored soul, dear soul, my hope and my life
you are the ideal of my dreams that transports my soul to heaven.
Be the asylum that God sends me! Be my protection and my guide.
how proud is this passion,*

that rightly praises me, without a complaint or fear, I surrender to you and your love.

“Měsíčku na nebi hlubokém” or “Song to the Moon” is from the opera *Rusalka* by Antonin Dvorak. The rusalka is a water sprite from Slavic mythology that typically inhabits a lake or river. The plot of Dvorak’s opera contains themes similar to that of *The Little Mermaid* by Hans Christian Andersen. In this aria Rusalka sings a song to the moon, asking it to convey her love to the Prince. Through this song, Rusalka informs her father she is in love with a human prince and she wants to become a human so she can embrace him. This aria is her song to the moon asking the moon to convey her love to the prince. The Czechoslovakian text is as follows:

*Moon, high and deep in the sky, your light sees far,
You travel around the wide world, and see into people’s homes.
Moon, stand still a while and tell me where is my dear.
Tell him, silvery moon, that I am embracing him.
For at least momentarily let him recall of dreaming of me.
Illuminate him far away, and tell him, tell him who is waiting for him!
If his human soul is, in fact, dreaming of me, may the memory awaken him!
Moonlight, don’t disappear, disappear!*

Life

“Make Someone Happy” is from the musical *Do Re Mi* by July Styne, Betty Camden and Adolph Green. The plot of the musical centers on a con-man who decides to begin starting a straight path. “Make Someone Happy” is the moment the protagonist realizes that a happy marriage and a life lived for love is the greatest purpose a life can have.

“¿De los alamos vengo madre?” is a song from the cycle *Cuatro madrigales amorios* by Joaquin Rodrigo. He was a prolific composer with over two hundred compositions of varying types: orchestral, vocal, and instrumental. In “¿De los alamos vengo madre?” Rodrigo combines a traditional folk melody with an animated accompaniment. The translation of the Spanish text is as follows:

*I come from the poplars, mother,
from seeing the breezes stir them.
From the poplars of Seville,
from seeing my sweet love,
from seeing the breezes stir them.
I come from the poplars, mother,
from seeing the breezes stir them.*

“Je suis Titania” is an aria from Ambrose Thomas’ opera *Mignon* (1866). Thomas was a French composer and teacher best known for his opera compositions which also included *Hamlet*. In this aria the character Philine sings as Titania for a crowd gathered at the conservatory of a baron’s castle.

*Yes, for this evening I am queen of the fairies!
Here is my scepter of gold, and here are my trophies!
I am Titania the blond, I am Titania daughter of the air,
while laughing I travel the world,
more lively than a bird, more quickly than a lightening bolt!
The company mad of goblins follows my chariot
that flies and in the night flees!
Around me all my court runs, they sing of pleasure and love.
in the light of Phoebe that shines!
Amid the flowers that the dawn makes bloom,
through the woods and through the meadows of changing colors!
Over the waves covered with foam, in the mist,
one me sees on a foot light flitting, on a foot light flitting
through the woods, through the meadows
and in the mist one me sees flitting,
Ah! Here I am! Titania!*

Love Lost

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe played an important role in the German Romantic movement. He published a story about a young woman named Mignon titled *Wilhem Meister's Lehrjahre*. Mignon's story is a tragedy; born in Tuscany and forced into slavery following her mother's death. Wilhem rescues her and becomes her guardian, endearing him to Mignon's heart. Though she falls in love with him, Wilhem does not reciprocate her feelings. Mignon endures many physical and mental tolls on her well being resulting in death at a young age. This cycle set by Robert Schumann explores Mignon's tragedy, as does Thomas' opera of the same title from the previous set.

"Kennst du das Land"

*Do you know the land where the lemons blossom,
Where oranges grow golden among dark leaves,
A gentle wind drifts from the blue sky,
The myrtle stands silent, the laurel tall,
Do you know it?
It is there, it is there
I long to go with you, my love.*

*Do you know the house? Columns support its roof;
Its great hall gleams, its apartments shimmer,
And marble statues stand and stare at me:
What have they done to you, poor child?
Do you know it?
It is there, it is there
I long to go with you, my protector.*

*Do you know the mountain and its cloudy path?
The mule seeks its way through the mist,
Caverns house the dragons' ancient brood;
The rock falls sheer, the torrent over it!
Do you know it?
It is there, it is there
Our pathway lies! O father, let us go!*

“Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt”

*Only one who knows longing knows what I suffer
Alone and separated from all joy
I look into the heavens Toward that direction.
Ah! The only one who loves me has disappeared.
It spins me, it burns my insides
Only someone that knows longing knows, what I suffer*

“Heiss' mich nicht reden”

*Don't ask me to speak - ask me to be silent,
for my secret is my solemn oath.
I want to bare my soul to you,
but Fate does not allow it.
At the right time, the sun's course
will dispell the dark night, and it must be illuminated.
The hard rock will open its bosom;
and unbegrudgingly, the earth will release deep hidden springs.
Others may seek peace in the arms of a friend;
there one can pour out one's heart in lament.
But for me alone, a vow locks my lips,
And only a god has the power to open them.*

“So lasst mich scheinen”

*Let me appear as what I will become
Do not take the white dress from me!
I rush from the beautiful earth
Down into the solid house
There I will rest for a short moment
There my gaze will be fresh and new
Then I will leave my pure garment,
The belt, and the wreath behind
And those heavenly beings
They will not ask if I am a man or woman
And no clothes, no folds Surround the transfigured body
It's true I have lived without sorrow and pain
But I have felt deep pain*

*Hardship has aged me too soon
Make me forever young!*

Loss

“Vidit suum dulcem natum” was composed by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi in 1736 as a part of his setting of Stabat Mater. The Stabat Mater is a 13th-century hymn to the Virgin Mary that portrays Mary’s suffering during the crucifixion of her son. The translation from the Latin text is as follows:

*She saw her tender child,
hang in desolation,
till His spirit forth sent.*

“Black Coffee” is a song from jazz songstress Peggy Lee’s 1956 debut album that was released in 1956. Black Coffee was composed by Sonny Burke and the words were written by Paul Francis Webster. Peggy Lee was a popular American jazz singer, songwriter and actress. She was dubbed the “Queen of American pop music” and had a career that spanned seven decades.

“The Parting Glass” is a traditional folk song that was first collected in 1782 in the Roud Folk Song Index. This Index is a database of around 250,000 songs that were collected from oral tradition in the English language from all over the world. The parting glass was originally a hospitality offered to a departing guest. Once the guest had mounted their horse, the song was sung and a final drink was presented to fortify them on their travels.

Good night and joy be with you all. ~ Jemma Allen