

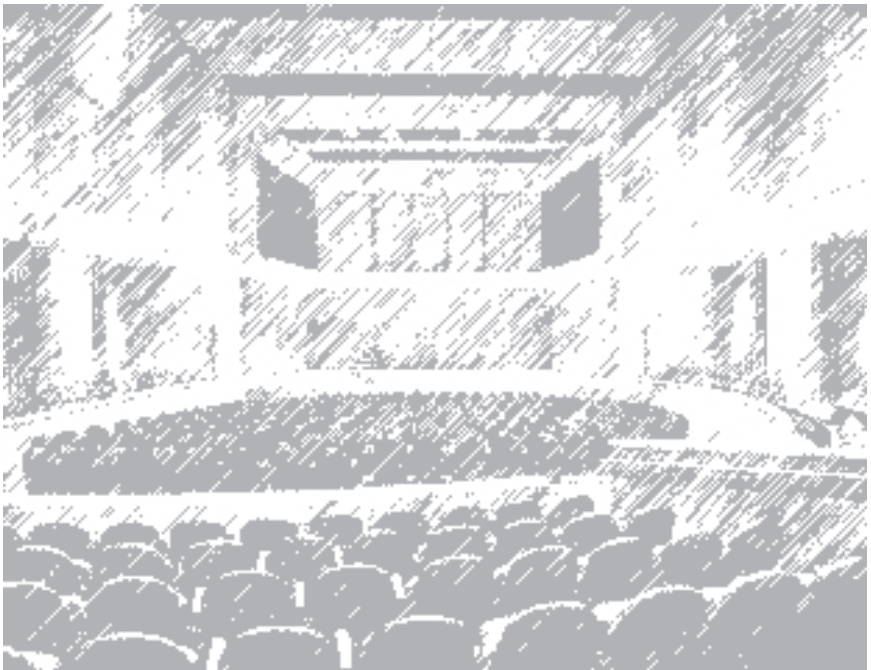
Kennesaw State University
School of Music



Senior Recital

Megan Erin Gibson, soprano

Erika Tazawa, piano



Saturday, December 5, 2015

5:00 p.m.

Music Building Recital Hall

Fifty-fifth Concert of the 2015-16 Concert Season

program

I.

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL (1685-1759)

Va Godendo

from *Serse*

II.

FRANZ SCHUBERT (1797-1828)

Heidenröslein

Ganymed

Rastlose Liebe

III.

GABRIEL FAURÉ (1845-1924)

Pie Jesu

from *Requiem*

IV.

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756-1791)

Oiseaux Si Tou Les Ans

ÉMILE PALADIHLE (1844-1926)

Psyché

REYNALDO HAHN (1874-1947)

A Chloris

V.

LIBBY LARSEN (b.1950)

Cowboys Songs

I. Bucking Bronco

II. Lift Me Into Heaven Slowly

III. Billy the Kid

VI.

GOIACHINO ANTONIO ROSSINI (1792-1868)

La Pastorella Dell' Alpi

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree
Bachelor of Music in Music Education.

Ms. Gibson studies voice with Leah Partridge.

program notes

Va Godendo | George Frideric Handel

George Frideric Handel composed *Va Godendo* as a *da capo* aria in the opera *Serse*. *Serse* is about a king named Xerxes who is interested in Romilda, the daughter of commander Ariodate of the Persian Army. However, Romilda's lover is in fact Xerxes's brother, Arsamene. After *Serse* was performed many believed it was being used as a tool for political ends, making the king look like a fool. *Serse* did not have a long run with only five performances and was closed on June 6, 1738.

Heidenröslein | Franz Schubert

Franz Schubert wrote *Heidenröslein* in a strophic form, meaning all three verses are set to the same melody line. The text talks about a young boy falling in love with a girl who is represented by a rose. This boy is determined to pick the rose but the rose states that if he tries, she will simply resist with her thorns. The boy does indeed try, but in fact, is pricked and pricked but the rose does eventually give in.

Ganymed

The second selection *Ganymed* shows the story of the Greek legend Ganymed who was a handsome youth brought up to Zeus to become a cupbearer of the gods. *Ganymed* is a through-composed piece, meaning there is not a return to the previous material. This is to correlate with Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's free-versed poem that is used as the text.

Rastlose Liebe

The third selection, *Rastlose Liebe* translating to Restless Love, uses text from Goethe once again. The poem, "Rastlose Liebe" can be connected to Goethe's book, *The Sorrows of Young Werther*, for it was actually written in response for the inspiration of the main character, Werther. The accompaniment is driven and very fast paced, representing the pain that can come from being in love.

Pie Jesu | Gabriel Fauré

Gabriel Fauré composed *Pie Jesu* in correlation with his work, *Requiem*. *Requiem* was initially composed for low strings, organ, harp and timpani. Fauré later added horns and trumpets to the work. *Pie Jesu*, meaning Merciful Jesus, is peaceful and pensive as the character prays that those who have departed are granted rest.

Oiseaux si tous les ans | Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart dedicated *Oiseaux, si tous les ans* to Elisabeth Augusta Wendling, a German soprano. In *Oiseaux si tous les ans* a metaphor is being shown about the birds. The text shows that birds are in love with the warmth of nature. When the weather turns colder the birds simply move to where it is a warmer climate so they can keep their love alive.

Psyché | Émile Paladilhé

Émile Paladilhé found inspiration for *Psyché* from the comedie-ballet written by Molière in collaboration with *Corneille*. This particular song is based on Act II Scene 3 of the ballet. There is a long dialogue between a beautiful maiden and Cupid, who has been sent by Venus to make Pysché fall in love with a monster. However, Cupid ends up falling in love with her himself and finds that everything around Psyche makes him fall in love even more.

A Chloris | Reynaldo Hahn

Reynaldo Hahn wrote *A Chloris* with inspiration from *Air on the G String* by J. S. Bach. The piece starts with basso continuo where the piano creates a scene of a far away and ancient place. When the singer starts to sing the piano does not back away into an accompaniment but the singer floats on top of the strong walking bass and scene that the piano has created. *A Chloris* uses words from poet Théophile Viau.

Cowboy Songs | Libby Larsen

Libby Larsen wrote *Cowboy Songs* for Jeannie Brindley Barnett to sing in 1979. When putting *Cowboy Songs* together Larsen thought that the three separate poems made a complete set. Each piece describes a story relating to the subject of the American cowboy. "Bucking Bronco" is about a Western girl who fell in love while being courted by a rider. However, she ends up abandoned by her lover and warns women about riders. In the second piece, Larsen uses the text from poet Robert Creeley; Larsen changed the original title of Creeley's piece "Sufi Sam Chrisian" to "Lift Me into Heaven Slowly." In this piece there are only four lines of text to represent the powerful thought of death and the longing for death. The third piece of the set is from the anonymous text of "Billy the Kid," a frightening human that spares no one and regrets nothing.

La Pastorella Dell' Alpi | Gioachino Rossini

Gioachino Rossini wrote *La Pastorella Dell' Alpi* to go along with a group of songs called *Les soirées musicales* for a society party in Paris. *La Pastorella Dell' Alpi* was written as a French waltz called the Tyrol, which was named

after the region of Austrian Alps it originated from. This text is about a shepherdess who wakes up every morning to sell fresh flowers and fruit to travelers. When the night comes the shepherdess provides shelter to the weary travellers, however, only one may get to stay and she will choose who can stay. This piece uses staccato markings in multiple sections to represent the shepherdess calling out to people passing along the mountain.

biography

Megan Gibson is a senior Music Education major at Kennesaw State University. During her time at Kennesaw State, Ms. Gibson has performed as a soloist with the Kennesaw Jazz Band II, as well as a soloist for the student composer's recital working under composer Julie Mitchell.

Outside of Kennesaw State, Ms. Gibson has her own studio, Miss Megan's Music, where she teaches private piano and voice. She also works with Kavali's Flying Fingers Music, a company of traveling private teachers where she teaches piano and voice.

Ms. Gibson has worked with the Savannah Children's Choir, under the direction of Emmy Williams, working the summer camp provided for the children. Ms. Gibson has studied under Oral Moses, Carolyn Dorff, Jessica Jones, and is currently studying under Leah Partridge.

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Stephen W. Plate, DMA
Director, School of Music
Kennesaw State University

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