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AWARD-WINNING  
VOCALISTS**  
OF THE SU DEPARTMENT OF  
MUSIC, THEATRE AND DANCE  
**PRESENT**

# **BROADWAY & BEYOND**

Singers' Showcase Online Concert

DR. JOHN WESLEY WRIGHT, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR • VERONICA TOMANEK, PIANIST

## **FEATURING**

**2021 NATS STUDENT AUDITIONS COMPETITORS**

Zoe Michelle Bradshaw, Olivia Davidson, Michelina DeVeas, Kadie Laramore, Sophia Merbaum,  
Kathleen McLoughlin, Sara Miller, Caroline Pekrul

For streaming access code visit [www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com)

### **VIDEO STREAMING ON DEMAND:**

Friday, March 19, 2021, 7:30 p.m.-

Sunday, March 21, 2021, 11 p.m.

**Salisbury**  
UNIVERSITY  
[www.salisbury.edu](http://www.salisbury.edu)

Filmed February 13 & 14, 2021 | Asbury United Methodist Church | 1401 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21801

# PROGRAM

## SINGERS' SHOWCASE: **BROADWAY & BEYOND**

“The Year’s at the Spring,” Op. 44, No. 1 from *Three Browning Songs*.....Amy Beach (1867-1944)

Caroline Pekrul, Soprano

The year’s at the spring  
And day’s at the morn;  
Morning’s at seven;  
The hillside’s dew-pearled;  
The lark’s on the wing;  
The snail’s on the thorn:  
God’s in His heaven—  
All’s right with the world!

– Robert Browning

“Ah, Love but a Day!” Op. 44, No. 2 from *Three Browning Songs* .....Amy Beach

Caroline Pekrul, Soprano

Ah, Love, but a day,  
And the world has changed!  
The sun’s away,  
And the bird estranged;  
The wind has dropped,  
And the sky’s deranged;  
Summer has stopped.

Look in my eyes!  
Wilt thou change too?  
Should I fear surprise?  
Shall I find aught new  
In the old and dear,  
In the good and true,  
With the changing year?

– Robert Browning



“Widmung” from *Myrthen*, Op. 25, No. 1.....Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Kathleen McLoughlin, Soprano

**Widmung**

Poem by Friedrich Rückert

Du meine Seele, du mein Herz,  
Du meine Wonn', o du mein Schmerz,  
Du meine Welt, in der ich lebe,  
Mein Himmel du, darein ich schwebe,  
O du mein Grab, in das hinab  
Ich ewig meinen Kummer gab!  
Du bist die Ruh, du bist der Frieden,  
Du bist vom Himmel mir beschieden.  
Dass du mich liebst, macht mich mir wert,  
Dein Blick hat mich vor mir verklärt,  
Du hebst mich liebend über mich,  
Mein guter Geist, mein bess'res Ich!

**Dedication**

Translation by Emily Ezust

You my soul, you my heart,  
You my bliss, o you my pain,  
You the world in which I live;  
You my heaven, in which I float,  
You my grave, into which  
I eternally cast my grief.  
You are rest, you are peace,  
You are bestowed upon me from heaven.  
That you love me makes me worthy of you;  
Your gaze transfigures me;  
You raise me lovingly above myself,  
My good spirit, my better self!



“Ma rendi pur contento” from *Sei Ariette*, No. 6.....Vincenzo Bellini (1801-1835)

Sophia Merbaum, Soprano

**Ma rendi pur contento**

Text by Pietro Metastasio

Ma rendi pur contento  
Della mia bella il core,  
E ti perdono, amore,  
Se lieto il mio non è.

Gli affanni suoi pavento  
Più degli affanni miei,  
Perché più vivo in lei  
Di quel ch'io vivo in me.

**But only make happy**

Translation by John Wesley Wright

But only make happy  
The heart of my love,  
And I will forgive you, my love,  
If my heart is not happy.

Her worries I fear  
More than my own.  
Because I live more in her  
Than I live in myself.

# PROGRAM

“Sea-Snatch” from *Hermit Songs*, Op. 29, No. 6.....Samuel Barber (1910-1981)

Sophia Merbaum, Soprano

It has broken us, it has crushed us, it has drowned us,  
O King of the starbright Kingdom of Heaven!  
The wind has consumed us, swallowed us,  
As timber is devoured by crimson fire from Heaven.  
It has broken us, it has crushed us, it has drowned us,  
O King of the starbright Kingdom of Heaven!

– Anonymous



“Are You the New Person?” ..... Ned Rorem (b. 1923)

Kadie Laramore, Soprano

Are you the new person drawn toward me?  
To begin with, take warning, I am surely far different from what you suppose;  
Do you suppose you will find in me your ideal?  
Do you think it so easy to have me become your lover?  
Do you think the friendship of me would be unalloy'd satisfaction?  
Do you think I am trusty and faithful?  
Do you see no further than this façade, this smooth and tolerant manner of me?  
Do you suppose yourself advancing on real ground toward a real heroic man?  
Have you no thought, O dreamer, that it may be all maya, illusion?

– Walt Whitman



“El Paño Moruno,” No. 1 from *Siete Canciones Populares Españolas*.....Manuel de Falla (1876-1946)

Olivia Davidson, Lyric Mezzo-Soprano

## **El paño moruno**

Poem by Gregorio Martínez Sierra

Al paño fino, en la tienda,  
una mancha le cayó.  
Por menos precio se vende,  
porque perdió su valor.  
¡Ay!

## **The Moorish Cloth**

Translation by John Wesley Wright

The fine cloth in the shop  
Acquired a stain.  
It will be sold for less,  
Because it has lost its value.  
Ah!

“Dein blaues Auge” from *Acht Lieder und Gesänge*, Op. 59, No. 8 .....Johannes Brahms (1883-1897)  
Olivia Davidson, Lyric Mezzo-Soprano

**Dein blaues Auge**

Words by Klaus Groth

Dein blaues Auge hält so still,  
Ich blicke bis zum Grund.  
Du fragst mich, was ich sehen will?  
Ich sehe mich gesund.

Es brannte mich ein glühend Paar,  
Noch schmerzt das Nachgefühl;  
Das deine ist wie See so klar  
Und wie ein See so kühl.

**Your Blue Eyes**

Translation by John Wesley Wright

Your blue eyes keep so still,  
I gaze into their depths.  
You ask me, what do I want to see?  
I see my well-being.

A glowing pair burned me once;  
The scar still hurts, still hurts.  
Yet your eyes are like a lake so clear,  
And like a lake, so cool.

“Sugar in the Cane” from *Blue Mountain Ballads* .....Paul Bowles (1910-1999)  
Olivia Davidson, Lyric Mezzo-Soprano



“Elle est gravement gaie” from *Clairières dans le ciel*.....Lili Boulanger (1893-1918)  
Sara Miller, Soprano

**Elle est gravement gaie**

Poem by Francis Jammes

Elle est gravement gaie.  
Par moments son regard se levait  
Comme pour surprendre ma pensée.  
Elle était douce alors comme quand il est tard  
Le velours jaune et bleu d'une allée de pensées.

**She is solemnly gay**

Translation by Cormier & Wright

She is solemnly gay.  
Sometimes she looked up  
As if to see what I was thinking.  
She was as soft as the late-night  
Yellow and blue velvet lane of pansies late at night.

“Art Is Calling for Me” from *The Enchantress* .....Victor Herbert (1859-1924)  
Sara Miller, Soprano

*INTERMISSION*

# PROGRAM

“Green Finch and Linnet Bird” from *Sweeney Todd*..... Stephen Sondheim  
Sophia Merbaum, Soprano

“Little Girls” from *Annie* ..... Charles Strouse & Martin Charnin  
Michelina DeVeas, Mezzo-Soprano

“Fly into the Future” from *Vanities, A New Musical*..... David Kirshenbaum  
Olivia Davidson, Lyric Mezzo-Soprano

“Beautiful” from *It Shoulda Been You*..... Barbara Anselmi & Brian Hargrove  
Sara Miller, Soprano

“Pretty Funny” from *Dogfight* ..... Justin Paul & Benj Pasek  
Olivia Davidson, Lyric Mezzo-Soprano

“Lifeboat” from *Heathers: The Musical*..... Laurence O’Keefe & Kevin Murphy  
Zoe Michelle Bradshaw, Soprano

“Maybe This Time” from *Cabaret* ..... John Kander & Fred Ebb  
Michelina DeVeas, Mezzo-Soprano

“Holding to the Ground” from *Falsettos*..... William Finn  
Sophia Merbaum, Soprano

“With Every Breath I Take” from *City of Angels* ..... Cy Coleman & David Zippel  
Michelina DeVeas, Mezzo-Soprano

“My Man” from *Ziegfeld Follies* ..... Maurice Yvain & Channing Pollock  
Sara Miller, Soprano

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## MUSICIAN BIOGRAPHIES

**Zoe Michelle Bradshaw**, soprano, is a sophomore double majoring in music and psychology at Salisbury University. She can be heard as the voice of Jess in the podcast *Sporadic Phantoms*. Bradshaw won 2nd Place in the MD-DC NATS Student Auditions (Sophomore Women's Musical Theater).

**Olivia Davidson**, soprano, is a senior music - vocal performance major at SU. She has participated in various community theatre productions, playing the roles of Eponine in *Les Misérables* and Florinda in *Into the Woods*. In her debut SU production, Davidson played the roles of Soul Girl/Apostle in *Jesus Christ Superstar*. She portrayed the role of Cathy in the Community Players of Salisbury's production of *The Last Five Years*. Olivia is 2nd Place winner of the 2021 MD-DC NATS Student Auditions (Senior Women's Classical) and received Honors in the Senior Women's Musical Theater category.

**Michelina DeVeas**, mezzo-soprano, is a senior at Salisbury University majoring in theater and minoring in music. She received her high school diploma from George Washington Carver Center for the Arts and Technology with a focus in dance. Since her time here at SU, she has performed with the SU Dance Company and participated in productions of *Hairspray* (Tammy), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Soul Girl) and *Medea* (Kerusa). DeVeas received Honors at the 2021 MD-DC NATS Student Auditions (Senior Women's Musical Theatre). After graduation, DeVeas heads to Essex, London, where she will embark on a two-year M.F.A. program at the 15 East Acting School/University of Essex.

**Kadie Laramore**, soprano, is a junior majoring in music - music education. During her high school years, she played the roles of Fantine in *Les Misérables* and the Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods* and was selected for All-State Chorus three times. Laramore was an Apostle in the 2018 production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and received Honors at the 2019 MD-DC NATS Students Auditions.

**Kathleen McLoughlin**, soprano, is a sophomore at Salisbury University. She is pursuing degrees in both music and psychology in hopes of a future career in the field of music therapy. At SU, she has been seen in the *400 Years of Human Resilience Singers' Showcase* and as a soloist in *A Grand Night for Singing*. McLoughlin is an active member of the University Chorale and is excited to continue her studies at SU.

**Sophia Merbaum**, soprano, is a first-year music - vocal performance major at Salisbury University. She won 1st Place at the 2021 MD-DC NATS Student Auditions (First Year Women's Classical) and received Honors in the First Year Women's Musical Theater category. In her time at Salisbury, she has been a part of the Opera Workshop, the University Chorale and Squawkappella.

**Sara Miller**, soprano, transferred to SU in 2017. She is a senior majoring in music with tracks music education and vocal performance. A Salisbury native, Miller was an Apostle in the 2018 production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, has performed on the Feature Friday Recital Series at the Brick Room downtown and on many Singers' Showcases. She won 1st Place at the 2021 MD-DC NATS Student Auditions (Senior Women's Classical) and received Honors in the Senior Women's Musical Theater category.

**Caroline Pekrul**, soprano, is a sophomore music - music education major at SU. She received Honors in the 2021 MD-DC NATS Student Auditions (Sophomore Women's Classical category).

**Veronica Tomanek**, pianist, is staff pianist/coach for the Wright voice studio in the Department of Music, Theater, and Dance at Salisbury University. She also serves as the music director at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Salisbury. Veronica has taught at the University of Connecticut, Wesleyan University and Brookdale Community College in Lincroft, NJ. She frequently performs throughout the Mid-Atlantic and New England as a chamber musician, piano and organ soloist, choral director, music director for musical theater productions, and accompanist. She held the post of principal pianist/keyboardist with the Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra for 16 years. She also has performed with the United States Coast Guard Band and Chamber Players, the Silver Bay Quartet, and with many other instrumentalists, vocalists and choral groups. She has a Master of Music in piano performance from the University of Connecticut and a diploma in piano performance from the Rouen Conservatory, Rouen, France. She lives in Salisbury, MD.

**John Wesley Wright**, tenor, holds degrees from Maryville College and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where he earned the M.M. and D.M.A. in performance studies. A native of Rome, GA, he works as associate professor of music at Salisbury University (Salisbury, MD), coordinating the voice and opera programs, and producing special singer showcases such as *From Ship to Shore: 400 Years of Human Resilience Through Music*, a program recognizing 400 years of slavery in North America. An active clinician and leader of workshops on voice production, interpretation, and African American song tradition, he also co-directed the musical theatre program at the Maryland Summer Center of the Arts (2007-2014). He performs solo repertoire ranging from baroque to Broadway throughout the world, including as a member of the internationally celebrated American Spiritual Ensemble. Making his Lincoln Center debut in Handel's *Messiah* in 2017, acclaim also has come as gold medalist of the American Traditions Vocal Competition 2000, with other top prizes from the National Federation of Music Clubs, the Metropolitan Opera National Council and the International Schubert Competition. His doctoral dissertation (2014) studies musical borrowings underlying the role of the Celebrant in Bernstein's *Mass*.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

**Dr. Charles A. Wight**, *President, Salisbury University*  
**Dr. Karen Olmstead**, *Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs*  
**Dr. Maarten Pereboom**, *Dean, Fulton School of Liberal Arts*  
**John Raley**, *Co-Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*  
**Colleen Clark**, *Co-Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*  
**Brooke Church**, *Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*  
**Sally Choquette**, *Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*  
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