

Department of

Music, Theatre and Dance

Fulton School of Liberal Arts

# Senior Recital

**Olivia Davidson, Mezzo-Soprano**

From the studio of  
Dr. John Wesley Wright

**Pianist**

Veronica Tomanek

**Saxophonist**

Elijah Fallon

*In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the:  
Bachelor of Arts in Music - Vocal Performance*

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

Saturday, April 10, 2021  
Asbury United Methodist Church  
7 p.m.

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

# PROGRAM

Strike the Viol .....Henry Purcell  
(1659 – 1695)

“When I am laid in earth” from *Dido and Aeneas* .....Henry Purcell

“I attempt from love’s sickness to fly” from *The Indian Queen*.....Henry Purcell

Olivia Davidson, mezzo-soprano & Veronica Tomanek, piano



Dein blaues Auge, Op. 59 No. 8 .....Johannes Brahms  
(1833 – 1897)

## **Dein blaues Auge**

*Poem 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 I 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.

Ständchen, Op. 106 No. 1 .....Johannes Brahms

## **Ständchen**

*Poem by Franz Kugler*

Der Mond steht über dem Berge,  
So recht für verliebte Leut;  
Im Garten rieselt ein Brunnen,  
Sonst Stille weit und breit.  
Neben der Mauer, im Schatten,  
Da stehn der Studenten drei  
Mit Flöt’ und Geig’ und Zither,

## **Serenade**

*Translation by Richard Stokes*

The moon shines over the mountain,  
Just right for the people in love;  
A fountain purls in the garden –  
Otherwise silence far and wide.  
By the wall in the shadows,  
Three students stand  
With flute and fiddle and zither,

*continued*

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Und singen und spielen dabei.  
Die Klänge schleichen der Schönsten  
Sacht in den Traum hinein,  
Sie schaut den blonden Geliebten  
Und lispelt: „Vergiß nicht mein!

And sing and play.  
The sound steals softly into the dreams  
Of the loveliest of girls,  
She sees her fair-headed lover  
And whispers “Remember me.”

Von ewiger Liebe Op. 43 No. 1 .....Johannes Brahms

**Von ewiger Liebe**

*Poem by August Heinrich Hoffman von Fallersleben*

Dunkel, wie dunkel in Wald und in Feld!  
Abend schon ist es, nun schweiget die Welt.  
Nirgend noch Licht und nirgend noch Rauch,  
Ja, und die Lerche sie schweiget nun auch.  
Kommt aus dem Dorfe der Bursche heraus,  
Gibt das Geleit der Geliebten nach Haus,  
Führt sie am Weidengebüsche vorbei,  
Redet so viel und so mancherlei:  
„Leidest du Schmach und betrübest du dich,  
Leidest du Schmach von andern um mich,  
Werde die Liebe getrennt so geschwind,  
Schnell wie wir früher vereinigt sind.  
Scheide mit Regen und scheide mit Wind,  
Schnell wie wir früher vereinigt sind.“  
Spricht das Mägdelein, Mägdelein spricht:  
„Unsere Liebe sie trennet sich nicht!  
Fest ist der Stahl und das Eisen gar sehr,  
Unsere Liebe ist fester noch mehr.  
Eisen und Stahl, man schmiedet sie um,  
Unsere Liebe, wer wandelt sie um?  
Eisen und Stahl, sie können zergehn,  
Unsere Liebe muß ewig bestehn!“

**Eternal Love**

*Translation by Richard Stokes*

Dark, how dark in forest and field!  
Evening already, and the world is silent.  
Nowhere a light and nowhere smoke,  
And even the lark is silent now too.  
Out of the village there comes a lad,  
Escorting his sweetheart home,  
He leads her past the willow-copse,  
Talking so much and of so many things:  
‘If you suffer sorrow and suffer shame,  
Shame for what others think of me,  
Then let our love be severed as swiftly,  
As swiftly as once we two were plighted.  
Let us depart in rain and depart in wind,  
As swiftly as once we two were plighted.’  
The girl speaks, the girl says:  
‘Our love cannot be severed!  
Steel is strong, and so is iron,  
Our love is even stronger still:  
Iron and steel can both be reforged,  
But our love, who shall change it?  
Iron and steel can be melted down,  
Our love must endure forever!’

Olivia Davidson, mezzo-soprano & Veronica Tomanek, piano



# PROGRAM

*Siete Canciones Populares Españolas* ..... Manuel de Falla  
(1876 – 1946)

1. El paño moruno
2. Seguidilla murciana
3. Asturiana
4. Jota

## **El paño moruno**

*Poetry by Gregorio Martínez Sierra*

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

## **Seguidilla murciana**

*Poetry by Anonymous*

Cualquiera que el tejado  
tenga de vidrio,  
no debe tirar piedras  
al del vecino.  
Arrieros semos;  
¡puede que en el camino,  
nos encontremos!  
Por tu mucha inconstancia,  
yo te comparo  
con peseta que corre  
de mano en mano;  
Que al fin se borra,  
y creyéndola falsa  
nadie la toma!

## **Asturiana**

*Poetry by Anonymous*

Por ver si me consolaba,  
arrimeme a un pino verde,  
Por verme llorar, lloraba.  
Y el pino como era verde,  
por verme llorar, lloraba!

## **The Moorish Cloth**

*Translation by Jacqueline Cockburn*

On the delicate fabric in the shop  
there fell a stain.  
It sells for less  
for it has lost its value  
Ay!

## **Seguidilla of Murcia**

*Translation by Jacqueline Cockburn*

People who live  
in glass houses  
shouldn't throw stones  
at their neighbour's.  
We are drovers;  
it may be  
we'll meet on the road!  
For your many infidelities  
I shall compare you  
to a peseta passing  
from hand to hand,  
till finally it's worn down –  
and believing it false  
no one will take it!

## **Asturian Song**

*Translation by Jacqueline Cockburn*

To see if it might console me  
I drew near a green pine.  
To see me weep, it wept.  
And the pine, since it was green,  
wept to see me weeping!

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**Jota**

*Poetry by Anonymous*

Dicen que no nos queremos,  
porque no nos ven hablar.  
A tu corazón y al mío  
se lo pueden preguntar.  
Ya me despido de tí,  
de tu casa y tu ventana.  
Y aunque no quiera tu madre.  
Adiós, niña, hasta mañana.

**Jota**

*Translation by Jacqueline Cockburn*

They say we're not in love  
since they never see us talk;  
let them ask  
your heart and mine!  
I must leave you now,  
your house and your window,  
and though your mother disapprove,  
goodbye, sweet love, till tomorrow.

Olivia Davidson, mezzo-soprano & Veronica Tomanek, piano



*I Never Saw Another Butterfly*.....Lori Laitman  
(b. 1955)

1. The Butterfly
2. Yes, That's the Way Things Are
3. Birdsong

Poetry for the song cycle *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* is sourced  
from children who tragically died during the Holocaust.

**I Never Saw Another Butterfly**

*Poetry by Pavel Friedmann*

The last, the very last,  
So richly, brightly, dazzlingly yellow.  
Perhaps if the sun's tears would sing against a white stone...  
Such, such a yellow  
Is carried lightly 'way up high.  
It went away I'm sure because it wished to kiss the world goodbye.  
For seven weeks I've lived in here, penned up inside this ghetto  
But I have found what I love here.  
The dandelions call to me and the white chestnut candles in the court.  
Only I never saw another butterfly.  
That butterfly was the last one.  
Butterflies don't live in here, in the ghetto.

# PROGRAM

## **Yes, That's the Way Things Are**

*Poetry by Kóleba (Miroslav Kósek, Hanus Lowy, Bachner)*

In Terezin in the so-called park a queer old granddad sits,  
Somewhere in the so-called park.  
He wears a beard down to his lap  
And on his head a little cap.  
Hard crust he crumbles in his gums  
He's only got one single tooth  
My poor old man with working gums,  
Instead of soft rolls, lentil soup.  
My poor old greybeard!

## **Birdsong**

*Poetry by Anonymous*

He doesn't know the world at all  
Who stays in his nest and doesn't go out.  
He doesn't know what birds know best nor what I want to sing about;  
That the world is full of loveliness.  
When dewdrops sparkle in the grass  
And earth's aflood with morning light,  
A blackbird sings upon a bush to greet the dawning after night.  
Then I know how fine it is to live.  
Hey, try to open up your heart to beauty;  
Go to the woods someday and weave a wreath of memory there.  
Then if the tears obscure your way,  
You'll know how wonderful it is to be alive.

Olivia Davidson, mezzo-soprano & Elijah Fallon, alto saxophone



“That'll Show Him” from *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*.....Stephen Sondheim

“Pretty Funny” from *Dogfight* ..... Benj Pasek & Justin Paul

“Fly into the Future” from *Vanities: A New Musical* ..... David Kirshenbaum

Olivia Davidson, mezzo-soprano & Veronica Tomanek, piano

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## **MUSICIAN BIOGRAPHIES**

**Olivia Davidson**, mezzo-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 Second 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.

**Elijah Fallon**, saxophonist, pianist, multi-instrumentalist and orchestral conductor, has spent his four years at Salisbury University in extensive studies of theory, history, piano and conducting. He has been the first chair alto saxophone in the Salisbury Pops for four years and also has led and conducted the Pops twice. He also has played in other musical groups around Salisbury, such as the Salisbury saxophone quartet, the Salisbury University Jazz ensemble and percussion in the Salisbury Symphony Orchestra. Proudly studying conducting under Dr. William Folger, Fallon will be perusing a master's degree in orchestral conducting in the near future.

**Veronica Tomanek** is pianist and coach for the Wright and Wills voice studios in the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance at Salisbury University, and serves as the music director at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Salisbury. Tomanek 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, and keyboard player for musical theatre productions. She also has performed with the Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra, 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 Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in music education from Boston University, 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.

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

I thank my family and friends for always believing in me and supporting me through my journey of chasing my dreams. My deepest thanks go out to Dr. Wright and Veronica – thank you molding me into the musician I am today. I cannot express how thankful I am that I got to work with you both for three incredible years. Thank you to Elijah for agreeing to be a part of my senior recital – I'm grateful to have gotten to work with you as we close out our time at Salisbury University. Thank you to all of the faculty and staff of the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance for making my experience at SU unforgettable.

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**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*  
**Asbury United Methodist Church**  
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