

Kat Lawrence, soprano

Senior Musical Theater Performance Track Recital

with

Emma Johnston, alto

and

Grace Spicuzza, piano

Wednesday, May 4th, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Laurie Theater in Spingold

Program

"Singin' in the Rain" from Singin' In the Rain Music by Nacio Herb Brown (1896-1964)

Lyrics by Arthur Freed (1894-1973) Choreographed by Emma Johnston

"The Glamorous Life" from A Little Night Music Stephen Sondheim

(1930-2021)

Monologue from *The 5th of July* Lanford Wilson

(1937-2011)

"Spark of Creation" from *Children of Eden* Stephen Schwartz

(b. 1948)

Monologue from *The Jack and Jill's Plays*Adam Szymkowicz

(b. 1981)

"Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again" from *Phantom of the Opera* Sir Andrew

Lloyd Webber

(b. 1948)

Monologue from *Macbeth* William Shakespeare

(1564-1616)

"Pretty Funny" from *Dogfight*Benji Pasek & Justin Paul

(b.1985)

Monologue from St. Joan George Bernard Shaw

(1856-1950)

"Woman" from *The Pirate Queen* Claude-Michelle Schonberg

(b. 1944)

~15 min intermission~

"I Can't Do it Alone" from Chicago Music by John Kander (b.1927)

Lyrics by Fred Ebb (1928-2004) Choreography by John H. Llewellyn

Scene from Window Pain Joseph Arnone

(b. 1983)

Emma Johnston '22, actress

"Therapy" from *Tick, Tick, Boom!*Jonathan Larson

(1960-1996)

Emma Johnston '22, alto

Monologue from As You Like It	William Shakespeare (1564-1616)
"Till There Was You" from <i>The Music Man</i>	Meredith Wilson (1902-1984)
Monologue from The Lord of the Rings	Peter Jackson (b.1961) Fran Walsh (b.1959) Philippa Boyens (b.1962)
"Wonder" from The Lord of the Rings (musical)	A.R. Rahman (b. 1967)
Monologue from The People	Susan Glaspell (1876-1948)
Monologue from The People "You'll Never Walk Alone" from Carousel	Susan Glaspell (1876-1948) Rogers and Hammerstein (1902-1979) (1895-1960)
·	Rogers and Hammerstein (1902-1979)

This recital partially fulfills the requirements of the Music Performance Track Major

Texts and Translations

Singin' In the Rain

Text by Arthur Freed (1894-1973)

Doo-dloo-doo-doo-doo
Doo-dloo-doo-doo-doo
Doo-dloo-doo-doo-doo
Doo-dloo-doo-doo-doo-doo...

I'm singing in the rain Just singing in the rain What a glorious feelin' I'm happy again

I'm laughing at clouds So dark up above The sun's in my heart And I'm ready for love

Let the stormy clouds chase Everyone from the place Come on with the rain I've a smile on my face I walk down the lane With a happy refrain Just singin', Singin' in the rain

Dancin' in the rain
Dee-ah dee-ah dee-ah
Dee-ah dee-ah dee-ah
I'm happy again!
I'm singin' and dancin' in the rain!

I'm dancin' and singin' in the rain.

The Glamorous Life

Ordinary mothers lead ordinary lives
Keep the house and sweep the parlour
Mend the clothes and tend the children
Ordinary mothers, like ordinary wives
Make the beds and bake the pies
And wither on the vine—
Not mine

Dying by inches
Every night—
What a glamorous life!
Brought on by winches
To recite—
What a glamorous life!

Text by Stephen Sondheim (1930-2021)

Ordinary mothers never
Get the flowers
And ordinary mothers never
Get the joys
Ordinary mothers couldn't
Cough for hours
Maintaining their poise

Sandwiches only
But she eats
What she wants when she wants
Sometimes it's lonely
But she meets
Many handsome gallants
Ordinary mothers don't live out of cases
But ordinary mothers don't go different places
Which ordinary mothers can't do
Being mothers all day
Mine's away in a play
And she's realer than they...

What if her brooch is Only glass And her costumes unravel? What if her coach is Second class? She at least gets to travel

And sometime this summer, meaning soon She'll be traveling to me! Sometime this summer, maybe June I'm the new place she'll see!

Ordinary daughters may think
Life is better
With ordinary mothers near them
When they choose
But ordinary daughters seldom
Get a letter
Enclosing reviews!
Gay and resilient
With applause—
What a glamorous life!
Speeches are brilliant
If they're Shaw's—
What a glamorous life!

Ordinary mothers needn't meet committees
But ordinary mothers don't get keys to cities
No, ordinary mothers merely see their children all year
Which is lovely, I hear
But it does interfere
With the glamorous—

I am the princess, guarded by dragons
Snorting and grumbling and rumbling in wagons
She's in her kingdom, wearing disguises
Living a life that is full of surprises
And sometime this summer
She'll come galloping over the green!
Sometime this summer
To the rescue, my mother the queen!

Ordinary mothers thrive on
Being private
And ordinary mothers somehow
Can survive it
But ordinary others never
Know they're just standing still
With the kettles to fill
While they're missing the thrill
Of the glamorous life!

The 5th of July

Text by Lanford Wilson (1937-2011)

SHIRLEY: I'm going to be the greatest artist Missouri has ever produced. No – the entire Midwest. There have been very famous people – world famous people – Tennessee Williams grew up in Missouri. He grew up not three blocks from where I live now! All his formative years. And Mark Twain. And Dreiser! And Vincent Price and Harry Truman! And Betty Grable! But me! Oh God! Me! Me! Me! I am going to be so great! Unqualified! The greatest single artist the Midwest has ever known!

A painter. Or a sculptor. Or a dancer! A writer! A conductor! A composer! An actress! One of the arts! People will die. Certain people will literally have cardiac arrests at the magnitude of my achievements. Doing something astonishing! Just astonishing. I will have you know that I intend to study for ten years, and then burst forth on the world. And people will be abashed! Amazed! Astonished! At the magnitude.

Spark of Creation

Text by Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948)

I've got an itching on the tips of my fingers
I've got a burning in the back of my brain
I've got a hunger burning inside me, cannot be denied
I've got a feeling that the Father who made us
When He was kindling a pulse in my veins
He left a tiny spark of that fire, smoldering inside

The spark of creation is flickering within me
The spark of creation is blazing in my blood
A bit of the fire that lit up the stars and brought life into the mud
The first inspiration, the spark of creation

I see a mountain and I want to climb it
I see a river and I want to leave shore
Where there was nothing let there be something
Something made by me
There's things waiting for me to invent them
There's worlds waiting for me to explore
I am an echo of the eternal cry of
Let there be

The spark of creation burning bright within me
The spark of creation won't let me rest at all
Until I discover or build or uncover, a thing that I can call
My celebration of the spark of creation
The spark of creation, may it burn forever
The spark of creation, I am a keeper of the flame

We think all we want is a lifetime of leisure
Each perfect day the same, endless vacation
Well, that's alright if you're a kind crustacean
But when you're born with an imagination
Sooner or later you're feeling the fire, getting hotter and higher
The spark of creation

The Jack and Jill's Plays

Text by Adam Szymkowicz (b. 1981)

I always thought it would be me first, you know? I didn't think. No, I shouldn't say that. You'll be fine. You'll beat this. I don't care what the doctor says.

Cheryl came by. Oh. I guess you don't really like her. Well, anyway, she came to see you. Which was nice of her.

Look you can't do this. You can't leave me alone. I can't just . . . not without you. How can I . . . do anything . . . ever again?

Morgan's waiting for you. Everyone is no waiting for you. Your job is there if you just pull through. Won't you?

I need you. I can't remember anything. Everything that happened to us, who will remember if you're not here? No one. Like they never happened.

Remember that time we went fishing and you -- Just wake up. Wake up! WAKE UP! WAKE UP!!!

Sorry. I'm going to get some water. Just. Please. Just. Come on. You have to. I'm all alone.

I can't be me without you.

Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again

Text by Charles Hart (b.1961)

You were once My one companion You were all That mattered You were once A friend and father Then my world Was shattered

Wishing you were Somehow here again Wishing you were Somehow near Sometimes it seemed If I just dreamed Somehow you would

Be here

Wishing I could
Hear your voice again
Knowing that I
Never would
Dreaming of you
Won't help me to do
All that you dreamed
I could

Passing bells
And sculpted angels
Cold and monumental
Seem, for you

The wrong companions You were warm and gentle

Too many years Fighting back tears Why can't the past Just die?

Wishing you were Somehow here again Knowing we must Say goodbye Try to forgive Teach me to live Give me the strength To try

No more memories No more silent tears No more gazing across The wasted years Help me say Goodbye Help me say Goodbye!

Macbeth

LADY MACBETH:

Yet here's a spot. Out, damned spot! out, I say!—One: two: why, then, 'tis time to do't.—Hell is murky!—Fie, my lord, fie! a soldier, and afeard? What need we fear who knows it, when none can call our power to account?—Yet who would have thought the old man to have had so much blood in him.

The thane of Fife had a wife: where is she now? –What, will these hands ne'er be clean?–No more o' that, my lord, no more o' that: you mar all with this starting. Here's the smell of the blood still: all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand. Oh, oh, oh!

Wash your hands, put on your nightgown; look not so pale.—I tell you yet again, Banquo's buried; he cannot come out on's grave. To bed, to bed! there's knocking at the gate: come, come, come, give me your hand. What's done cannot be undone.—To bed, to bed!

Pretty Funny

Text by Benji Pasek & Justin Paul (b.1985)

Close the window draw the curtain Hide of the bright light of the moon Hang the dresses ugly dresses No one likes maroon Wipe off all that stupid lipstick Return the earrings to their case Makeup won't make any difference It's still the same old face

Isn't it funny? Isn't it funny? Isn't it funny you believed that it was real? Pretty funny.

All disasters have an upside You can find one if you tried You went dancing, you were dancing, you were dancing with a guy Isn't it funny? Isn't it funny?

Aren't you funny?
Pathetically naive and desperate to believe
You can always find some good
Well you misunderstood
Or you've been dreaming
'Cause people are just cruel

Shut the light off turn the bed down
No more crying don't you dare
You'll wake up sometime tomorrow and forget to even care
Isn't it funny?
Isn't it funny?
For a moment he convinced me I could be pretty
Funny

Yes: they told me you were fools, and that I was not to listen to your fine words nor trust your charity. You promised me my life; but you lied. You think that life is nothing but not being stone dead. It is not the bread and water I fear: Bread has no sorrow for me, and water no affliction. But to shut me from the light of the sky and the sight of the fields and flowers; to chain my feet so that I can never again ride with the soldiers nor climb the hills; to make me breathe foul damp darkness and keep from me everything that brings me back to the love of God when your wickedness and foolishness tempt me to hate Him: all this is worse than the furnace in the bible that was heated seven times. I could do without my warhorse; I could drag about in a skirt; I could let the banners and the trumpets and the knights and soldiers pass me and leave me behind as they leave the other women, if only I could still hear the wind in the trees, the larks in the sunshine, the young lambs crying through the healthy frost, and the blessed church bells that send my angel voices floating to me on the wind. But without these things I cannot live; and by your wanting to take them away from me, or from any human creature, I know that your counsel is of the devil, and that mine is of God.

Woman

Text by Richard Maltby Jr. (b. 1937)

Woman I am born What does "woman" mean? Must my dreams face scorn Held back and unseen

If I long for fire Must it stay unreal? Can I not desire? Am I not to feel?

If I ache to taste
Am I not to try?
If my heart says sail
Why must I deny?
I have my dreams
I have made plans

I see horizons wide as a man's Must I be nothing till I'm some man's wife?

Look at this face Does it deceive? Do I look made to milk and to weave? I will be damned to Hell if that is my life!

I'm almost your age, I'm your match in size, I'm your match with swords An equal in most eyes But when you have a dream And you're caught in its grip You can climb aboard a ship You can -You can for you're a man

You can reach toward that place Where the earth meets the sky Fight a battle be brave, be true If you can do it, why not I?

I'm meant to fly Sail unrestrained Why is man free and woman chained? Is that my epitaph before I die?

I should be free
Free to be Grace
I want to feel the wind on my face!
And when life beckons, I should go
Face out the storm, not stay below
Am I to be just woman? No! Not I!

I Can't Do it Alone

Text by Fred Ebb (1928-2004)

My sister and I had an act that couldn't flop My sister and I were headed straight for the top My sister and I eared a thou a week at least But my sister is now, unfortunately, deceased

Oh, I know, it's sad, of course, But a fact is still a fact And now all that remains Is the remains Of a perfect double act!

Roxie, do you know you are exactly the same size as my sister? Oh, you would fit in her wardrobe perfectly. Look, why don't I just show you some of the act, huh? Watch this.

Now, you have to imagine this with two people. It's swell with two people.

First, I'd...
Then she'd...
Then we'd...
But I can't do it alone!
Then she'd...

Then I'd... Then we'd... But I can't do it alone!

She'd say, "What's your sister like?" I'd say, "MEN,"
Yuk, yuk, yuk
She'd say, "you're the cat's meow"
Then we'd wow
The crowd again
When she'd go...
I'd go...
We'd go...

And then those ding-dong daddies started to roar Whistled, stomped, and stamped on the floor Yelling, screaming, begging for more.

And we'd say, "O.K. fellas, keep your socks up. You ain't seen nothing yet!"

Ah, aha, yeah! But I simply cannot do it alone.

Well? What did ya think? Come on, you can say.

O.K. O.K. The first part can always be rewritten. But the second part was really nifty. Watch this!

Then she'd...
Then I'd...
Then we'd...
But I can't do it alone!
She'd say, "What state's Chicago in?"
I'd say, "ILL!"
Did ya get that?
She'd say, "turn your motor off!"
I can hear 'em cheerin' still
When she'd go...
I'd go...
We'd go...
And then those two-bit Johnnies did it up brow
To cheer the best attraction in town

They really tore the balcony down

And we'd say, "O.K. fellas, O.K., we're goin' home, but here's a few more partin' shots!" And this...this we did in perfect unison.

Now, you've seen me goin' through it You can see there's nothin' to it

But I simply cannot do it

Alone!

V: ...Hey.

L: ...Hey.

V: I'm sorry. I didn't mean to punch you in the face.

L: Oh no? What did you mean then cause I have a black eye that's shining like the moon on a pitch black night!

V: I know. I meant to punch you but I'm sorry I did and I shouldn't have. I really shouldn't have, Leslie. I would never want to hurt you.

L: It's not the black eye that hurts...

V: Yeah well, you say such horrible things to me and you always talk down to me; I've given you so many warnings, so many times I've tried to tell you to stop, stop, stop and every time we argue you hit below the belt and it's not like I haven't been trying really hard to control my temper, alright?

L: Look at my big black eye. You call that controlling your temper? We've been through this...you're lucky I ain't called the police on you. Still might. Been debating it all this time.

V: Just quit it. It's not like you haven't taken shots at me. Remember that time you pushed me through the barn window. I went clear straight through and landed in wart hog shit on the other side. It actually saved me from a harder fall I imagine.

L: Yeah well, you had it coming.

V: That's exactly what I mean. You see, you can relate to me, can't you?

L: And my elbow, when you popped me I spun and landed straight down on my elbow. I don't know what's worse.

V: You're a real bitch.

L: And you're Satan reincarnated as a woman.

V: Can we make up? Please? I'm really sorry I hurt you, Les...

L: I know I have a bad mouth on me, I know I said some terrible things to you, I get it, I admit it...but I'm not so sure how I feel about all this now that you've physically hurt me like this...

V: Alright, so will it make you feel better to pop me back?

L: Get the hell out of here...you going real crazy on me.

V: Come on. Just punch me one real good and we can call it even then. Yeah?

L: I said hell no. Stop it already before I send you to the asylum.

V: Maybe I'm better off at the asylum anyways.

L: Maybe

V: Maybe...hmmm. What if I give myself a quick jab to the eye. Will that make you feel better?

L: You know what Vickie? I don't have the energy for you. I can see out of one eye and can move one arm. My head is pounding and I just want to conk out. I'm exhausted.

V: I'm so sorry I did this to you, please don't hate me. Please don't be mad at me Les.

L: Damn girl, just give me some time. I'm not a robot that can turn on and off emotions at will. I can't stand you right now and you know that. A few hours after what happened isn't long enough for me to welcome you with open arms.

V: But will you?

L: Will I what?

V: Welcome me with open arms?

L: We'll just have to wait and see.

V: Why?

L: Cause whenever someone hurts me deep, the way that you've done, it takes me a while to readjust myself to that person and sometimes there's no going back.

V: So what are you saying? We may not be together anymore?

L: If you keep pushing me, we definitely won't be?

V: That's bullshit!

L: Listen, if you keep pushing it, I will keep going further away from you.

V: Fine. Suit yourself. When you pushed me through that glass window, I let you care for me and I forgave you on the spot.

L: Damn it, Vickie! Stop acting so Goddamn stupid when it comes to things like this. You gave me a black eye and almost broke my damn elbow. What do you really think? Lucky I'm even speaking to your dumb ass right this instant.

V: Fine! Do what you want.

L: I will. You got some nerve getting all hot when I'm the patient and your the cause.

V: Yeah, well, I wouldn't do this to you. Make you feel all bad...it's abuse.

L: Believe me, I'm not doing anything on purpose here. I also think I've been extremely kind enough to you in the aftermath. Trust me, where I come from, you're lucky I didn't react differently. I'm actually surprised at myself right now.

V: Fine.

L: Fine.

V: Just let it go then.

L: thank you.

V: Yeah...will you tell me if you at least forgive me for what I done?

L: YES, I forgive you...holy shit man.

V: Like really, really. Like really forgive me for it?

L: Vickie, for the last time girl... I forgive you. Okay?

V : Alright...I'll take that. I love you.

L: I forgive you.

V: Okay, okay...

Therapy

I feel bad, that you feel bad About me feeling bad, about you feeling bad About what I said, about what you said About me not being able to share a feeling

If I thought that what you thought
Was that I hadn't thought about sharing my thoughts
Then my reaction to your reaction, to my reaction
Would have been more revealing

I was afraid that you'd be afraid
If I told you that I was afraid of intimacy
If you don't have a problem with my problem
Maybe the problem's simply co-dependency

Yes, I know, that now you know
That I didn't know, that you didn't know
That when I said "No", I meant "Yes, I know"
And that now I know that you knew, that I knew you adored me

I was wrong to-Say you were wrong to-Say I was wrong about-You being wrong. When you rang to say that-The ring was the wrong thing to bring-If I meant what I said When I said, "Rings bored me"

I'm not mad, that you got mad, when I got mad When you said I should go drop dead If I were you and I'd done what I'd done I'd do what you did When I gave you the ring having said what I said

I feel bad, that you feel bad (I feel badly)
About me feeling bad, about you feeling bad (about you)
About what I said, about what you said (feeling badly about me)
About me not being able to share a feeling (feeling badly about you)

I thought (if I thought that what you thought)
You thought (was that I hadn't thought about sharing my thoughts)
I reacted shallowly (then my reaction to your reaction, to my reaction)
When I reacted to you (would have been more revealing)

I'm not mad, that you got mad, when I got mad
When you said I should go drop dead
If I were you and I'd done what I'd done (if I were you)
I'd do what you did when I gave you the ring (but I'm not you)
Having said what I said (said what I said)

But now it's out in the open Now it's off our chest Now it's 4 a.m. And we have therapy tomorrow It's too late to screw So let's just get some rest

As You Like It

Text by William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

Think not I love him, though I ask for him; 'Tis but a peevish boy-yet he talks well-But what care I for words? Yet words do well When he that speaks them pleases those that hear. It is a pretty youth—not very pretty— But sure he's proud—and yet his pride becomes him. He'll make a proper man. The best thing in him Is his complexion; and faster than his tongue Did make offense, his eye did heal it up. He is not very tall—yet for his years he's tall; His leg is but so so—and yet 'tis well; There was a pretty redness in his lip, A little riper and more lusty red Than that mix'd in his cheek; 'twas just the difference Betwixt the constant red and mingled damask. There be some women, Silvius, had they mark'd him In parcels as I did, would have gone near To fall in love with him; but for my part I love him not, nor hate him not; and yet Have more cause to hate him than to love him, For what had he to do to chide at me? He said mine eyes were black and my hair black. And, now I am rememb'red, scorn'd at me. I marvel why I answer'd not again. But that's all one; omittance is no quittance. I'll write to him a very taunting letter, And thou shalt bear it; wilt thou, Silvius?

Till There Was YouMeredith Wilson
(1902-1984)

There were bells on the hill, But I never heard them ringing. No, I never heard them at all, 'Til there was you.

There were birds in the sky, But I never saw them winging. No, I never saw them at all, 'Til there was you.

And there was music, And there were wonderful roses, they tell me, In sweet fragrant meadows of dawn and dew.

There was love, all around, But I never heard it singing. No, I never heard it at all, 'Til there was you.

The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers

Text by Peter Jackson (b.1961)
Philippa Boyens (b.1962)
Fran Walsh (b.1959)

It's like in the great stories

The ones that really mattered.

Full of darkness and danger they were,

and sometimes you didn't want to know the end.

Because how could the end be happy?

How could the world go back to the way it was when so much bad happened.

But in the end, it's only a passing thing, this shadow.

Even darkness must pass.

A new day will come.

And when the sun shines it will shine out the clearer.

Those were the stories that stayed with you.

That meant something.

Even if you were too small to understand why.

But I think, I do understand.

I know now.

Folk in those stories had lots of chances of turning back only they didn't.

Because they were holding on to something.

That there's some good in this world. And it's worth fighting for.

Wonder

I sang of leaves, of leaves of gold, and leaves there grew Of wind I sang, a wind there came and in them blew Lothlorien In light I wove a secret land of timeless joy My perfect child no mortal hand could dare destroy Lothlorien

Beyond the sun Beyond the moon Wonder Wonder

Shine forever
Beacon of light
Blaze in the air
Vanquishing night
Live forever
Held like a breath
Deep at the core
Blossom in death

My golden leaves will fade and fall through branching years Through sweet the song yet sweeter still shall be the tears The night must come, the shadows grow, the dark descends And all we love and all we know must reach an end Lothlorien

Though worlds will die and worlds will grow Out of death, life Out of night, day, glory from sorrow Out of grief, joy Out of storm, comes strength for tomorrow Out of dust, gold Out of fire, air, comfort forsaken Out of rage, calm Out of loss, find, glory awaken

Shine forever
Beacon of light
Blaze in the air
Vanquishing night
Sing forever
Proud and strong
Anthem of life
Conquering song

Sing forever! Wonder! Wonder!

"We are living now. We shall not be living long. No one can tell us we shall live again. This is our little while. This is our chance.

And we take it like a child who comes from a dark room to which he must return--comes for one sunny afternoon to a lovely hillside, and finding a hole, crawls in there till after the sun is set.

I want that child to know the sun is shining upon flowers in the grass. I want him to know it before he has to go back to the room that is dark. I wish I had pipes to call him to the hilltop of beautiful distances. I myself could see further if he were seeing at all.

Perhaps I can call you; you who have dreamed and dreaming know, and knowing care. Move! Move from the things that hold you. If you move, others will move. Come! Now. Before the sun goes down."

You'll Never Walk Alone

Text by Oscar Hammerstein II (1895-1960)

When you walk through a storm
Hold your head up high
And don't be afraid of the dark
At the end of a storm
There's a golden sky
And the sweet silver song of a lark
Walk on through the wind
Walk on through the rain
Though your dreams be tossed and blown
Walk on, walk on
With hope in your heart
And you'll never walk alone
You'll never walk alone

The Seagull

Text by Anton Chekhov (1860-1904)

Why do you say that you have kissed the ground I walked on? You should kill me rather. I am so tired. If I could only rest—rest. I am a sea-gull—no—no, I am an actress. He is there too. Ah, well—no matter. He does not believe in the theatre; he used to laugh at my dreams, so that little by little I became down-hearted and ceased to believe in it too. Then came all the cares of love, the continual anxiety about my little one, so that I soon grew trivial and spiritless, and played my parts without meaning. I never knew what to do with my hands, and I could not walk properly or control my voice. You cannot imagine the state of mind of one who knows as he goes through a play how terribly badly, he is acting. I am a sea-gull—no—no, that is not what I meant to say. Do you remember how

you shot a seagull once? A man chanced to pass that way and destroyed it out of idleness. That is an idea for a short story, but it is not what I meant to say.

What was I saying? Oh, yes, the stage. I have changed now. Now I am a real actress. I act with joy, with exaltation, I am intoxicated by it, and feel that I am superb. I have been walking and walking, and thinking and thinking, ever since I have been here, and I feel the strength of my spirit growing in me every day. I know now, I understand at last, Constantine, that for us, whether we write or act, it is not the honour and glory of which I have dreamt that is important, it is the strength to endure. One must know how to bear one's cross, and one must have faith. I believe, and so do not suffer so much, and when I think of my calling, I do not fear life.

Meadowlark

Text by Stephen Schwartz (b.1948)

When I was a girl I had a favourite story
Of the meadowlark who lived where the rivers wind
Her voice could match the angels in its glory
But she was blind, the lark was blind
An old king came and took her to his palace
Where the walls were burnished bronze and golden braid
And he fed her fruit and nuts from an ivory chalice
And he prayed:

"Sing for me, my meadowlark, Sing for me of the silver morning, Set me free, my meadowlark, And I'll buy you a priceless jewel And cloth of brocade and crewel And I'll love you for life, If you will sing for me."

Then one day as the lark sang by the water
The god of the sun heard her in his flight
And her singing moved him so
He came and brought her the gift of sight
He gave her sight
And she opened her eyes to the shimmer and the splendor
Of this beautiful, young god, so proud and strong
And he called to the lark in a voice both rough and tender

"Come along.

Fly with me, my meadowlark,
Fly with me on the silver morning,
Past the sea where the dolphins bark
We will dance on the coral beaches,
Make a feast of the plums and peaches
Just as far as your vision reaches
Fly with me."

But the meadowlark said no
For the old king loved her so
She couldn't bear to wound his pride
So, the sun god flew away
And when the king came down that day
He found his meadowlark had died
Every time I heard that part, I cried ...

And now I stand here starry-eyed and stormy
Oh, just when I thought my heart was finally numb
A beautiful, young man appears before me,
Singing "come, oh, won't you come?"
And what can I do if finally for the first time
The one I'm burning for returns the glow?
If love has come at last it's picked the worst time
Still I know
I've got to go

Fly away, meadowlark
Fly away in the silver morning,
If I stay, I'll grow to curse the dark
So it's off where the days won't bind me
I know I leave wounds behind me
But I won't let tomorrow find me
Back this way
Before my past once again can blind me
Fly away ...
And we won't wait
To say good-bye
My beautiful young man
And I!

About the Artists

Kat Lawrence (she/her) is a senior at Brandeis University earning her B.A. in Theater and Music with a concentration in musical theater and minoring in film. She is currently residing in Waltham Massachusetts.

Kat has been performing on the stage since a very young age with her first performance in *The Cat and the Fiddle* in the 2nd grade and has been caught by the theater bug ever since. She has performed in multiple states including Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey. She attended Stage Door Manor where she performed in *A...My name is Alice* and *The Sound of Music* for which she won an award for Outstanding Achievement in a Musical. She additionally attended the Stella Adler Acting Studio in Los Angeles. She also participated in Weston Drama Workshop where she performed in *Pippin, Billy Elliot, and Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*. Kat is a proud alumnus of Framingham High School Drama Company where she performed in *Treasure Island (*Captain Flint), *Legally Blonde* (Paulette), and *Sideways Stories from Wayside School* (Mrs. Zarves) which won the Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild Festival in Boston in 2016. That same year, she also won the Douglas Ingalls Acting Scholarship for the METG as well as second place in the METG costume design competition. Kat graduated from FHS and briefly attended Hofstra in New York before making the best decision of her life and transferring to Brandeis.

Since arriving at Brandeis Kat made the most of her time. As a performer she participated in both student run productions and department productions. Past acting credits include: Lady Macbeth (Macbeth), Anna Politkovskaya (Intractable Woman), Various (Love and Information), Chorus (The Bacchae), and Marcellus (Hamlet). She also recently made her Boston Theater debut at the Boston Public Library in Onward: Votes for Women, a documentary play she portrayed Alice Paul. Kat expanded her theatrical skills at Brandeis with costume design, with which she did her senior thesis on the department's production of Orlando in March. She has also costumed numerous student productions such as Rumors, Eurydice, Godspell, Arcadia, The Wolves, and Oy! Kat has also directed several student productions including The Tempest, You're a Good Man Charlie Brown, and 10, 9, too late Blast Off! Kat was president of Hold Thy Peace, Brandeis' Shakespeare performance club, for multiple semesters, as well as Events Manager for the UTC, and an assistant music director and member of Proscenium a Capella. Kat is also currently Vice President of the Undergraduate Theater Collective and was President during the pandemic, despite taking a year off from school. Academically, Kat also has excelled and won the Giumette Academic Achievement Award and is an Undergraduate Representative for the Theater Department. She also recently won the Fisher Achievement in the Arts award and the Outstanding Student Collaborator award. After graduating, Kat will be costuming this summer for Commonwealth Shakespeare, Weston Drama Workshop, and music directing for Little Mermaid Jr. at Hemingway Elementary school. You can keep tabs on Kat and her upcoming projects by visiting www.kat-lawrence.com

Kat would like to thank Nan Armstrong for her amazing vocal instruction over the years, Grace Spicuzza for her stellar piano skills, Paula Plum for her impeccable direction, John. H. Lewellyn for his endless love and patience and incredible choreography, Emma Johnston for her talent and incredible drive as both her VP and President of the UTC, and Robert Duff and the music department for their immense guidance and support. She would also like to thank her incredible friends and family for their endless years of support- especially her mother whole would drive her to countless lessons and

rehearsals. She also thanks Nora Rossi and Morgan Lloyd for hours of memorization help, and her incredible boyfriend Garrett who she will have been with for almost eight years. Kat was blessed to call Brandeis her home and to have learned so much.

Nancy Armstrong (Vocal instructor and mentor) (she/her) luminous performances extend across the musical spectrum from early Renaissance to American musical theatre. The *Boston Globe* described her voice as "a plaintive, humane instrument ... she is an intelligent artist who cherishes words", and *The New Yorker* honored her with the title "the Purcell *Prima Donna* of our day".

Highlighting her career are her portrayals of seventeen Handelian operas and oratorio heroines, critically acclaimed *Messiah* performances at Carnegie Hall, and CDs 'What Magic Has Victorious Love' and 'Starlight and Sweet Dreams'. Her treasured Valentine's Day recitals of American Broadway composers are legendary.

Miss Armstrong has been Adjunct Associate Professor of the Practice for the Brandeis University Theatre Arts Department since 1996. It has been an honor and a joy for her to be Kat's voice teacher during these past several years.

Emma Johnston (Guest actor and vocalist, choreographer) (she/they) is so honored to get to be a part of Kat's senior recital. The first time Emma met Kat, she cried as Kat introduced herself as the director of *The Tempest* (one of Emma's dream shows). Kat went on to cast Emma as Prospera, which was an absolute joy and kickstarted Emma's extensive theater experience at Brandeis. She has held a variety of production staff positions and performed a plethora of roles since playing Prospera, including: Sophie in the 24-hour Annie, choreographer for Mamma Mia, ASM for the 24-hour Legally Blonde, Aunt March/Mrs. Kirk in Little Women, director and creative coordinator for Oy!, ensemble and a member of the Manson Trio in Pippin, Hecuba in Trojan Women, Charlie Brown in You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, president for the 24-hour Camp Rock, and Schwoopsie in Firebringer. She has also been on the UTC E-Board for many years. working as the diversity coordinator on the proposals board her freshman year and going on to be the producer, vice president, and now president. Despite her love for theater, she is a double major in Neuroscience and Psychology with a minor in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. She doesn't know when she'll be performing again, so she thanks Kat for this wonderful opportunity. Kat has worked insanely hard for this, and Emma is so proud of her. Enjoy!

John H. Llewellyn (Choreographer) (he/they) is a freelance director and choreographer based in Providence, RI. This spring, he is directing + choreographing Fiddler on the Roof Jr. and Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr. for Framingham Public Schools. Recent directing credits include The Tempest (Wayland High School), Leonard Bernstein's New York (asst. dir, Wayland High School), Disney's The Descendants and Disney's The Lion King Jr. (asst. dir, Weston Drama Workshop), Andrew Lippa's The Wild Party, Home Invasion, The Haunting of Hill House and The Shadow Box (UMass Amherst). Choreography credits include Disney's The Descendants (Melrose Public Schools) and Andrew Lippa's The Wild Party (UMass Amherst). He graduated from the Commonwealth Honors College at UMass Amherst with dual-degrees in Theater (BA) and English (BA). www.johnhllewellyn.com

Paula Plum (Acting Coach) (she/her) is one of Boston's leading actresses. Over the past three decades, her most notable performance have been as Cleopatra, Lady Macbeth, Beatrice, Touchstone and Phedre at the Actors' Shakespeare Project; in Miss Witherspoon, The Heiress and Death of a Salesman at the Lyric Stage; Body Awareness, History Boys and New Century at SpeakEasy Stage: Lysistrata, Ivanov, Mother Courage, and The Marriage of Bette and Boo at the American Repertory Theatre. Ms. Plum starred in two world premieres by John Kuntz: Sing Me To Sleep (Boston Center for the Arts) and Miss Price, which she coproduced (Boston Playwrights' Theatre). Movie credits include Irrational Man, Next Stop Wonderland, Mermaids, Malice, and The March Sisters at Christmas. Television credits include voicing characters on Squigglevision (ABC), The Dick and Paula Celebrity Special (FX), Hev Money(Oxygen) and Dr. Katz, Professional Therapist (Comedy Central). Paula Plum is the recipient of the prestigious Fox Actor Fellowship for Distinguished Achievement, awarded to five actors nationwide to study and develop new work. Her original plays include: Memorial, Wigged OUT!, and What Lips My Lips Have Kissed. Her solo show, Plum Pudding, garnered her critical praise and the 2003 IRNE award for Best Solo Performance. Her article "Handling the Hot Moments, How Actors Negotiate Intimacy On Stage" was published in American Theatre Magazine. Paula was honored by the Boston Theatre Critics Association with the Elliot Norton Award for Sustained Excellence (past recipients include Sir Ian McKellen and Julie Harris) and for Best Actress twice (Lost in Yonkers and Miss Witherspoon). Ms. Plum was trained at The London Academy of Music and Dramatic arts and is a Cum Laude graduate of Boston University's School for the Arts, where she was also honored as Distinguished Alumna in 2003.

Grace Spicuzza (Pianist) (she/her), is a collaborative pianist working in the Boston, MA metropolitan area. She enjoys a varied career playing repertoire ranging from Renaissance to Neoclassical, jazz to rock, 19th century art song to musical theater, at the various institutions where she works.

Grace is in her third year at Brandeis, where she loves accompanying the choral ensembles under the direction of Dr. Robert Duff. Watching the students grow in their understanding of and their ability to make music is such a reward. Grace also holds a position at Boston Conservatory at Berkeley, where she has the pleasure of working alongside excellent voice faculty, accompanying and coaching classical and musical theater voice students. She also works with woodwind and string students to help them prepare for their performances and recordings. And, of course, she loves the sporadic freelance opportunities to play for weddings and formal events, as well as working with vocalists for their recordings and recitals. You can find out more about Grace's work at musicbygraceevelyn.com.

Mrs. Spicuzza earned a Masters of Music in Collaborative Piano from Boston Conservatory at Berkeley, Boston, MA, in 2017 and a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from Wheaton College Conservatory of Music, Wheaton, IL in 2011.

When she is not working on music, Grace enjoys vegetable gardening, swing dancing with her husband, and petting her lop-eared rabbit. She is very grateful to God, her parents, her husband, and the excellent teachers she has had in her life. They are the reason she is where she is today. And she thanks you, our audience, for taking the time to join us today and share this beautiful music with us. She hopes that your hearts will be touched, just as ours have, by this music.