



*senior*  
**HONORS  
RECITAL**

HONORS WEEKEND 2022 | SATURDAY, MAY 7  
1:30 P.M. | JUSSI BJÖRLING RECITAL HALL

# WELCOME TO THE SENIOR HONORS RECITAL

Welcome

President Rebecca M. Bergman

**Mignon** from Goethe Lieder, No. 9

Hugo Wolf (1860-1903)

Eli McMahon '22, *tenor* | Mark Bilyeu, *piano*

**Monolog**

Erland von Koch (1910-2009)

Jessica Logue '22, *bass clarinet*

**Der Musensohn**

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

**His Eye Is On The Sparrow**

Charles H. Gabriel (1856-1932)

Peter Neuman '22, *baritone* | Paige Reiners '20, *piano*

**Empfindungen am Meere**

Franz Strauss (1822-1905)

Jill Shoen '22, *french horn* | Mark Bilyeu, *piano*

2

**Vado, ma dove?** from Il burbero di buon cuore

W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Isabella La Marca '22, *soprano* | Mark Bilyeu, *piano*

**Chahagir**

Alan Hovhaness (1911-2000)

Lauren Russell '22, *viola*

**Let Beauty Awake**

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

**In Dreams**

**Whither Must I Wander**

Adam Ward '22, *baritone* | Mark Bilyeu, *piano*

**Hommage à Béla Bárton**

Béla Kovács (1937-2021)

**Hommage à Manuel de Falla**

Brandon Guenther '22, *clarinet*

**Twisted**

Annie Ross (1930-2020)

Anya Menk '22, *mezzo-soprano and piano* | Ben Schwartz '22, *drums* | Tim Hirsch '22, *bass*

**Presentation of Honors Day Certificates**

# PERFORMER PROFILES AND PROGRAM NOTES

## ELI MCMAHON '22, *tenor*

**Mignon** from Goethe Lieder, No. 9

Hugo Wolf (1860-1903)

Mark Bilyeu, *piano*

**Eli McMahon '22** is a senior vocal music education major born and raised on a farm outside of Hartford, South Dakota. He is an active member of the Gustavus Choir (tenor, section leader), Gustavus Wind Orchestra (euphonium, section leader), Newman Center (president), and has studied with Dr. Jeffrey Hess, Dr. Trygve Skaar, and Dr. Alexandra Bryant. He will be student teaching in the fall at Shakopee High School and plans to become a high school choir or church music director.

**Program Notes:** A representative piece of Hugo Wolf's dramatic, complex lieder, *Mignon* is ninth in a song cycle setting of famed German poet Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's work. The lyrics, sung by a mysterious woman named Mignon in Goethe's *Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship*, implore the listener to remember and journey to a fondly remembered homeland. Listen for sharply contrasting sections and Wolf's signature rhapsodic accompaniment.

## JESSICA LOGUE '22, *bass clarinet*

**Monolog**

Erland von Koch (1910-2009)

**Jessica Logue '22** is a senior music performance and psychology major from Chaska, Minnesota. She is a member of the Gustavus Wind Orchestra, the Gustavus Wind Symphony, the Perfect Fourths Clarinet Quartet, and the Gustavus Symphony Orchestra. Jessica studies clarinet and bass clarinet with Dr. Karrin Meffert-Nelson. Next year she plans on continuing her work with both clarinet and bass clarinet with the possibility of then applying to graduate school.

**Program Notes:** *Monolog* is an unaccompanied piece for bass clarinet. The first movement is very slow and free.

**PETER NEUMAN '22, baritone****Der Musensohn**

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

**His Eye Is On The Sparrow**

Charles H. Gabriel (1856-1932)

Paige Reiners '20, *piano*

**Peter Neuman '22** is finishing his senior year at Gustavus, studying vocal music education. Hailing from Chaska, Minnesota, Peter found his love of music when he was in high school, where he was a member of the band and choir. Along with studying voice with Dr. DeGraff, Peter is involved in a plethora of different activities on campus. He is the president and bass section leader of the Gustavus Choir and is a member of G sharp. Outside of music, Peter enjoys running, playing disc golf, and officiating soccer.

**Program Notes:** Written in 1822, *Der Musensohn* combines a fast-paced staccato piano accompaniment with a legato melodic voice line. The five stanzas of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe poetry tell a story of a man who has been inspired by muses to sing his song wherever he goes. Schubert has set 70 poems by Goethe to music. This piece in particular calls on the singer to be acrobatic due to the fast tempo and the sheer amount of German text.

*His Eye is on The Sparrow* is a classic hymn that is performed throughout the country and is recognizable to any frequent churchgoer. Charles H. Gabriel sets music to the Civilla D. Martin text pleasantly in C major. I chose to sing this song because of how easy it is to find inspiration from the text and the music. I think that anyone can find inspiration from *His Eye Is on The Sparrow* no matter what religious background you come from.

**JILL SHOEN '22, french horn****Empfindungen am Meere**

Franz Strauss (1822-1905)

Mark Bilyeu, *piano*

**Jill Shoen '22** is a senior financial economics major with a statistics minor from Plymouth, Minnesota. Jill has been playing the French horn since sixth grade and has studied privately with Melissa Morey for the past four years at Gustavus. She is a member of the Gustavus Symphony Orchestra, Chapel Brass quintet, and Gustavus Horn Choir. Outside of music, Jill is president of the E. Terry Skone Investment Club, president of the Gustavus Finance Club, and served as a student director for the 2022 Gustavus Women in Leadership Conference. Additionally, she works as a tutor and academic assistant for the Department of Economics and Management. After graduation, Jill will begin as a credit development associate with CoBank in Denver, Colorado. She also plans to study for the CFA and later pursue her MBA.

**Program Notes:** Franz Strauss was a German composer and performer. He is most known as a talented horn player and as the father of Richard Strauss, a notable composer of the late Romantic and early modern eras. In addition to *Empfindungen am Meere* (loosely translated to "Impressions of the Sea"), other famous compositions by Franz Strauss include solo horn works such as *Les Adieux* and *Nocturno, Op. 7*.

**ISABELLA LA MARCA '22, soprano****Vado, ma dove?** from *Il burbero di buon cuore*

W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Mark Bilyeu, *piano*

**Isabella La Marca '22** is a vocal music education major from Bloomington, Minnesota, and a Waconia High School graduate. During her time at Gustavus, she has been a vocalist in the Social Justice Choir, Vocal Jazz, and the Choir of Christ Chapel. Izzy currently serves as co-president of music for LeGACy A Cappella, leads the vocal music assistants, and is the vice president and soprano section leader of the Gustavus Choir. She has studied voice for the past four years with Dr. Patricia Snapp and piano with Dr. Esther Wang. In addition to her work at Gustavus, Izzy is a Choral Music Scholar at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Mankato, MN and she co-directs the Belletes as part of the Sing Out Loud Choirs in Rochester, MN. Izzy's post-graduation plans include continued vocal study and student teaching at Bloomington Jefferson High School and Olson Middle School in Bloomington, Minn.

**Program Notes:** Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, an Austrian composer, is highly regarded as one of the world's greatest opera composers. In 1789, he wrote the aria, *Vado Ma Dove?* (I go, but where?) for the opera singer Luisa Villeneuve to insert into Martin y Soler's opera, *Il burbero di buon core* (The Good-Hearted Curmudgeon). The insertion of one composer's arias into another composer's operas was a common practice during this time. The character, "Madame Lucilla," sings this aria during a time of panic and confusion when she realizes that she has spent another character's dowry. In *Vado Ma Dove?* Madame Lucilla, now in disgrace, asks where she should go and what she should do after her foolish mistake.

**LAUREN RUSSELL '22, viola****Chahagir**

Alan Hovhaness (1911-2000)

**Lauren Russell '22** is a senior violist and music major from Alexandria, Minnesota. She is a member of the Gustavus Symphony Orchestra, Gustavus Jazz Ensemble, and chamber ensembles. Additionally, she is a member of the Mankato Symphony Orchestra and performs at First Lutheran Church regularly. She can often be found around the music building practicing with a coffee in arm's reach. While studying at Gustavus, Lauren's primary teachers have been Dr. Justin Knoepfel and Peter McGuire. Next year, Lauren will attend Baylor University to pursue a master's degree in viola performance.

**Program Notes:** Chahagir means “torch bearer” in Hebrew. This is one of the four pillars of the Armenian Orthodox Church and calls all Armenians to carry on the history of the Armenian people through the generations. In this work, the solo viola imitates a cantor leading the congregation in a call and response of worship. *Chahagir* comes from Alan Hovhaness’ Armenian period when much of his work was inspired by and used the modes of the Armenian Orthodox Church. Hovhaness wrote *Chahagir* drawing on the C phrygian and C harmonic minor scales. His use of augmented seconds in this piece is a feature of the Armenian style. Hovhaness’ interest in Armenian music comes from his Armenian heritage. He was born in Somerville, Massachusetts to an American mother and Armenian father. His interest flourished when he began exploring his identity in his 30s and became the organist at St. James Armenian Church in Watertown, Massachusetts.

**ADAM WARD '22, *baritone*****Songs of Travel**

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

**Let Beauty Awake****In Dreams****Whither Must I Wander**Mark Bilyeu, *piano*

**Adam Ward '22** is a Gustavus senior majoring in physics with computer science and mathematics minors. Originally from Minnetonka, Minnesota, Adam has been studying voice for almost 10 years now and has loved every minute of it. Prior to his time at Gustavus, he studied under former Dale Warland Singer, Jerome Elsbernd, and performed in both his high school's various choral groups and its frequent musicals. Since coming to Gustavus, Adam sang in the Gustavus Choir since his freshman year under the direction of Greg Aune and Brandon Dean, and is now studying voice with David Kozisek.

**Program Notes:** *Songs of Travel*, written by Ralph Vaughan Williams between 1901 and 1904, stands simultaneously as his first true foray into the world of songwriting and as one of the foremost song cycles to have ever been produced. With text taken from a Robert Louis Stevenson's novel of the same name, *Songs of Travel* tells the story of a tired, yet resolute traveler: their love, their suffering and ultimately their acceptance of both. Originally performed as a set of eight songs in 1904, publishers originally refused to print the entire cycle and even excluded *Whither Must I Wander* from the eventual split printing. Over 50 years after its first performance, a final, ninth song was found among his papers and published by his spouse, Ursula Vaughan Williams, completing the cycle as it is known today.

## BRANDON GUENTHER '22, *clarinet*

### *Hommage á Béla Bárto*k

Béla Kovács (1937-2021)

### *Hommage à Manuel de Falla*

**Brandon Guenther '22** is a senior instrumental music education major. He played Eb and Bb clarinet for the Gustavus Wind Orchestra and Gustavus Chamber Winds. Additive music experiences included singing with the Choir of Christ Chapel, playing clarinet in the Gustavus Symphony Orchestra and a Jazz Combo. Brandon has received conducting experience with the Gustavus Wind Orchestra and Kasson-Mantorville High School. He has coached middle to high school woodwind and percussion players, including with the Owatonna High School Marching Band and SE Minnesota Honor Band Grades 5-8. Outside of Brandon's work life, he enjoys playing soccer and basketball, running, traveling, hiking, and having time to relax. He is rooted in family and loves spending time with his parents, four siblings, four nieces, and his new fiancé.

**Program Notes:** Béla Bárto was a prolific and impactful Hungarian composer to the world of music in the 20th century. He had a specific niche in understanding and studying the development of folk music as well as a respect for Hungarian history. Through these experiences, Bárto went on to help found comparative music, or what is modernly known as ethnomusicology.

*Hommage á Béla Bárto*k begins with a soft and whispering output that mirrors the first measure by mirroring inversions to create a unique pitch class set that stays true to the style of Bárto. The piece quickly sets off after with brisk passages and sudden jumps and lifts. Similar to the first pitch class set in the piece, the faster moving passages still sustain this inverted feel which makes the audience listen for tonality that exists in moments where tonality may be hard to find. In the middle of the piece, there is a section with a glissando and has clear reference to the renowned jazz clarinetist Benny Goodman (1909-1986). The piece ends with a slow, yet brewing, repetitive scalar motion that accelerates and grows to the finale of the piece.

*Hommage à M. De Falla* is an exciting, visceral piece that was composed in the style of a traditional Spanish dance known as flamenco. Manuel De Falla (1876-1946) was arguably the most famous composer in Spanish history and lived in Madrid, Paris, and finally Argentina after the Spanish civil war in 1939. This work is especially well-written for unaccompanied clarinet because Kovács made the clarinet sound like several different instruments, often at the same time. For example, in the beginning, the clarinet sounds like trumpets playing a fanfare or horns at the start of a hunt. During the fast section, the clarinet sounds much like Spanish guitar strumming major and minor chords and fingerpicking between two strings.

**ANYA MENK '22, mezzo-soprano and piano****Twisted**

Wardell Gray (1921-1955)

lyrics by Annie Ross (1930-2020)

Ben Schwartz '22, drums | Tim Hirsch '22, bass

**Anya Menk '22** is a senior vocal and instrumental music education major with honors in composition from Le Center, Minnesota. She is a member of the Gustavus Wind Orchestra, where she serves as president and co-section leader for the flute section. Anya is also a member of the Gustavus Choir, and the vocalist and pianist for the Gustavus Jazz Band where she serves as the section leader for the rhythm section. She also plays in the New Orleans and Kansas City jazz combos. Anya is a Bjarling scholar and studies voice with Dr. Patricia Snapp and jazz piano with Dr. Masa Ishikawa. This fall, she will student teach in Cleveland, Minnesota. Following student teaching, Anya plans to attend graduate school to study jazz voice.

**Program Notes:** *Twisted* is 1952 vocalise song with lyrics by jazz vocalist Annie Ross. The lyrics are set to a tenor saxophone solo improvised by Wardell Gray, the composer of the original instrumental chart. This tune is so fun to perform because of all of these fast, lyricized vocalise lines throughout the entirety of the head! *Twisted* utilizes a chord progression that is almost identical to a typical 12-bar blues progression; it just has a couple chord substitutions and a few extended phrases. This tune will feature the entire trio.

# HONORS DAY CERTIFICATES

## Senior Honors Day Recital Participants

Brandon P. Guenther

Isabella A. La Marca

Jessica E. Logue

Elijah M. McMahon

Anya M. Menk

Peter S. Neuman

Lauren E. Russell

Jill M. Shoen

Adam J. Ward

## Concerto & Aria Competition Winners

Jennifer L. Golding, *flute*

Natalie K. Jahnsen, *violin*

Jack H. Saetveit, *violin*

## Pi Kappa Lambda Music Honor Society

Elijah M. McMahon, *inductee*

Anya M. Menk, *inductee*

Lauren E. Russell, *inductee*

## Music for Peace Composition Prize

2021-22

Jenna C. Kavouras

## GWO Senior Soloists/Conductors

Tyler J. DelMain, *conductor*

Brandon P. Guenther, *conductor*

Kyle A. Langer, *trombone*

Jonathan D. Listul, *conductor*

Jessica E. Logue, *bass clarinet*

Maddi A. McChesney, *conductor*

Anya M. Menk, *voice and piano*

## Gustavus Choir Senior Conductors

Isabella A. La Marca

Elijah M. McMahon

Peter S. Neuman

## Friends of Music

Gustavus Friends of Music support, celebrate, and advance student and faculty musicians of the College. Our mission is to ensure the strong tradition of music excellence at Gustavus and provide opportunities for all students who want to express themselves through music. We invite you to become a Friends of Music member. You may do so at [gustavus.edu/giving/friendsofmusic](http://gustavus.edu/giving/friendsofmusic).

GUSTAVUS   
GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE