

Degree Recital

Zihao Liu, tenor

Diana Borshcheva, piano

Sunday, May 6th at 7:00 PM

László Z. Bitó '60 Conservatory Building

A Simple Song, from *Mass*

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

Venezia

Reynaldo Hanh (1874-1947)

Sopra l'acqua indormenzada

La Barcheta

L'avvertimento

La Biondina in Gondoleta

Che peca!

La Primavera

Trois Mélodies

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

Pourquoi?

Le sourire

La fiancée perdue

from *Winter Words*, op.52

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

At day-close in November

The choirmaster's burial (or, 'The tenor man's story')

Before life and after

~Intermission~

If I Loved You, from *Carousel*

Richard Rodgers (1902-1979)

Francesca Lionetta, soprano

怀念曲 (The Song of Cherishing)

黄永熙 Yongxi Huang (1917-2003)

C'est ainsi que tu es, from *Métamorphoses*

Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)

Als die alte Mutter, from *Zigeunermelodien*

Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)

莫尼山 (The Mountains of Mourne)

Massy (born.1980)

青玉案*元夕 (The Middle of January)

敖昌群 Changqun Ao (born.1950)

Ein Traum, from *Sechs Lieder*, op. 48

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

Artist Biographies

Chinese tenor **Zihao Liu** is an artist of exceptional vocal agility and communicative musicianship. Mr. Liu's recent solo appearances include Lord Tolloller in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe*, led by James Bagwell; tenor soloist in Beethoven's 9th Symphony with the Bard Conservatory Orchestra; the Schoolmaster in Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*, a production of the Graduate Vocal Arts Program at Bard Conservatory, directed by Doug Fitch; tenor soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with The Orchestra Now, conducted by Leon Botstein; and the Nurse in Monteverdi's opera *L'incoronazione di Poppea* at the Manhattan School of Music. In addition Mr. Liu has performed several solo recitals in the United States and China. His opera scene work includes Nemorino in *L'elisir d'amore*, Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte*, and Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*. In the summer of 2022, he was named a Festival Team artist in the Cleveland Art Song Festival along with pianist partner Diana Borshcheva. In 2020, he was a participant in the Chautauqua Opera Conservatory, studying with Marlena Malas. Mr. Liu has performed at Carnegie Hall, Symphony Space, the Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts, Suzhou Culture and Arts Centre, and the Chongqing Grand Theatre. Mr. Liu holds a Bachelor of Music in voice from the Manhattan School of Music, where he studied with Marlena Malas, and is currently pursuing his master's degree at the Graduate Vocal Arts Program of the Bard College Conservatory of Music under the tutelage of Richard Cox. More information at www.zihao-liu.com.

Soprano **Francesca Lionetta** is passionate about performance and education. Her performance highlights include operatic, oratorio, and concert work, which capture her love for singing in different styles from Baroque to contemporary to cabaret. This summer she will perform at SongFest in the Professional Program, at Toronto Summer Music Festival as an Art of Song Fellow, and at Source Song Festival. Recent performances include recital collaborations with Kayo Iwama in Schumann's *Frauenliebe und -leben* as part of Bard's Kurtág Festival, and with Bard colleagues in a fundraiser for Hudson, NY non-profit Perfect Ten entitled *she is//we are*; and Kurtág's *Messages of the Late Miss R.V. Trousova (Part 1)* as part of Bard's 2023 Kurtág Festival. Previously, she performed the roles of Grasshopper and Innkeeper in Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen* at Bard, and *Amore* in Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* at Eastman. Scene work includes Ännchen in *Der Freischütz*, Susanna in *Le nozze di Figaro*, and Mireille in *Mireille* at Bard. Concert highlights include Handel's *Messiah* (excerpts) with The Orchestra Now, and Bach's "Herr Gott, dich loben alle wir" in Eastman's Bach Cantata Series. Francesca is the founder of *What is Opera, Anyway?*, a non-profit opera education program. She is a graduate of Eastman School of Music (BM, Arts Leadership 2020) and will graduate from Bard's Graduate Vocal Arts Program with her master's in 2023. francescalionetta.com

Praised for her beautiful deep sound and immense artistry, Russian-born American pianist **Diana Borshcheva**'s passions lie in both solo and collaborative repertoire. As a solo pianist Ms. Borshcheva won several competitions in Russia and Europe, including the International Piano Competition in Italy (Grand Prix) and the International Piano Competition in Lithuania (First Award). Ms. Borshcheva has been working with singers and instrumentalists for over 15 years. In the summer of 2019, Ms. Borshcheva worked as a pianist and vocal coach in Salzburg, Austria. In the spring of 2021, Ms. Borshcheva started a series of classical music concerts in Red Hook, NY. Music in Red Hook was created to support local artists after a hard period of Covid lockdown, when the majority of musicians lost any opportunity to perform. In September 2021 Ms. Borshcheva together with a group of like-minded colleagues launched Music in Red Hook Cultural Institution, the place that provides music lessons and open lectures to enrich cultural life

of the community. Last summer Ms. Borshcheva was performing at the Tanglewood Music Festival, as well as working as a vocal coach for the production of La Boheme in Steamboat Springs, CO.