

Lonely's Antonym

Taylor Mackenzie Adams, *soprano*
Pei-Hsuan Shen, *piano*

Sunday, May 5, 2024, 5pm
Bard Conservatory Performance Space

The Creation (2021)

Dave Ragland
James Weldon Johnson

Bagă doamne luna-n nor
Cântă puiul cucului
Mult mă-ntreabă inima

Tiberiu Brediceanu (1877-1968)

Love's Apotheosis (1999)

Richard Thompson
Paul Laurence Dunbar

Theology (1973)

Betty Jackson King (1928-1994)
Dunbar

Because (unknown comp. date)

Florence Price (1887-1953)
Dunbar

Why Fades a Dream (1947)

Irene Britton Smith (1907-1999)
Dunbar

Pause

Das Rot (1990)

Wolfgang Rihm
Karoline von Günderrode

Hochrot
Ist alles stumm und leer
Des Knaben Morgengruß
Des Knaben Abendgruß
An Kreuzer
Liebst du das Dunkel

Pause

Come, Sweet Death

J.S. Bach (1685-1750) arr. Rhonda Sandberg

With VAP '24, Collaborative Piano Fellows, Technicolor Stew

Hush, Somebody's Calling My Name
High Note

Spiritual arr. Hayla Alawi w/ Taylor Adams
Opb. Sigrid arr. Alawi

With Technicolor Stew, vocal ensemble

Writer and soprano **Taylor Mackenzie Adams** believes everyone deserves an education that allows them to pursue their passions and secure their livelihoods. She hopes to help increase the accessibility of training and opportunities for persons of all backgrounds within music academia through thoughtful administration and performance.

Taylor's musical journey began in choral spaces, and she continues to seek out the choral community. She was a 2023 Vocal Fellow at the Grant Park Music Festival in Chicago. She has sung in the Detroit-housed Sphinx Organization's vocal ensemble, EXIGENCE, which highlights Black and LatinX artists and served as education manager for Hear Us, Hear Them Ensemble, a Cincinnati-based ensemble devoted to diversifying the choral canon.

As a soloist, Taylor also enjoys the world of oratorio and sacred music, recently appearing with the Ars Choralis of Woodstock, NY for Buxtehude and Bach's Magnificat. Taylor has broad recital experience, including multiple appearances on Ann Arbor's Concert4aCause series. She is especially a lover of American song, with extensive experience singing Black American songs and spirituals.

Currently living in the Hudson Valley, Taylor is soon to be a 2024 graduate of the Vocal Arts Program at Bard College Conservatory of Music, where she studies with Lucy Fitz Gibbon. She also studied with Richard Cox. While at school, she performed a diverse set of repertoire. Highlights include singing Beethoven's Ninth Symphony and Diane in *Orphée aux enfers* with the Bard Conservatory Orchestra.

Previously, Taylor studied at the University of Michigan with Caroline Helton, where she received a B.Mus. in Voice Performance and B.A. in Cognitive Science.

Not only does she love to sing the stories of others, Taylor has her own stories to tell and is a published fiction writer. Her praised piece, "Five Chapters, In Black" can be found in the Michigan Quarterly Review.

Pianist **Pei-Hsuan Shen** is currently a first-year collaborative piano fellow at Bard College Conservatory of Music. She is originally from New Taipei City, Taiwan. While studying music, she discovered her passion for collaborative piano and decided to pursue a career as a collaborative pianist. She was a graduate diploma student at New England Conservatory, where she studied with Jonathan Feldman and Cameron Stowe. In 2018, She attended Bard College's APS program on a full scholarship, studying with Frank Corliss. Previously, she earned both her bachelor's degree in piano performance and master's degree in collaborative piano at National Taiwan Normal University.

Pei-Hsuan expressed her strong enthusiasm for working with instrumentalists and attended Music Academy of the West in 2019 and 2022 as a collaborative piano fellow. As a solo pianist, she also participated in the 23rd Annual Music Festival at Walnut Hill in 2014.

Technicolor Stew is a project-based, eight-person vocal ensemble that believes in giving silly ideas serious thought and that the human voice belongs in every genre. The group was formed in 2022 by Hayla Alawi and Taylor Adams during a road trip where they realized they missed the community of music-making, so why not start making music with their community?

The group believes in no barriers to entry for meaningful vocal performance, and include members who range from professional singers to choir kids grown up to just a guy who googled "mouth beats" on Youtube one time. They like niche projects that reflect the diverse individual background, professional training, and weird hyperfixations of the group members. Currently, they're working on a pop acapella cover of the soundtrack from a television adaptation (Hayla's favorite) of a video game (Derek's favorite). The members are:

Taylor—singer, writer, and professional gossip in Red Hook, NY.
Hayla—publicist, arranger, and video essay consumer in Ann Arbor, MI.
Desirae—nanny, baker, and Snapchat story artist in Ann Arbor, MI.
Derek—software engineer, computer gamer, and activity zone goer in Chicago, IL.
Peter—server, performer, and volleyball owner in Chicago, IL.
Gabriel—software engineer, trapeze artist/instructor, and cat dad in Chicago, IL.
Michael—singer, educator, and forest frolicker in Boston, MA and Sacramento, CA.
Dhanuj—AI researcher, ecologist, and designated Domino's orderer in Raleigh, NC.

The **Graduate Vocal Arts Program** is a unique master of music program in vocal arts. Created to prepare the young singer for the special challenges of pursuing a professional life in music in the 21st century, this two-year MM degree program balances a respect for established repertory and expressive techniques with the flexibility and curiosity needed to keep abreast of evolving musical ideas. Students work on operatic, art song, chamber music, and new music repertoire throughout the coursework of the program. Operatic repertoire is studied and performed throughout the curriculum and in fully staged productions at the Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts. The program also includes a strong practical component, with seminars and classes on career skills led by some of the leading figures in arts management and administration.

The program is directed by Stephanie Blythe and Kayo Iwama. The class of 2024 consists of Taylor Mackenzie Adams, Colton Cook, Emily Finke, Abbeagael Greene, Sarah Nalty, and Jun Mo Yang.

The **Postgraduate Collaborative Piano Fellowship** is a two-year program designed to give performance experience to pianists who are passionate about collaborative work. The fellowship provides an organic transition between school and the professional musical world, and is open to students who have already completed a degree in collaborative piano as well as those who have completed a master's degree in piano performance.

The program is directed by Erika Switzer. 2023-2024 fellows include Bat-Erdene Batbileg, Ahra Oh, Nomin Samdan, Viktoria Sarkadi, Pei-Hsuan Shen, and Gabriele Zemaityte.