



Bard College Conservatory of Music

Celebrating 20 Years of Music, Vision, and Excellence

Graduate Degree Recital

Four Play

Michael Adams, *soprano*
Lara Saldanha, *piano*

Saturday, April 25, 2026, at 2:00pm
László Z. Bitó '60 Conservatory Building, Performance Space

Woman 1

<i>Italienisches Liederbuch</i>	Joseph Marx
IV. Am Brunnen	(1882-1964)
I. Liebe (Ich will nur Ihn!)	
Eide, so die Liebe schwur, from <i>Spanisches Liederbuch</i> , no. 10	Hugo Wolf
	(1860-1903)
Ach, wende diesen Blick, from <i>8 Lieder und Gesänge</i> , op. 57, no. 4	Johannes Brahms
	(1883-1897)
Puisque l'aube grandit, from <i>La bonne chanson</i> , op. 61, no. 2	Gabriel Fauré
	(1845-1924)

Woman 2

<i>Cinque Mélodies 'de Venise'</i>	Gabriel Fauré
Mandoline	
En sourdine	
Green	
À Clymène	
C'est l'extase langoureuse	
Among the Fuchsias, from <i>Five Songs of Laurence Hope</i> (1915)	H.T. Burleigh
	(1866-1949)

Woman 3

<i>Mirabai Songs</i> (1982)	John Harbison
It's True, I Went to the Market	(b. 1938)
All I was Doing was Breathing	
Why Mira Can't Go Back to Her Old House	
Where Did You Go?	
The Clouds	
Don't Go, Don't Go	
Thou Art the Soul of a Summer's Day (1997)	Adolphus Hailstork
	(b. 1941)

continued...

Woman 4

Ich hab' in Penna einen Liebsten wohnen, from *Italienisches Liederbuch*

Hugo Wolf

So Perverse (1905)

Frank Bridge
(1879-1941)

Les Illuminations

IIIb. Antique

VIII. Parade

IX. Départ

Benjamin Britten
(1913-1976)

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Soprano **Michael Adams** is a rising talent in the operatic and concert world, currently pursuing her Master's in Vocal Performance at the Bard College Conservatory under the mentorship of Edith Bers. Michael has already made notable strides across both classical and contemporary stages. Recently she performed the role of Amelia in Menotti's *Amelia al Ballo* at Bard. Last year she was a featured soloist with the Sullivan County Community Chorus in Mozart's *Requiem* and Dan Forrest's *The Breath of Life* and performed alongside colleagues and mentors from Bard in the Gerda Lissner Foundation's Young Artist Showcase. Michael is expected to graduate this May.

A passionate advocate for representation in classical music, Michael is committed to centering the works of Black composers in her recital programming, using performance as a platform to celebrate and elevate historically marginalized voices. In recognition of her artistry, Michael was a prizewinner in the 2024 National Association of Negro Musicians Young Artist Competition in Los Angeles. In 2024 she appeared in Bard's "Broadway Celebration" with The Orchestra Now, as well as "Come out of the Cold: A Winter Cabaret".

Michael was also a member of the ensemble in the acclaimed world premiere of *Omar* at the Spoleto Festival and its subsequent production in Chapel Hill. Michael's operatic credits include ensemble performances with Greensboro Opera in *Porgy and Bess*, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, and *La Bohème*. With the University of North Carolina Greensboro Opera Theatre, she took on leading roles such as the Mother in *Allison's Voice* (2020), Esmeralda in *The Bartered Bride* (2021), Dido in *Dido and Aeneas* (2023), and the title role in *Suor Angelica* (2024).

Pianist **Lara Saldanha** is equally at home as a soloist and collaborator in the worlds of new music, standard repertoire, and historical performance. New music highlights include appearances with Metropolis Ensemble, Sandbox Percussion, Chelsea Symphony, Leschetizky Association, Mannes American Contemporary Ensemble, and Round Top Festival. Standard repertoire highlights include concerts at Princeton Sound Kitchen, Valley Cottage Young Masters Series, Rites of Spring Festival, Music Iowa City, Icicle Creek, National Federation of Music Clubs, Weill Hall, Alice Tully Hall, and Bohemian National Hall. Lara debuted in India, her country of origin, at the National Center of Performing Arts in Mumbai, Kala Academy in Goa, and Pune Music Society in 2017. As a historical performer, Lara performed with Kollektive 366 in Beethoven's Triple Concerto in 2024, Virginia Baroque Academy, and Mannes Baroque. Lara is currently a collaborative piano fellow at Bard Conservatory, having completed her DMA in Piano Performance at Stony Brook University, PDPL and MM at Mannes, and BA/BM at Northwestern University, and high school diploma at the International School of Geneva and Geneva Conservatory, Switzerland. Lara is deeply grateful for the guidance of her past teachers, including Christina Dahl, Vladimir Valjarevic, Alan Chow, Serguei Milstein, Neya Korsantia, and Inna Terekhov. Lara is a committed educator, having held assistantships at Mannes and Stony Brook, and with a thriving private studio.