

SERIES CONCERT
Virtuoso

NICOLE ASEL | MEZZO SOPRANO

TIM BURNS | PIANO

WITH

MICHELLE STANLEY | FLUTE

OCT. 26, 2023 | 7:30 P.M.

ORGAN RECITAL HALL



DR. NICOLE ASEL, MEZZO SOPRANO | DR. TIM BURNS, PIANO

OCTOBER 26, 2023 | 7:30 PM | ORGAN RECITAL HALL

Two Remembrances

André Previn (1929-2019)

A Love Song

Lyric

Michelle Stanley, alto flute

Trois Chanson de Bilitis

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

Le flûte de Pan

La Chevalure

Le tombes de Nâïades

SELECTION OF THREE (TO BE VOTED ON AT RECITAL: FOLLOW LINK TO VOTE)

<https://forms.gle/y5YRRa4QHLXTpXPA>

Se Tu M'ami

Alessandro Parisotti (1853-1913)

A swinging ode to non-monogamy

Gia il Sole dal Gange

Alessandro Scarlatti (1660-1725)

feverish celebration of nature

Il mio bel foco... Quella fiamma

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

obsessively devoted love song with a flirty dance-like vibe

Amarilli mia bella

Giulio Caccini (1551-1618)

beautifully slow, earnest declaration of love

O del mio dolce ardor

Christoph Willibald Gluck (1714-1787)

angsty, driving, and hopeful about reuniting with a loved one

INTERMISSION

Selections from Songs for Lulu

Rufus Wainwright (b. 1973)

Who are you New York?

Sad With What I Have

Martha

Give Me What I Want

What Would I Ever Do With A Rose

Zebulon

Beauty and Love (Andrew Young)

Robert Livingston Aldridge (b. 1954)

A Birthday (Christina Rosetti)

Please hold your applause until after each set or collection of pieces.

Please wait to enter or exit until between sets of music.

TRANSLATIONS

Trois Chanson de Bilitis (Three Songs of Bilitis)

Claude Debussy

Translations by Peter Low

Le flûte de Pan

The Pan-pipes

For the festival of Hyacinthus
he gave me a syrinx, a set of pipes made
from well-cut reeds joined
with the white wax
that is sweet to my lips like honey.

He is teaching me to play, as I sit on his knees;
but I tremble a little.
He plays it after me, so softly
that I can scarcely hear it.

We are so close that we have
nothing to say to one another;
but our songs want to converse,
and our mouths are joined
as they take turns on the pipes.

It is late:
here comes the chant of the green frogs,
which begins at dusk.
My mother will never believe
I spent so long
searching for my lost waistband.

La Chevalure

The Hair

He told me: "Last night I had a dream.

Your hair was around my neck,
it was like a black necklace
round my nape and on my chest.

"I was stroking your hair, and it was my own;
thus the same tresses joined us forever,
with our mouths touching,
just as two laurels often have only one root.

"And gradually I sensed,
since our limbs were so entwined,
that I was becoming you
and you were entering me like my dream."

When he'd finished,
he gently put his hands on my shoulders,
and gazed at me so tenderly
that I lowered my eyes, quivering.

Le tombes de Naïades

The Tomb of the Water Nymphs

I was walking along in the frost-covered woods;
in front of my mouth
my hair blossomed in tiny icicles,
and my sandals were heavy
with muddy caked snow.

He asked: "What are you looking for?"
"I'm following the tracks of the satyr -
his little cloven hoofprints alternate
like holes in a white cloak."
He said: "The satyrs are dead.

“The satyrs are dead, and the nymphs too.
In thirty years there has not been such a terrible winter.
That’s the trail of a he-goat.
But let’s pause here, where their tomb is.”

With his hoe he broke the ice
of the spring where the water-nymphs used to laugh.
There he was, picking up large cold slabs of ice,
lifting them toward the pale sky,
and peering through them.

Se tu m’ami (translation By Emily Ezust)

If you love me
If you love me, if you sigh
Only for me, dear shepherd,
I am sorrowful for your sufferings;
yet I delight in your love.

But if you think that
I must in return love only you,
Little shepherd, you are subject
To deceiving yourself easily.

Gia il Sole dal Gange (translation By Emily Ezust)

Already, from over the Ganges, the sun
Sparkles more brightly
And dries every drop
of the dawn, which weeps.

With the gilded ray
It adorns each blade of grass;
And the stars of the sky
It paints in the field.

Il mio bel foco... Quella famma (translation By Emily Ezust)

My fire of love,
however far
or near I might be,
never changing,

will always be burning
for you, dear eyes.

That flame which kindled me
is so pleased with my soul
that it never dies.
And if fate entrusts me to you,
lovely rays of my beloved sun,
my soul will never be able
to long for any other light.

Amarilli mia bella (translation by Emily Ezust)

Amaryllis, my lovely one,
do you not believe, o my heart's sweet desire,
That you are my love?
Believe it thus: and if fear assails you,
Doubt not its truth.¹
Open my breast and see written on my heart:
Amaryllis, Amaryllis, Amaryllis,
Is my beloved.

O del mio dolce ardor (translation by Emily Ezust)

Oh, desired object
Of my sweet ardor,
The air which you breathe,
At last I breathe.

Wherever I turn my glance
Your lovely features
Paint love for me:
My thoughts imagine
The most happy hopes,
And in the longing which
Fills my bosom
I seek you, I call you, I hope, and I sigh.

BIOGRAPHIES

Mezzo-soprano, **NICOLE ASEL**, serves as Associate Professor of Voice at Colorado State University where she teaches Voice, Art Song Literature, Freshman Voice Studio, and Vocal Pedagogy. A finalist in the 2010 Rocky Mountain Regional Metropolitan Opera Council Auditions, Nicole is a devoted operatic performer and recitalist who has a passion for new American opera and art song and has been active in creating and promoting new works. She has collaborated with some of today's most accomplished living composers including Mark Adamo, Kirke Meachem, Robert Livingston Aldridge, Hershel Garfein, Daniel Kellogg, and Robert Spillman. Her recording of Robert Livingston Aldridge's *Love Songs* with pianist Robert Spillman is available on all streaming platforms under the Centaur label. She has sung with Opera Carolina, Central City Opera, Opera Fort Collins, Greensboro Opera, Long Leaf Opera, The Martina Arroyo Foundation and Colorado Light Opera and with the Piccolo Festival del Friuli Venezia Giulia in Friuli, Italy.

Recent performances include mezzo-soprano soloist in Mahler's *Third Symphony* with the Colorado State University Symphony Orchestra, alto soloist in Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* with the Fort Collins Symphony, mezzo-soprano soloist in Händel's *Messiah* with Pro Musica Chamber Ensemble and Larimer Chorale, Berlioz's *Les nuits d'été* with the Sam Houston State University Symphony Orchestra, and Rufus Wainwright's *Songs for Lulu* in Vancouver, BC. She is also working on an innovative new film, *The Baby Book Project*, featuring Lauren Spavelko's song cycle *Baby Book* with Art Song Colorado, more can be found on Art Song Colorado's website: <https://artsongcoloradodonations.square.site/baby-book-project>

An advocate of body wellness in the voice studio, Dr. Asel is passionate about bringing her experience with yoga, body mapping, and the Alexander technique, as well as scholarship in voice pedagogy into her teaching. She is an active member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) organization where her students have been selected as finalists and won in local and national competitions. Her students have gone on to receive master's degrees in voice performance, choral conducting, and opera direction. Dr. Asel also enjoys her work as a guest adjudicator and clinician for vocal competitions.

She was previously a faculty member at the University of Texas Brownsville and The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley where she taught applied voice, diction, and directed the award-winning opera company. She holds a D.M.A. in Voice Performance and Pedagogy from The University of Colorado at Boulder, a M.M. from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and a B.M. from Ithaca College.

Pianist **TIMOTHY BURNS** is a versatile performer and collaborator, with significant instrumental, vocal, and choral accompanying experience. He holds degrees in piano performance, music theory pedagogy, and collaborative piano from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, studying with Carol Schanely-Cahn, David Allen Wehr, and Jean Barr. Currently, Dr. Burns serves as supervisor of piano accompanying and coordinator of piano proficiency at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, where he frequently collaborates with faculty, guest artists, and students.

Dr. Burns has performed throughout the United States and Canada. He has served as staff accompanist for the 2010 King Award Competition, the 2012 International Viola Congress, the 2013 International Society of Bassists Competition and Conference, the 2017 and 2019 International Horn Competition of America, and the 2019 International Keyboard Odyssiad, U.S.A. Recent performances include concert tours with saxophonist Peter Sommer, with clarinetist Wesley Ferreira, and as trio member with violinist John Michael Vaida and cellist Theodore Buchholz. Other major performances include the world premiere of James David's *Swing Landscapes* (2018) for Piano and Wind Orchestra, duo performances with clarinetist Wesley Ferreira at the 2016 ClarinetFest International Conference, and a 2015 chamber music performance on the Frick Collection's "Salon Evening" concert series in New York City with members of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.

As an avid supporter for new and current music, Dr. Burns has performed works by current composers such as Mari Esabel Valverde, Margaret Brouwer, Mathjis van Dijk, Baljinder Sekhon, and James M. David. Past summer residences have included the New York State Summer School of the Arts Choral Studies Program in Fredonia, New York, the Performing Arts Institute at the Wyoming Seminary near Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, the Eastman School of Music's "Summer@Eastman" program in Rochester, New York, the Lift Clarinet Academy in Fort Collins, Colorado, and the Just Chamber Music program in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Dr. Burns currently resides in Broomfield, Colorado with his wife and collaborative pianist, Suyeon Kim, and his six-year old son, Stephen.

Michelle Batty Stanley is Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies for the College of Liberal Arts and Professor of Music (flute) at Colorado State University. She currently teaches graduate students in flute for the School of Music, Theatre and Dance in addition to her work for the College of Liberal Arts.

Michelle is a performer of solo, chamber and orchestral music and has been praised for her “fine breath control and offers subtlety in playing and a strong sense of the long, lyrical lines.” She is a regular international artist and has enjoyed giving performances and masterclasses throughout the U.S., Russia, Japan, China, France, England, Scotland, Italy, Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary, and Russia. She has been on the faculty of the Interharmony Music Festival in Italy for several seasons.

Michelle is a regular performer in the Colorado Symphony Orchestra, and is principal flute for the Pro Musica chamber orchestra and the Colorado Bach Ensemble and Festival. She was the second flutist/piccolo player with the Colorado Ballet Orchestra from 2008-2013. She has presented and performed for the National Flute Convention (2022, 2021, 2020, 2019 in Salt Lake City, 2018 in Orlando, 2017 in Minneapolis, 2016 in San Diego, 2012 in Las Vegas, 1999 in Atlanta), College Music Society Regional and National Conferences, Colorado Music Educators Association conference (2010, 2013, 2018, 2019), and Music Teachers National Association State and National conferences. She has performed at the Berkeley Early Music Festival, and spent five seasons as the second flutist with the Colorado Music Festival orchestra.

She has commissioned and premiered more than 30 works from composers throughout the United States. Her first CD of newly commissioned chamber music was released by Centaur Records in 2006 and her second recording of French flute music was released by Navona records in 2018. Michelle is the flutist in Quatra Duo, a flute and guitar duo released an album contemporary flute and guitar which was released by Navona records in September of 2020.

In addition to her active performing career, Dr. Stanley is the author of an online music appreciation textbook published by Great River Technologies called *Music Appreciation: Successful Listening in All Music*. This text is used at CSU for more than 3,000 students each year.

A strong advocate for the arts, Dr. Stanley was one of the founding creators of the LEAP Institute at Colorado State University. LEAP (Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Advocacy and the Public) is an interdisciplinary program that offers an undergraduate minor and a master’s degree in arts management where she was Director from 2018-2023. Michelle was also program head for the Music Department within the School of Music, Theatre and Dance for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Michelle received a M.M. and D.M.A. in flute performance from the University of Colorado at Boulder and received a B.A. in Music from the University of New Hampshire. She also attended Trinity College of Music in London where she studied with Anne Cherry.

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