

Iowa State University Department of Music & Theatre
The Margaret Zach International Women Composers Library,
and polytekton.com present a Concert in the
22nd International Festival of Women Composers



Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall, March 23, 2018 - 7:30pm
20th-21st century American Composers and Pulitzer prize-winning Poets

Peeling Fire for Carillon.....Libby Larsen
Sarah Reger, carillon

Air from Suite No. 1 for Organ.....Florence B. Price
Miriam Zach, organ

Twelve Chairs (poetry by Rita Dove).....Jodi Goble

First Juror
Second Juror
Third Juror
Fourth Juror
Fifth Juror
Sixth Juror
Seventh Juror
Eighth Juror
Ninth Juror
Tenth Juror
Eleventh Juror
Twelfth Juror
The Alternate

Chad Sonka, baritone & Jodi Goble, piano

Night Sun Journey.....Meg Bowles
Lucas Yoakam, trumpet

Songs from *Fünf Lieder*.....Alma Mahler
Bei dir ist es traut (poetry by Rainer Maria Rilke)
Ich wandle unter Blumen (poetry by Heinrich Heine)
David Bowles Edwards, tenor & Jodi Goble, piano

Song Cycle (poetry by Mary Oliver).....Lori Laitman
I – Last night the rain spoke to me
II – Blue iris
III - Early Snow

Beth Deutmeyer, soprano & Jodi Goble, piano

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Welcome to today's program that features music created and performed by Iowa State University Department of Music and Theatre faculty, students, and alumni. For information about and to participate in the annual International Festivals of Women Composers that are crossroads for networking among women composers and their advocates, please go to www.iwclub.org or contact **Dr. Miriam Zach** (miriamzach@gmail.com). In 1997 she founded and became Creative Director of the International Festivals of Women Composers and the Margaret Zach International Women Composers Library in Gainesville, Florida. She recorded the CD *Hidden Treasures: 300 Years of Organ Music by Women Composers* (1998) in Princeton University Chapel, can be heard on *Pipedreams* National Public Radio (2007, 2010, 2013), and published the book *For the Birds: Women Composers Music History Speller* (2015, 2nd edition). This year's 22nd Festival is the second one to take place at Iowa State University.

COMPOSERS, POETS, SONG TEXTS, & PERFORMERS

American composer **Libby Larsen** (b.1950) co-founded the non-profit American Composers Forum to assist and promote composers of contemporary classical music. Best known for her vocal works filled with contemporary American spirit, Larsen has created more than 500 compositions of every genre and recorded over fifty CDs. Full of many intertwining melodies, *Pealing Fire* opens with bells pealing, then transitions to the first appearance of the medieval chant *Veni Creator Spiritus*. The piece continues imitating the ringing of church bells while the chant occasionally appears in the middle and low voices, and concludes with the upper voices floating upwards and disappearing. *Pealing Fire* (2004) was commissioned by the John Franco Composition Fund of The Guild of Carillonneurs in North America.

Sarah Reger is a Sophomore in Accounting and Music minor at Iowa State University. She is an Ames native, and glad to be going to college in her hometown. At ISU she is a carillon student of Professor Tin-Shi Tam, treasurer of the Student Carillonneur Leadership Council, and member of Lighthouse Campus Fellowship.

Florence B. Price (1887-1953) was a composer, organist, and pianist from Little Rock, Arkansas who was the first African-American female composer to have her *Symphony No. 1* premiered in 1933 by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. She graduated from the New England Conservatory in 1906 then directed the music department of Clark College in Atlanta. In 1927 she moved to Chicago where she taught music, played organ for silent films, and composed piano, vocal, chamber, and organ works. Please refer to a recent article: www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/02/05/the-rediscovery-of-florence-price

Miriam Zach, Ph.D. is a musicologist, organist, harpsichordist, pianist, author, professor, and Festival Founder/Creative Director (www.iwclub.org). In 2016 she was honored to be named *Charles and Mary Sukup Endowed Artist in Organ*. Since August 2016 at ISU she has been teaching organ, harpsichord, music history, and honors music and health courses at Iowa State University continuing work she did at the University of Florida (1996-2016). She also has been serving as Director of Music-Organist at St. John's Episcopal Church in Ames, and continuing as a member of the Alachua Consort (www.alachuaconsort.com) that specializes in Baroque music. Since September 2017 she has researched and performed the following lecture-recitals of Italian, French, German, and Czech organ music at ISU: *Roma Suono*, *Terpsichore: Danses pour l'orgue et clavecin*, *Luther als Knoten*, and *Czech This!* After completing degrees at Northwestern University and the University of Chicago, she taught piano in Germany at the *Universität Bielefeld*, studied organ with Jobst-Hermann Koch, sang in the *Kantorei St. Nicolai* in Lemgo, and was organist for the British Army of the Rhine-Church of England. She has toured Europe with her husband Dr. Mikesch Muecke, associate professor of architecture at Iowa State University, with whom she edited the book *Resonance: Essays on the Intersection of Music and Architecture* (2007), taught in Rome, Italy (Spring 2011), *Sound and Space in Renaissance Venice* (Fall 2013) at UF, and teaches *Architecture and Music* courses at Iowa State University. She was named University of Florida Professor of the Year 2000-2001.

American collaborative pianist and composer **Jodi Goble** (b. 1974) is Senior Lecturer in Voice at Iowa State University, where she coaches singers, directs the ISU Opera Studio, and teaches diction and song literature. She received the Iowa State University Award for Early Excellence in Teaching in 2015. Before coming to Iowa, she was Lecturer at the Boston University College of Fine Arts, Senior Vocal Coach and Coordinator of Opera Programs for the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, diction faculty at the Walnut Hill School for the Performing Arts, and the primary rehearsal pianist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra's Tanglewood Festival Chorus. She writes text-based, character-driven music fueled by her extensive background as a vocal coach and song-specialist collaborative pianist. Her compositions are praised for their melodism, their intuitive, idiomatic vocal writing, and the clarity and deftness of their text settings, and have been performed across the United States and internationally and featured on National Public Radio. Ms. Goble collaborates regularly in recital with bass-baritone Simon Estes and is the artistic director for the Simon Estes Young Artist Concert Series. She is the official pianist of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions in Iowa. Ms. Goble holds bachelor's degrees in violin and piano performance from Olivet Nazarene University and a M.M. in collaborative piano and chamber music from Ball State University. For more information please visit <https://www.music.iastate.edu/faculty/goble.php>

Chad Sonka is quickly becoming a sought after American baritone. In the Summer of 2016, he joined Central City Opera as an Apprentice Artist, covering Scarpia in *Tosca*. Chad notably performed the role of Don Quixote in *The Man of La Mancha* with Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre. Previous performing credits: *Gianni Schicchi* (Marco) with Savannah Music Festival; *Carmen* (Danciro) with Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre; *The Mother of Us All* (Virgil T.), *Faust* (Wagner), *Elijah* (Elijah) with Manhattan School of Music, and *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (King Melchior) with Nevada Opera. Mr. Sonka has been a chosen participant of Dolora Zajick's *Institute for Young Dramatic Voices*, as well as Sherrill Milnes' VOICE Studio at the Savannah Voice Festival for four summers. He was also a featured bass soloist with the Cedar Rapids Concert Chorale and has performed recitals at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. Chad is also an active voice teacher, previously teaching at Manhattan School of Music's Distance Learning Program, Luther College, and now Iowa State University.

American composer **Meg Bowles** (b. 1957) studied music at Northwestern and Boston Universities before earning an M.B.A. from Columbia University (1984). In 1992 she left banking to study psychology and create electronic music. For more information please visit <http://www.megbowlesmusic.com/bio/>

Night Sun Journey by Meg Bowles features a solo trumpet with an electronic, synthesized accompaniment. This piece was written in four distinct sections that feature different electronic sounds, and a very abstract trumpet solo. This piece was composed for David Bilger, principal trumpet of the Philadelphia Orchestra in 1996.

Lucas Yoakam is a senior in Instrumental Music Education. He attended Humboldt High School where he studied trumpet privately with Tim Miller. He currently studies trumpet with Professor James Bovinette at Iowa State University. Lucas has served as principal trumpet in the ISU Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, and is a member of the ISU Jazz Band. He has participated in many solo competitions, winning the IBA Major Landers Scholarship, the NCIBA Karl King Scholarship, and the Fort Dodge Symphony Concerto Competition.

Poet **Rainer Maria Rilke** (Prague, Bohemia, Austria-Hungary 1875 - Montreaux, Vaud, Switzerland 1926) was inspired by his extensive travel throughout Europe. While he is best known for his contributions to German literature, more than 400 poems were originally written in French.

Bei dir ist es traut (I am at ease with you) - Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926)

Translation from German to English by Knut W. Barde

Bei dir ist es traut,
zage Uhren schlagen wie aus alten Tagen,
komm mir ein Liebes sagen,
aber nur nicht laut!

I am at ease with you,
faint clocks strike as from olden days,
Come, tell your love to me,
But not too loud!

Ein Tor geht irgendwo
draußen im Blütentreiben,
der Abend horcht an den Scheiben,
laß uns leise bleiben,
keiner weiß uns so!

Somewhere a gate moves
Outside in the drifting blossoms,
Evening listens in at the window panes,
Let us stay quiet,
So no one knows of us!

Heinrich Heine (1797- 1856) was a German poet well known for his early lyric poetry, and later poems with satirical wit and irony. He spent the last 25 years of his life as an expatriate in Paris.

Ich wandle unter Blumen (I wander among the flowers) - Heinrich Heine (1797-1856)

Translation from German to English by Emily Ezust

Ich wandle unter Blumen
Und blühe selber mit,
Ich wandle wie im Traume
Und schwanke bei jedem Schritt.

I wander among the flowers
and blossom myself along with them;
I wander as if in a dream
and sway with every step.

O halt mich fest, Geliebte!
Vor Liebestrunkenheit
Fall' ich dir sonst zu Füßen
Und der Garten ist voller Leut!

Oh hold me tightly, my beloved!
Or, drunk with love,
I will collapse at your feet;
and the garden is full of people!

Austrian-American composer **Alma Mahler** (Vienna, Austria 1879 - New York City 1964) grew up surrounded by artists who visited her parents' art salon, her father being a painter himself. After his death, Alma began studying piano at age 16. During World War II Alma moved to the States becoming a U.S. citizen in 1946. Throughout her life she continued to seek the attention and company of successful artistic and creative people. She was married to composer Gustav Mahler, architect Walter Gropius, then author Franz Werfel. In her *Fünf Lieder* (1910) Alma chose five different texts from five different poets. *Bei dir ist es traut* (Rilke) and *Ich wandle unter Blumen* (Heine) are the fourth and fifth songs from this set.

Jodi Goble, pianist (please refer to her Composer bio under *Twelve Chairs*)

David Bowles Edwards, tenor, is a senior in vocal performance at Iowa State University. Last year he received the Des Moines Metropolitan Opera Ames Guild Encouragement Award, performed in two summer DMMO productions (*Turandot* and *Billy Budd*), and is currently cast as Ike Skidmore in ISU Department of Music and Theatre's production of *Oklahoma!*

Lori Laitman (b. 1955) is an American composer of operas, choral works, and more than 250 songs on texts by classical and contemporary poets including her *Early Snow* song cycle on poems by Mary Oliver. A *magna cum laude* Yale graduate with an MM from Yale's School of Music, she was featured on Thomas Hampson's *Song of America* radio series and website, and in *The Grove Dictionary of American Music*. For more information, please visit www.artsongs.com.

Jodi Goble, pianist (please refer to her Composer bio under *Twelve Chairs*)

Soprano **Beth Deutmeyer**, DMA, a native of Eldora, Iowa, is a Teaching Artist in Voice at Drake University. She earned her Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music degrees at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she studied with Kate Butler. She studied with Dr. Donald Simonson at Iowa State University, where she received her Bachelor of Music degree. In addition to her teaching at Drake, Dr. Deutmeyer maintains a full private voice studio at her home in Waukee, where she lives with her husband Josh, daughter Stella, and son Peter. For more information please visit <http://www.drake.edu/music/faculty/elizabethdeutmeyer/>

THANK YOU

Our families who encourage us to create; Dr. Mikesch Muecke, Associate Professor of Architecture, Iowa State University (www.polytekton.com) and husband of Dr. Miriam Zach for designing the poster and website for www.iwclib.org; the Sukup family of Sheffield, Iowa for caring for the Brombaugh organ at Iowa State University, and supporting development of the next generation of organists, harpsichordists, and music historians/teachers/composers; the ISU three-manual mechanical action organ dedicated in 1987 that was built by John Brombaugh (b.1937) who was inspired by the north-German Baroque organ builder Arp Schnitger (1648-1719); mentor Dr. David Z. Kushner, Musicology Professor Emeritus, University of Florida; ISU Music & Theatre Department Dr. Donald Simonson, Dr. Mike Golemo, Larry Curry, Chad Jacobsen, Sue Henze, Thomas Russell, Amy Huston, and Rachel Hansen for infrastructural behind-the-scenes cooperative collective efforts; and many unnamed people for ongoing support.