

# Lamont School of Music

*An Evening with M. Roger Holland II*

**M. Roger Holland II**, tenor and piano

**Jodel Charles**, piano

Friday, January 23, 2026  
7:30 p.m.  
Frederic C. Hamilton Family Recital Hall



UNIVERSITY OF

DENVER



Robert & Judi Newman Center  
for the Performing Arts

# **Roster**

## **Rhythm Section**

Jodel Charles, Piano,Keyboard, Music  
Drector

Jasson Martin, Drums

Jordan Henderson, Bass

Riley Brodersen, Guitar

## **Vocalists**

Cha'Rel Wright

Colleen Christmas-Garner

Daniel Wright

Please silence your cell phones

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# Program

**Ave Maria**

**J. S. Bach**

(1685 -1750)

**Charles Gounod**

(1818–1893)

**Song to the Dark Virgin**

**Florence Price**

(1887–1953)

Langston Hughes

**Sence You Went Away**

**H. Leslie Adams**

(1932–2024)

James Weldon Johnson

**Love Let the Wind Cry**

**Undine Smith Moore**

(1904–1989)

Sappho

Rendered by Bliss Carmen

Based on the translation of H. T. Wharton

**Meine Liebe ist Grün Op. 63, No.5**

**Johannes Brahms**

(1833–1897)

Felix Schumann

**Dein blaues Auge Op. 59, No. 8**

**Johannes Brahms**

(1833–1897)

Klaus Johann Groth

# Program (Cont.)

**Intermezzo No. 1 Op. 118**

**Johannes Brahms**  
(1833–1897)

**Intermezzo No. 2 Op. 118**

M. Roger Holland II, pianist

**Over My Head**

**Arr. M. Roger Holland II**  
(b. 1964)  
Negro Spiritual

**Here's One**

**Arr. William Grant Still**  
(1895–1978)  
Negro Spiritual

**Is There Anybody Here  
Who Loves My Jesus?**

**Arr. Roland M. Carter**  
(b. 1942)  
Negro Spiritual

Intermission

# Program (Cont.)

**A Song for You**

**Leon Russell**  
(1942–2016)

**Stop to Love**

**Nathaniel Adderley**  
(b. 1955)  
**Luther R. Vandross**  
(1951–2005)

**With You**

**Raymond Dominic Reeder**  
(b. 1961)

**You Deserve It**

**James Hairston, Phontae Reed**  
**Cortez Vaughn, David Bloom**

**Love Medley**

**Arr. M. Roger Holland II**  
(b. 1964)

**I'm Not Lucky, I'm Loved**

**Jonathan McReynolds**  
**Terre Demetrius Wilson**

*Please join us in the Spencer Artists Room immediately after the performance for a reception, generously provided by La Belle Rosette.*

# Text and Translations

## Ave Maria

Ave Maria, gratia plena  
Dominus tecum;  
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
et benedictus fructus ventris tui,  
Jesus.  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,  
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.  
Amen.

## Meine Liebe ist Grün

Meine Liebe ist grün wie der  
Fliederbusch  
Und mein Lieb ist schön wie die  
Sonne;  
Die glänzt wohl herab auf den  
Fliederbusch  
Und füllt ihn mit Duft und mit  
Wonne.  
Meine Seele hat Schwingen der  
Nachtigall  
Und wiegt sich in blühendem  
Flieder,  
Und jauchzet und singet vom Duft  
berauscht  
Viel liebestrunkene Lieder.

## Dein Blaues Auge

Dein blaues Auge hält so still,  
Ich blicke bis zum Grund.  
Du fragst mich, was ich sehen will?  
Ich sehe mich gesund.  
Es brannte mich ein glühend Paar,  
Noch schmerzt das Nachgefühl:  
Das deine ist wie See so klar  
Und wie ein See so kühl.

## Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
The Lord is with thee;  
Blessed art thou among women,  
And blessed is the fruit of thy  
womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
Pray for us sinners,  
Now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.

## My Love's as Green

My love's as green as the lilac  
bush,  
And my sweetheart's as fair as the  
sun;  
The sun shines down on the lilac  
bush,  
Fills it with delight and fragrance.  
My soul has a nightingale's wings  
And sways in the blossoming lilac,  
And, drunk with fragrance, exults  
and sings  
Many a love-drunk song.

Trans. Richard Stokes

## Your Blue Eyes

Your blue eyes stay so still,  
I look into their depths.  
You ask me what I seek to see?  
Myself restored to health.  
A pair of ardent eyes have burnt  
me,  
The pain of it still throbs:  
Your eyes are limpid as a lake,  
And like a lake as cool.

Trans. Richard Stokes

# Biography

**M. Roger Holland, II** is a Teaching Associate Professor in Music and Religion and Director of The Spirituals Project at the Lamont School of Music, University of Denver. A graduate of Union Theological Seminary in New York City where he received the Master of Divinity degree, Roger also served as Artist-in-Residence and director of the Union Gospel Choir for over 13 years. In 2015 Union awarded him the Trailblazers Distinguished Alumni Award, the first given to a graduate whose ministry is music, for his contributions to the legacy of African American music. He received a master's degree in Piano Performance from the Manhattan School of Music, also in New York, and completed his undergraduate work at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey where he majored in Music Education with a concentration in piano and voice.

Roger is the editor of the In Spirit and Truth series published by GIA Publications, Inc., which reflects the aesthetic of Black Catholic worship. Commissioned works include The Dream and The Dreamer, The Tribulation Suite, and The Call. In 2023 Roger was recognized by the Association of Catholic Publishers as Composer of the Year and awarded Song of the Year for his composition, "All of Me: Ode to Sr. Thea," in honor of Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman, currently a candidate for canonization. He has played for the Broadway productions of Oprah Winfrey's The Color Purple and the Tony award winning show, Memphis. In November 2016 Timothy Cardinal Dolan of the Archdiocese of New York presented Roger with the Pierre Toussaint Medallion for service.

**Jodel Charles** is a software engineer, musical director, composer, producer, and pianist with degrees from the Illinois Institute of Technology and the Boston Conservatory of Music. He began studying piano at the age of seven at École de Musique Solon C. Verret in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. His accomplishments include winning first place at the Best of Chopin des Antilles competition in Guadeloupe and Martinique at fourteen, as well as later performing with the Boston Symphony Orchestra in Stoneham, Massachusetts, and the Colorado Symphony at Denver's Boettcher Concert Hall.

A deeply versatile artist, Jodel has built a career across classical, jazz, R&B, gospel, soul, and neo-soul, performing throughout the U.S. and internationally. He serves as musical director for productions, ensembles, and churches in Boston, Chicago, and Denver, and collaborates with touring artists across the U.S., U.K., Canada, France, the Netherlands, and Austria. His work as a producer includes the Bill-board-charting R&B album Wide Nose Full Lips (reaching the top 25) as well as numerous live arrangements and recordings.

Jodel is also a composer, blending his classical foundation with contemporary sensibilities. He recently completed a new set of Gospel- and Caribbean-infused acclamations and a full mass for the Oregon Catholic Press and continues to explore new intersections of style in his work. When not performing, you will find him either coding, teaching piano, or making music. He is currently recording a solo piano EP that reflects his musical identity and lifelong commitment to artistic growth.

# Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 25, 4:30 p.m.

## **Faculty Recital: Rachael Hutchings, piano & Daniel Hutchings, Tenor**

Hamilton Recital Hall

\$12, free for students and faculty

Thursday, January 29, 7:30 p.m.

## **Winter Opera Showcase**

Hamilton Recital Hall

Free admission, no ticket required

Wednesday, February 4, 7:30 p.m.

## **Lamont Symphony Orchestra**

Gates Concert Hall

\$5 for reseved parterre seats, Free for general admission

Friday, February 6, 7:30 p.m.

## **Faculty Recital: Linda Wang, violin & friends**

Hamilton Recital Hall

\$12, free for students & faculty

Sunday, February 8, 4:30 p.m.

## **Faculty Recital: Tatiana Mayfield Brown**

\$12, free for students & faculty



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