

Lamont School of Music

Graduate Recital

Nora Cullinan

Conductor

Dr. Zerek Dodson

Piano

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

7:30 p.m.

Frederic C. Hamilton Family Recital Hall



Robert & Judi Newman Center
for the Performing Arts

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of a
Master of Music Degree in Conducting

Nora Cullinan is from the studio of Catherine Sailer

Reception to follow in the
Spencer Artist Reception Room

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Program

Hymne au soleil

Lili Boulanger

(1893–1918)

Maya Rogers, mezzo soprano

The Creation Hob. XXI.2

Franz Joseph Haydn

(1732–1809)

Arr. Nora Cullinan

- XI. And God Said: Let There be Lights
- XII. In Splendor Bright is Rising Now the Sun
- XIII. The Heavens Are Telling

Jack McHugh, Uriel
Maggie Sczekan, Gabriel
Justin Nickerson, Raphael

Luminous Night of the Soul

Ola Gjeilo

(b. 1978)

Maggie Sczekan, soprano

INTERMISSION

Draw On Sweet Night

John Wilbye

(1574–1638)

Lauren Black, Cantus
Nora Cullinan, Quintus
Hannah Kimball, Altus
Anthony Wirtz, Sextus
Jack McHugh, Tenor
Zhengyang Bu, Bassus

Falling Stars

Kevin T. Padworski

(b. 1987)

(continued.)

Abendlied

Josef Rheinberger

(1839–1901)

Fireflies

Jake Runestad

(b. 1986)

- I. Living Light
- II. The Day Will Break
- III. The Worm
- IV. Love is an Endless Mystery
- V. Fireflies

Cells Planets

Erika Lloyd

(b. 1981)

Arr. Vince Peterson

Nora Cullinan, soprano

Soprano

Lauren Black
Evelyn Doebling
Jordan Koler
Dana Portnoy

Alto

Hannah Kimball
Mia Kopera
Chloe Puckett
Maya Rogers
Leah Tafoya

Strings

Bryant Denmark, violin I
Madelyn Munley, violin II
Elidi Clark, viola
Jaxon Cox, cello
Ashley White, contrabass

Tenor

Bryant Denmark
David W. Kincannon II
Sibo Msibi
Devin Nordson
Anthony Wirtz

Bass

Phillip Aleshire
Zhengyang Bu
Jack McHugh
Justin Nickerson

Piano

Zerek Dodson
Madelyn Munley

Text and Translations

Hymne au soleil

Du soleil qui renaît bénissons la
puissance.
Avec tout l'univers célébrons son
retour.
Couronné de splendeur, il se lève, il
s'élance.
Le réveil de la terre est un hymne
d'amour.

Sept coursiers, qu'en partant le
Dieu contient à peine,
Enflamment l'horizon de leur
brûlante haleine.
O soleil fécond, tu parais!

Avec ses champs en fleurs, ses
monts, ses bois épais,
La vaste mer de tes feux embrasée,
L'univers plus jeune et plus frais,
Des vapeurs de matin sont brillants
de rosée.

– Casimir Delavigne

Peace be with you

Let us bless the power of the
resurging sun.
With all the universe, let us
celebrate its return.
Crowned in splendor, it rises, it
soars aloft.
The awakening of the earth is a
hymn of love.

Seven steeds, which the god can
scarcely keep in check,
Set fire to the horizon with their
burning breath.
O abundant sun, you appear!

With its fields in flower, its
mountains, its dense woods,
The vast sea burning with your fire,
The universe younger and fresher,
The mists of morning are sparkling
with dew.

XI. And God Said: Let There be Lights

And God said:

Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven
to divide the day from the night
and to give light upon the earth;
and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and for years.
He made the stars also.

XII. In Splendor Bright is Rising Now the Sun

In splendor bright is rising now the sun and darts his rays;
an amorous, joyful, happy spouse, a giant proud and glad to run his
measured course.

With softer beams and milder light steps on the silver moon through silent
night.

The space immense of the azure sky innumerable host of radiant orbs
adorns,
and the sons of God announced the fourth day in song divine,
proclaiming thus his power:

XIII. The Heavens Are Telling

The heavens are telling the glory of God.
The wonder of his works displays the firmament.

Today, that is coming, speaks it the day;
the night that is gone, to following night.

In all the lands resounds the word,
never unperceived, ever understood.

– Gottfried van Swieten

Luminous Night of the Soul

Long before music was sung by a choir,
Long before silver was shaped in the fire,
Long before poets inspired the heart,
You were the Spirit of all that is art.

You give the potter the feel of the clay;
You give the actor the right part to play;
You give the author a story to tell;
You are the prayer in the sound of a bell.

Praise to all lovers who feel your desire!
Praise to all music which soars to inspire!
Praise to the wonders of Thy artistry
Our Divine Spirit, all glory to Thee.

– Charles Anthony Silvestri

O guiding night!
O night more lovely than the dawn!
O night that has united
the Lover with his beloved,
transforming the beloved in her Lover.

– St. John of the Cross

Draw On, Sweet Night

Draw on, Sweet Night, best friend unto those cares
that do arise from painful melancholy.
My life so ill through want of comfort fares,
that unto thee I consecrate it wholly.

Sweet Night, draw on. My griefs when they be told
to shades and darkness find some ease from paining,
and while thou all in silence dost enfold,
I then shall find best time for my complaining.

– John Wilbye

Falling Stars

Do you still remember: falling stars,
how they leapt slantwise through the sky
like horses over suddenly held-out hurdles
of our wishes—did we have so many?—
for stars, innumerable, leapt everywhere;
almost every gaze upward became
wedded to the swift hazard of their play,
and our heart felt like a single thing
beneath that vast disintegration of their brilliance—
and was whole, as if it would survive them!

– Rainer Maria Rilke

Abendlied

Bleib bei uns, denn es will Abend
werden,
und der Tag hat sich geneiget.

– Luke 24:29

Evening Song

Stay with us, for it will soon be
night
and the day has ended.

Trans. Nora Cullinan

Fireflies

I. Living Light

My fancies are fireflies—
specks of living light
twinkling in the dark.

III. The Worm

The worm thinks it strange and
foolish
that we do not eat our books.

V. Fireflies

The fireflies, twinkling among
the leaves,
make the stars wonder.

II. The Day Will Break

Let me not grope in vain in the dark
but keep my mind still in the faith
that the day will break
and truth will appear
in its simplicity.

IV. Love Is an Endless Mystery

Let my love, like sunlight, surround
you
and yet give you illuminated
freedom,
for love is an endless mystery.

– Rabindranath Tagore

Cells Planets

So far away,
when all will shine and all will play.
The stars will open up
and all will be tiny pieces of galaxy,
reflected in you and me.

Cells, planets, same thing.

Bright, electric lights on all the leaves
and everything growing from a tree;
The water's blood, and roots are veins.

I don't know you, but I like you.
I don't know you, but I miss you.
I don't know you, but I need you.

Smallest is the biggest thing,
and in all the world,
the love is the love from me to you.

Cells, planets, same thing.

– Erika Lloyd

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Donors to the Lamont School of Music are an integral part of the Lamont community. Since 1983, the Lamont Society has provided financial and other support that has sustained our program's excellence. It has enabled us to purchase instruments, underwrite masterclasses and guest artist performances, support touring ensembles, provide students with professional development funds, support faculty initiatives, maintain scholarships for our deserving students, and much more. We are deeply grateful for this philanthropy!

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Upcoming Events

Friday, April 17, 7:30 p.m.

Faculty Recital Series:

Brian Neal, trumpet & Cindy Lindeen-Martin, organ

Hamilton Recital Hall

\$12, free for students & faculty

Saturday, April 18, 2:00 p.m.

Celebration of Life: Ken Walker

Room 130

Free admission, no ticket required

Sunday, April 19, 4:30 p.m.

Faculty Recital Series:

Stephanie Cheng, piano & Michael van Wirt, percussion

Hamilton Recital Hall

\$12, free for students & faculty

Thursday, April 23 – Saturday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 26, 2:30 p.m.

Lamont Opera Theatre presents: *Die Fledermaus*

Gates Concert Hall

Tickets: \$20 to \$40

Thursday, April 30, 7:30 p.m.

Jennie's Concert: A Brass Celebration

Gates Concert Hall

Free admission, no ticket required

Friday, May 1, 7:30 p.m.

Honors Concert

Hamilton Recital Hall

Free admission, no ticket required

Sunday, May 3, 4:30 p.m.

The Brandenburg Project

Hamilton Recital Hall

Free admission, no ticket required

Full events list: liberalarts.du.edu/lamont/performances-events



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