

# Lamont School of Music

## Senior Recital

### *You Can Only Grow*

**Adam Kowalski**

Voice

**Christopher Thompson**

Piano

Wednesday, June 3, 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  
Bachelor of Music Degree in Performance

Mr. Kowalski is from the studio of Catherine Kasch

Reception to follow in the  
Spencer Artist Reception Room

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## Program

*Hoping to Grow*

**Mother Sea**  
from *Ponyo* (2008)

**Joe Hisaishi**  
(b. 1950)

**Selections from *Peter Pan*** (1950)

**Leonard Bernstein**  
(1918–1990)

Who Am I?  
My House  
Peter, Peter

**Spring Will Come Again**

Dana Portnoy, soprano

*It Hurts to Become*

**O del mio dolce ardor**

**Christoph Willibald Gluck**  
(1714–1787)

**Che farò senza Euridice?**

from *Orfeo ed Euridice* (1762)

**Von ewiger Liebe, Op. 43, No. 1**

**Johannes Brahms**  
(1833–1897)

INTERMISSION

*Make Me Softer*

**À Chloris**

**Reynaldo Hahn**  
(1874–1947)

**Le printemps**

**Fumée**

*I Know God's Number by Heart*

**Deep River**

**Harry T. Burleigh**  
(1866–1949)

**Steal Away**

**I Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray**

**If I Give My Heart to You**

**Doris Day**  
(1922–2019)

## Program Notes

This recital is probably the most vulnerable I have ever felt performing on stage. Each section of my performance is broken down into parts of my life that are then accompanied by a poem from my favorite poet, Andrea Gibson.

Andrea Gibson was a celebrated poet and activist who lived here in CO. They were Colorado's Poet Laureate in 2023 and wrote many books of poetry, including my favorites *You Better Be Lightning* and *Lord of the Butterflies*. When I was severely stuck in a depressive episode this past year, their words helped me through it. I like to think of them as my patron saint of growing. In honor of the profound effect they've had on my life and their recent passing this past summer, I decided to include their poetry as a map of the way I have grown throughout my life. They have a beautiful way of describing love, beauty, and failure that encapsulates so much of what I have been through and I am so honored to share that with you all. My challenge to you is to try and figure out why I felt it was so meaningful. I do not have them written for you, nor will I tell you why. I hope they move you as much as they move me. I hope they remind you that we are always growing.

## Text & Translations

### Umi no okāsan

Umi yuriyureru aoi uchi  
Kazoe kirenai kyoudaitachi to  
Abuku no kotoba de hanashiteita no

Oboeteimasu ka zutto mukashi ni  
Omae wa aoi umi ni issho ni  
kurashiteita no  
Kurage mo uni mo sakanamo  
kanimo  
Minna kyoudaida

### O del mio dolce ardor

O del mio dolce ardor  
Bramato oggetto,  
L'aura che tu respiri, alfin respiro.  
O vunque il guardo io giro,  
Le tue vaghe sembianze  
Amore in me dipinge:  
Il mio pensier si finge  
Le più liete speranze;  
E nel desio che così  
M'empie il petto  
Cerco te, chiamo te, spero e sospiro.  
—Raniero de Calzabigi

### Che faro senza Euridice?

Ahime! Dove trascorsi?  
Dove mi spinse un delirio d'amor?

Sposa! Euridice! Consorte!  
Ah, piu non vive! La chiamo in van!

Misero me, la perdo  
E di nuovo e per sempre!  
O legge! O morte!  
O ricordo crudel!  
Non ho soccorso,  
Non m'avanza consiglio!  
Io veggo solo, o fiera vista  
Il luttoso aspetto  
Dell'orrido mio stato  
Saziati, sorte rea  
Son disperato!  
Che faro senza Euridice?  
Dove andro senza il mio ben?  
Che faro? Dove andro?  
Che faro senza il mio ben?

Dove andro senza il mio ben?

### Mother Sea

A blue house swaying in the sea  
With countless children  
I was talking in the language of  
bubble  
Do you remember, a long time ago..  
You lived together in the blue sea

Jellyfish, sea urchins, fish, crabs

They were all brothers and sisters.  
Trans. lyricstranslate.com

### O my sweet passion's coveted goal

O my sweet passion's coveted goal,  
the air you breathe,  
at last I, too, shall breathe.  
Wherever I look,  
your lovely face paints  
love in my heart:  
In my thoughts I cherish  
the happiest hopes;  
and in the yearning, that thus  
fills my heart,  
I seek you, I call you, I hope and sigh.  
Trans. lyricstranslate.com

### What will I do without Euridice?

Alas! Where have I traversed?  
Where has the delirium of love thrust  
me?  
Bride! Euridice! Wife!  
Ah, she lives no more - I call her name  
in vain.  
Wretched me - I lose her  
Once again and forever!  
Oh law! Oh death!  
Oh cruel memory!  
I do not have help:  
Counsel does not come forth for me!  
I see only a savage sight!  
The sad aspect  
of my horrible state.  
Be satisfied, wicked fate:  
I am desperate!  
What will I do without Euridice?  
Where will I go without my beloved?  
What will I do, where will I go,  
What am I going to do without my  
beloved?  
Where will I go without my beloved?

Euridice! Oh Dio!  
Rispondi...  
Io son pure il tuo fedele,  
Ah non m'avanza piu soccorso,  
piu speranza, ne dal mondo ne dal ciel!

Euridice! Euridice! Oh, God!  
Answer me! Answer me!  
I am surely ever faithful to you!  
Ah! I cannot go on.  
Neither from the world nor the  
heavens!

### Von ewiger Liebe

Dunkel, wie dunkel in Wald und in Feld!

### Eternal Love

Dark, how dark in forest and field!

Abend schon ist es, nun schweiget die Welt.

Evening already, and the world is silent.

Nirgend noch Licht und nirgend noch Rauch,

Nowhere a light and nowhere smoke,

Ja, und die Lerche sie schweiget nun auch.

And even the lark is silent now too.

Kommt aus dem Dorfe der Bursche heraus,

Out of the village there comes a lad,

Gibt das Geleit der Geliebten nach Haus,

Escorting his sweetheart home,

Führt sie am Weidengebüsche vorbei,  
Redet so viel und so mancherlei:

He leads her past the willow-copse,  
Talking so much and of so many things:

„Leidest du Schmach und betrübest du dich,

'If you suffer sorrow and suffer shame,

Leidest du Schmach von andern um mich,

Shame for what others think of me,

Werde die Liebe getrennt so geschwind,

Then let our love be severed as swiftly,

Schnell wie wir früher vereinigt sind.

As swiftly as once we two were plighted.

Scheide mit Regen und scheid mit Wind,

Let us depart in rain and depart in wind,

Schnell wie wir früher vereinigt sind.“

As swiftly as once we two were plighted.'

Spricht das Mägdelein, Mägdelein spricht:

The girl speaks, the girl says:

„Unsere Liebe sie trennet sich nicht!  
Fest ist der Stahl und das Eisen gar sehr,

'Our love cannot be severed!  
Steel is strong, and so is iron,

Unsere Liebe ist fester noch mehr.  
Eisen und Stahl, man schmiedet sie um,

Our love is even stronger still:  
Iron and steel can both be reforged,

Unsere Liebe, wer wandelt sie um?  
Eisen und Stahl, sie können zergerh,  
Unsere Liebe muß ewig bestehn!“

But our love, who shall change it?  
Iron and steel can be melted down,  
Our love must endure for ever!

### A Chloris

S'il est vrai, Chloris, que tu m'aimes,  
Mais j'entends, que tu m'aimes bien,  
Je ne crois pas que les rois mêmes  
Aient un bonheur pareil au mien.  
Que la mort serait importune  
à venir changer ma fortune

### Ah, Chloris

If it be true, Chloris, that you love me,  
(And I'm told you love me dearly),  
I do not believe that even kings  
Can match the happiness I know.  
Even death would be powerless  
To alter my fortune

Pour la félicité des cieux!  
Tout ce qu'on dit de l'ambrosie  
Ne touche point ma fantaisie  
Au prix des grâces de tes yeux.

With the promise of heavenly bliss!  
All that they say of ambrosia  
Does not stir my imagination  
Like the favour of your eyes!  
Trans. Richard Stokes

### Le printemps

Te voilà, rire du Printemps !  
Les thyrses des lilas fleurissent.  
Les amantes, qui te chérissent  
Délivrent leurs cheveux flottants.  
Sous les rayons d'or éclatants  
Les anciens lierres se flétrissent.  
Te voilà, rire du Printemps !  
Les thyrses des lilas fleurissent.  
Couchons-nous au bord des étangs,  
Que nos maux amers se guérissent !  
Mille espoirs fabuleux nourrissent  
Nos cœurs [émus]1 et palpitants.  
Te voilà, rire du Printemps !

### The Spring

You are here, you laughing Spring!  
Bunches of lilacs are blossoming.  
Lovers who cherish you  
Free their flowing hair.  
Beneath the rays of sparkling gold  
The ancient ivy withers.  
You are here, you laughing Spring!  
Bunches of lilacs are blossoming.  
Let us lie beside ponds  
So that our bitter wounds may heal!  
A thousand fabulous hopes nourish  
Our stirred and fluttering hearts.  
You are here, you laughing Spring!  
Trans. Emily Ezust

### Fumée

Compagne de l'éther, indolente fumée,  
Je te ressemble un peu...  
Ta vie est d'un instant, la mienne est  
consumée;  
Mais nous sortons du feu.

### Smoke

Consort of the ether, indolent steam,  
I resemble you a bit...  
Your life lasts but an instant, mine is  
already used up;  
But we are both emerging from the  
forge.

L'homme, pour subsister, en recueillant  
la cendre,  
Qu'il use ses genoux,  
Sans plus nous soucier et sans jamais  
descendre,  
Évanouissons-nous!

Man, to survive, may be annealed in  
the heat of hot cinders,  
May wear out his knees posting,  
Without further concern and without  
ever dismounting,  
Let us vanish without a trace!  
Trans. Laura Stanfield

# Upcoming Events

Saturday, June 6, 7:30 p.m.

## **Bluegrass Ensemble**

Williams Recital Salon

Free admission, ticket required

Tuesday, June 9, 7:30 p.m.

## **Denver Chamber Music Festival presents “Virtuosity and Poetry”**

Hamilton Recital Hall

\$40 to \$80

Friday, June 12, 7:30 p.m.

## **Denver Chamber Music Festival presents “Between Worlds”**

Hamilton Recital Hall

\$40 to \$80

Saturday, May 13, 7:30 p.m.

## **Denver Chamber Music Festival presents “Ireland, Appalachia, and Mendelssohn”**

Hamilton Recital Hall

\$40 to \$80



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### **Hours (now open later on weekdays!)**

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Sat, 7AM to 2PM

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[du.edu/lamont](http://du.edu/lamont)

*Lamont News:* [Liberalarts.du.edu/lamont/stories](http://Liberalarts.du.edu/lamont/stories)



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UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

