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I would like to thank you all for coming today! A special thanks to my teacher Cindy Dewey for all her guidance and mentoring. Thanks to Dallas Heaton for always encouraging me and for teaching me how to speak in Italian. My family, the ones who believed I could do this even when I doubted and ultimately my Heavenly Father for the gift of love and music in our lives.

CAINE
COLLEGE
of the ARTS

UtahStateUniversity



Senior Recital
Rebecca Soelberg
Soprano



ACCOMPANIED BY DALLAS HEATON
March 18th, 2017
2:00 p.m.
USU Performance Hall

STUDENT OF DR. CINDY DEWEY



Rebecca Soelberg, soprano

Geme la tortorella From <i>La finta giardiniera</i>	W. A. Mozart (1756-1791)
Oh That I on Wings Could Rise From <i>Theodora</i>	G. F. Handel (1685-1759)
<i>Cinq Mélodies populaires grecques</i>	Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)
1. Chanson de la mariée	
2. Là-bas, vers l'église	
3. Quel galant m'est comparable	
4. Chanson des cueilleuses de lentisques	
5. Tout gai!	
Crudeli fermate/ Ah del pianto From <i>La finta giardiniera</i>	W. A. Mozart
Dove mai son...Tu mi lasci From <i>La finta giardiniera</i> ~with Andrew Taylor, tenor~	W. A. Mozart
INTERMISSION	
Secrets of the Old Sleep Now The Monk and His Cat A Green Lowland of Pianos	Samuel Barber (1910-1981)
Nocturne Der bescheidene Schafer	Joseph Marx (1882-1964)
Take Me to the World From <i>Evening Primrose</i>	Stephen Sondheim (b. 1930)
I Don't Know What I'd Do Without You From <i>Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder</i>	Steven Lutvak (b. 20 th Century)
Stranger to the Rain From <i>Children of Eden</i>	Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948)

La finta giardiniera tells the story of a Countess Violante who goes undercover as a gardener (going by the name Sandrina) in order to find her beloved Count Belfiore. “**Geme la tortorella**” is Sandrina’s first aria and she is alone contemplating her fate. “**Crudeli fermate/ Ah del pianto**” is a double aria set connected by small sections of recitative. Sandrina has been abandoned alone in the forest and as she panics, she prays for help from the gods. “**Dove mai son...Tu mi lasci**” is the final of only two duets in the opera. Sandrina and Count Belfiore both awaken in a garden and struggle to reconcile their relationship.

Theodora is the story is a historical tragedy, following Theodora who is persecuted and ultimately martyred for her Christian beliefs. This aria occurs after Theodora has been sentenced to a punishment she views as worse than death: service as a prostitute to the Romans.

Cinq mélodies populaires grecques are authentic Greek folk songs which Ravel harmonized. Each song has a unique voice, story and intention. The first tells of a young peasant waking up his love on their wedding day. The second refers to the brave soldiers who now rest in the cemetery behind the churches. The third is a confident, forward character which contrasts with the fourth song’s gentle and tender attitude. The fifth song is made up of mostly nonsense syllables and takes the characteristics of a dance.

Samuel Barber was an internationally-acclaimed American composer. His style was lyric and rather conventional in terms of form and tonality compared to other composers in the early to mid 20th century. “Monk and His Cat” is part of his *Hermit Songs* cycle, a major work based on notes in the margins of medieval manuscripts of Irish monks. The accompaniment suggests the company of Pangur, a beloved cat, throughout the piece.

Joseph Marx, Austrian composer, found great success early in his career, but later struggled against the changing climate of 20th century music, with his more conservative style of composition. He was an accomplished pianist and music critic and is known today for his contribution to art song (or Lieder).

Evening Primrose was an experimental work that has all but disappeared from the musical theatre repertoire save a few songs which have become popular cabaret pieces. **Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder** was the 2014 Tony Award winner of “Best Musical”; during this scene Sibella is caught up in herself and ignores Monty, her poverty stricken lover who is trying to tell her about his recently acquired station and potential fortune. **Children of Eden** is loosely based on stories from the book of Genesis; “Stranger to the Rain” falls in the second act after Yonah is refused passage on Noah’s ark because she is a descendant of the race of Cain. She tells of a life filled with resilience in spite of being shunned.