

# *Piano Affairs*

Sunday, May 7, 2017 at 7:30 pm  
ASU School of Music  
Katzin Concert Hall

Marcy McKee, Soprano  
Gordon Hawkins, Baritone  
The Herberger String Quartet  
Aihua Zhang, Violin  
Vladimir Gebe, Violin  
Yen-Fang Chen, Viola  
Yeil Park, Cello  
Sunny Kuo, Piano

**Big** Thanks to Professor Russell Ryan  
You are AWESOME!

## Program

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Ballade No. 4 in F minor, Op. 52      Frédéric Chopin  
(1810-1849)

Chants Populaires      Maurice Ravel  
(1875-1937)

Chanson espagnole. Andantino  
Chanson française. Allegretto  
Mélodie italienne. Largamente, quasi piacere, portando le note  
Chanson hébraïque. Allegro moderato

An die ferne Geliebte      Ludwig van Beethoven  
Op. 98      (1770-1827)

Auf dem Hügel sitz ich spähend      Text by Alois Jeitteles  
Wo die Berge so blau  
Leichte Segler in den Höhen  
Diese Wolken in den Höhen  
Es kehret der Maien, es blühet die Au  
Nimm sie hin den, diese Lieder

## Intermission

Piano Quintet in E – flat Major      Robert Schumann  
Op. 44      (1810-1856)

Allegro brillante  
In modo d;una Marcia (Un poco largamente)  
Scherzo (Molto vivace)  
Allegro, ma non troppo

## Translations

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Chanson espagnole/ Spanish song  
Farewell, my husband, farewell,  
Now that you are marching off to war  
Don't forget to keep in touch  
With those who are holding down the fort at home. La la la la...

Castillans of Castille  
Treat well the Glacians:  
When they go, they go like roses,  
When they come back, they come back as blacks. La la la la...

Chanson Française/French Song  
"Jeannette, where will we tend our sheep?  
To have a good time for an hour? Hey ho! "  
"Down there, down there, across the meadow,  
There are a lot of beautiful shadows. Hey ho!"

The shepherd removes his coat, And has Jeannette sit on it. Hey ho!  
Jeannette played so much that she forgot herself, Hey ho!

Chanson italienne/Italian Song  
I look out the window and see the waves,  
I see my misery which is so great.  
I call to my love, no one responds to me.

Chanson hébraïque/Hebrew Song  
"Mayerke, my son, oh Mayerke, my son,  
Do you know before whom do you stand?"  
"BEFORE THE KING OF THE KING OF KINGS, father dear."  
"Mayerke, my son, oh Mayerke, my son, And what will you ask of him? "  
"CHILDREN, LIFE, AND SUSTENANCE, father dear."

"Mayerke, my son, oh Mayerke, my son, For what do you need children? "  
"CHILDREN STUDY THE TORAH, father dear."

"Mayerke, my son, oh Mayerke, my son, For what do you need life? "  
"ALL LIFE SHALL PRAISE HIM, father dear."

"Mayerke, my son, oh Mayerke, my son, But you also want some bread? "  
"YOU SHALL EAT, AND BE SATISFIED AND BLESS (THE LORD YOUR  
GOD), father dear."  

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**An die ferne Geliebte / To the Distant Beloved**

[www.uritext.co/uk/index.php?dispgroup=An%20die%20ferne%20Geliebte](http://www.uritext.co/uk/index.php?dispgroup=An%20die%20ferne%20Geliebte)

**Auf dem Hügel sitz ich spähend / I sit on the hill, gazing**

Sitting on the hillside, I look  
Into the blue, haze-covered land  
For the distant meadows  
Where, my beloved, I first saw you.

Now I am far away,  
Mountains and valleys part us,  
Lie between us and our peace,  
Our happiness and the pain we share.

Ah, you cannot see that urgent, glowing look  
I send to find you,  
And my sighs vanish  
In the space that holds us apart.

Can Nothing reach you,  
Nothing serve as messenger of love?  
I will sing, sing to you songs  
That will express my woe.

For at the sound of song  
Time and space disappear  
And a loving heart achieves  
What it holds most dear.

**Wo die Berge so blau/ Where the blue, blue Mountains**

Where the blue hills peer  
Through the misty grey,  
The cooling sun marks the end of day  
As clouds draw near,  
I want to be there.

There in the peaceful vale  
No pain or sorrow can survive.  
The primrose, in among the shale,  
Quietly reflective in the wind, does thrive,  
And I want to be there.

The violence of love drives me away  
To trees, my heart-ache to allay...  
Never would I be drawn to leave this place  
Could I but look forever on your face.

**Leichte Segler in den Höhen/Light Sailors of the Firmament**

If, clouds sailing in the sky,  
And you, brook so clear and cold,  
You should come across my dear,  
Greet her from me a thousand fold.

If, clouds, you see her walking  
In the valley deep in thought,  
Create an image of me  
High in heaven's airy vault.

If she stands by autumn bushes  
Yellowing, now leafless, there  
Tell her what it is I have suffered,  
Convey the burden of my care.

Gentle west wind, carry to her on your way  
All my sighs that vanish like the setting sun's last ray.

Whisper brook, so cold and clear,  
Love's entreaties in her ear,  
And may your current truly show  
My tears' immeasurable flow.

**Diese Wolken in den Höhen/These Clouds on high**

These clouds on high, These happy birds, all fly,  
My love, to you. Would I could fly, too.  
The winds from the west  
Caress your cheek and your breast  
And playfully ruffle your hair. Would I, too, were there.

The brook in sheer delight runs to you from yon' height;  
Might it capture your reflection?  
Bring it to me, change direction?

**Es kehret der Maien, es blühet die Au/May is returning, the meadow's in Flower**

May is returning, the meadow's in bloom,  
The breezes are blowing, gentle and warm,  
The bubbling streams are running apace.

The swallow comes home to her usual place  
And sets about building her bridal suite  
Where Love will find a welcome seat.  
From here and from there she busily brings  
Wool, fluff and grasses, all sorts of things  
That will keep the youngsters cosy and warm;  
So the loyal couple settle quite true to form.  
For what winter has parted May will unite,  
Bring together all lovers to their delight;  
May is returning, the meadow's in bloom,  
The breezes are blowing, gentle and warm-  
Only, I cannot move on from here...  
Spring unites all those who love,  
But no spring to our love appears,  
Our love is watered alone by our tears.

**Nimm sie hin den, diese Lieder/ Accept them, then, these Songs**  
Take them then, these songs which I, my love, have sung for you.  
Sing them once more when evening comes to the lute so sweet and true.

As the glowing red of sunset is drawn down to the lake's calm blue  
And the rays behind the mountain sink finally from view

And as you sing what I have sung, what from a full heart was wrung  
Without pretension; the entire spectrum of my heart's desire,

Then, at this sound, all that's made us grieve will disappear  
As loving hearts achieve what they hold most dear.

## About The Artists

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Soprano, Marcy McKee received her Doctorate of Musical Arts in Vocal Performance at Arizona State University. While at ASU, she performed as Miss Wingrave (*Owen Wingrave*), Lady Billows (*Albert Herring*), and as both Gertrude and the Witch (*Hansel and Gretel*). In the summer of 2013, Ms. McKee made her German debut as Kathi, the yodeling post women, in *Im Weissen Rössl* with the Mittelsächsisches Theater in Freiberg, Germany. Marcy has also performed in Italy as Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*) and as a soloist with the Gruppo di Musica Antica in Genoa.  
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Gordon Hawkins is critically acclaimed throughout the world for his in-depth interpretations and lush baritone voice. A dramatic baritone with an international reputation as a "Rigoletto specialist," Mr. Hawkins has delighted audiences as the tragic Verdi underdog in more than 170 performances, most

recently Vancouver Opera, Washington National Opera, Arizona Opera, and Opera Colorado. He is now earning critical acclaim as a Wagner specialist: "Alberich was superbly realized by baritone Gordon Hawkins, in his [Los Angeles Opera] début. Despite wearing a grotesque puppet head and clunky boots that hobbled his movements, Hawkins delivered a sterling vocal characterization of the power-mad Nibelung." (*Opera News*). He has been engaged as Alberich in Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* at esteemed international companies including: San Francisco Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Seattle Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin, Teatro de la Maestranza de Sevilla, and the BBC Orchestra at Royal Albert Hall in London. This past spring, he reprised the role in Francesca Zambello's highly anticipated production at Washington National Opera. Next, he will perform the role of Scarpia in *Tosca* with Cincinnati Opera, Tonio in *Pagliacci* with Arizona Musicfest, and the title role in *Rigoletto* with Deutsche Oper am Rhein. In future seasons, Mr. Hawkins will return to Washington National Opera and Seattle Opera.  
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The Herberger String Quartet is the premier graduate string quartet of Arizona State University's School of Music. They have been coached by the string faculty at ASU. Additionally, they have worked closely with the Brentano String Quartet and The Ying Quartet as a part of the Visiting Quartet Program Residency. In 2016, they were invited to the Red Rocks Music Festival Winter Chamber Music Institute, where they received scholarship to study under Shmuel Ashkenasi, Paul Coletti, David Erlich, and Thomas Landschoot.  
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Yi-chun Sunny Kuo is the Assistant Dean for Admissions and Enrollment at the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts. Prior to beginning her higher education administration journey, Sunny Kuo was a professional musician, having performed solo and chamber music concerts in Michigan, New York, Arkansas, North Carolina, as well as in Germany, Italy and the Czech Republic as a classically trained pianist. Kuo's teaching experiences range from maintaining a private piano studio for all age groups to serving as a faculty associate for group piano classes at Arizona State University, the Assistant Professor of Piano at Bemidji State University in Minnesota and the Assistant Professor of Music at Hiwassee College in Tennessee. Sunny Kuo holds a DMA degree in Piano Performance from SUNY Stony Brook University. After finishing her BM and MM in piano performance from the University of Michigan, Kuo received the Fulbright scholarship to the Czech Republic. Sunny Kuo also holds a master degree in business administration from the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University.  
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