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Senior Recital-Brooklyn Dyer: Faith, Food, & Infatuation

Brooklyn Dyer

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Brooklynn would like to thank her wonderfully patient and encouraging instructors Brianna Krause and Lynn Thomas for their unceasing kindness and instruction. She would also like to specifically thank Dallas Heaton, Beth Foley, and the USU Choral Scholars for their contributions and hard work in preparing for this recital. Last—but not least! —a special thanks to her various professors, family, and friends for their support and understanding throughout her studies in Music Education. Brooklynn will be student teaching in Idaho Falls this upcoming Fall.

Thank you for your support!
Mein gläubiges Herze...............................................................J.S. Bach
BWV 68, Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt (1685-1750)
Ei, wie schmeckt der Koffee süße
BWV 211, Kaffekanta featuring Beth Foley, flute

Je te veux ...........................................................................Erik Satie
Trois Poèmes d’amour (1866-1925)
I. Ne suis que grain de sable
II. Suis chauve de naissance
III. Ta parure est secrète

Infatuation ........................................................................Brooklynn Dyer
I. Desire (b. 1994)
II. Devotion
III. Desperation
IV. Disconnection
V. Discovery

-Intermission-

Prelude and Fugue in Bb Major .............................................J.S. Bach
Organ Solo

Puer Natus..............................................................................William Byrd
featuring the USU Choral Scholars (1543-1623)

Luoghi sereni e cari .............................................................Stefano Donaudy
Vaghissima sembianza (1879-1925)

100 Easy Ways to Lose a Man .............................................Leonard Bernstein
Wonderful Town (1918-1990)

Notes from the Composer

The inspiration for “Infatuation” came on a bus ride to a Chamber Singers performance last Spring. It all began with a conversation that lead to some interesting poetry and eventually my decision to compose a cycle for my senior recital. I have always been fascinated with jazz chords and atonal music, and knew that I would like to experiment with those two elements throughout the cycle.

Thus, the first song, “Desire,” starts with a distinct jazz feel that slowly lends itself into atonality throughout “Devotion,” reaching its peak of pure 12 tone chaos by the third song, “Desperation”. During “Disconnection,” the music returns to coherent thought and settles back into mostly jazz tonality. In “Discovery,” as the singer recounts past experiences, some atonal themes return amidst the overall tonal structure, and it finally ends in full tonality if D minor.

As for the poetry and title, much of the piece revolves around the keys of D major and minor, so, somewhat fixated on this, I decided to title each piece with the alliterative beginning of “D.” The poetry is an allegory, of which the true subject is found during “Discovery.” Listen closely to the lyrics for the suspenseful reveal.

- Brooklynn Dyer

About the USU Choral Scholars

The Utah State University Choral Scholars were first established in 2013 as a group of friends who met together a few times a week in order to improve their sight-reading skills. As the group continued to rehearse, they soon developed a desire to perform together as an ensemble. The Choral Scholars’ first recital took place in the Spring of 2014 and has since been followed by many other distinguished performance opportunities. The Scholars have been featured performers with the USU Chamber Singers, the American Festival Chorus, and the Performance Practice Institute. In addition, the group has used its talents to reach out and develop important relationships with many local religious and charitable organizations.

Brooklynn Dyer, Soprano
Savannah Despain, Mezzo Soprano
Emily Cottam, Alto
Tad Fullmer, Tenor
David Young, Baritone
Bradley Summers, Bass