

# *Williams College Department of Music*



## **Edmond Laird-Raylor '24, baritenor**

**Doris Stevenson, piano**

*Winterreise* is a cycle of 24 songs for male voice and piano composed in 1827 by Austrian composer Franz Schubert, with words by German poet Wilhelm Müller. Schubert was reviewing the publisher's proofs of the cycle in the weeks before his death, shortly before his 32nd birthday. He had already performed the songs for a gathering of friends, but they had not yet reached the public.

The poetry is written in the voice of a young man who, upon seeing his beloved marry another, sets out on foot in the deepest winter to escape memories of her. His heart is broken, and his life is a torment of memories, dreams, and present pain. Schubert's music perfectly captures that torrent of emotion with his exquisite control of the harmonies and melodic flow. The subject matter—a wanderer alone with his sorrows—was a popular theme of the Romantic era

Edmond strongly encourages the non-german speakers in the audience to make active use of the English translations of the poems attached to this program during the performance this evening, so that you may better understand each tragic musical stop on our poor wanderer's winter journey.

Franz Schubert (1797 – 1828)

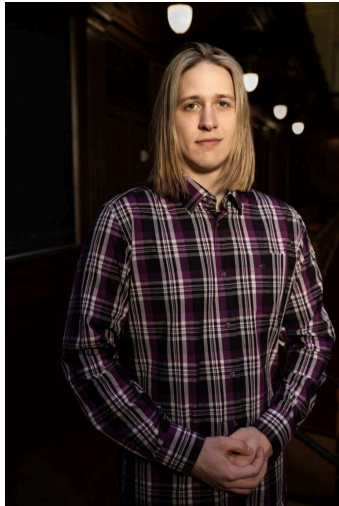
Winterreise

1. *Gute Nacht*
2. *Die Wetterfahne*
3. *Gefrorne Tränen*
4. *Erstarrung*
5. *Der Lindenbaum*
6. *Wasserflut*
7. *Auf dem Flusse*
8. *Rückblick*
9. *Irrlicht*
10. *Rast*
11. *Frühlingstraum*
12. *Einsamkeit*

\*\*\**Intermission*\*\*\*

## Winterreise

13. *Die Post*
14. *Der greise Kopf*
15. *Die Krähe*
16. *Letzte Hoffnung*
17. *Im Dorfe*
18. *Der stürmische Morgen*
19. *Täuschung*
20. *Der Wegweiser*
21. *Das Wirtshaus*
22. *Mut*
23. *Die Nebensonnen*
24. *Der Leiermann*



Edmond Laird-Raylor is a Religion major from Minneapolis, Minnesota. Edmond has been singing in musical theatre productions since the age of seven and began his training in classical voice with his teacher, Paul La Rosa, his freshman year at Williams College. Edmond took his vocal studies internationally during a Junior year abroad where he studied polyphonic chanting with Tibetan Monks in Dharamshala and classical singing at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen. After graduation, Edmond hopes to work as an elementary school teacher while applying to graduate programs for voice. Edmond is thrilled to be performing Schubert's *Winterreise* for his senior recital. Join Edmond in wandering the desolate, frozen world of *Winterreise*; surrender to the cycle's beautiful melancholy and allow your heart to burn as though it could melt all the ice of winter.

**Saturday, May 11, 2024**  
**2:00 p.m.**

*Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall*  
*Williamstown, Massachusetts*

*Please turn off cell phones. No photography or recording is permitted.*