

Williams College Department of Music



Berkshire Symphony Student Soloist Competition

W.A. Mozart (1756 – 1791)

"Vedrai Carino" from *Don Giovanni*

Christine Pash '18, soprano; Edwin Lawrence, piano

Franz Schubert (1797 – 1828)

Der Erlkönig D. 328

Jack Romans '20, baritone; Robin Kibler, piano

Kurt Weill (1900 – 1950)

Four Walt Whitman Songs

I. *Beat! Beat! Drums,*

II. *Oh Captain! My Captain!*

Brandon S. Hilfer '20, baritone; Edwin Lawrence, piano

Antonín Dvořák (1841 – 1904)

Měsíčku na nebi hlubokém (Song to the Moon)

Amelia Dana '18, soprano; Edwin Lawrence, piano

Johann Nepomuk Hummel (1788 – 1837)

Trumpet Concerto in E-flat Major

I. *Allegro con spirito*

Leonard Bopp '19, trumpet; Evan Kauffmann '21, piano

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840 – 1893)

"Kuda, kuda vī udalilis" from *Eugene Onegin*

Kurt Pfrommer '18, tenor; Robin Kibler, piano

Robert Schumann (1810 – 1856)

Piano Concerto in A Minor, op. 54

I. *Allegro affettuoso*

Sean Wang '18, piano; Doris Stevenson, piano

Franz Liszt (1811 – 1886)

Piano Concerto No. 1 in E-flat Major

Allegro maestoso

Sebastian Black '19, piano; Doris Stevenson, piano

Robert Schumann (1810 – 1856)

Piano Concerto in A Minor, op. 54

I. *Allegro affettuoso*

Qiana Yang '19, piano; Elizabeth Wright, piano

George Gershwin (1898 – 1937)

Piano Concerto in F Major

I. *Allegro*

Yejin (Julia) Choi '20, piano; Doris Stevenson, piano

Henryk Wieniawski (1835 – 1880)

Violin Concerto No. 1 in F-sharp Minor, op. 14

I. *Allegro moderato*

Jeffrey Pearson '20, violin; Robert Logan, piano

Jacques Offenbach (1819 – 1880)

"Les oiseaux dans la charmille" (Doll Song)
from *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*

Erin Kennedy '19, soprano; Stephen Ai '18, piano

Charles Griffes (1884 – 1920)

Poem for flute and orchestra

Calvin Ludwig '18, flute; Edwin Lawrence, piano

Dmitri Shostakovich (1906 – 1975)

Violin Concerto No. 1 in A Minor, op. 99

IV. *Burlesque: Allegro con brio*

Benjamin Mygatt '20, violin; Robert Logan, piano

Antonín Dvořák (1841 – 1904)

Cello Concerto in B Minor, op. 104, B. 191

I. *Allegro*

Andrew Rim '20, cello; Elizabeth Wright, piano

Gaetano Donizetti (1797 – 1848)

O luce di quest'anima

Seunghyun Angela Yeo '18, soprano; Stephen Ai '18, piano

Paul Hindemith (1895 – 1963)

Der Schwanendreher

I. *Zwischen Berg und tiefem Tal*

Dawn Wu '18, viola; Robert Logan, piano

Tuesday, February 13, 2018
6:00 p.m.

Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Williamstown, Massachusetts

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

About the Berkshire Symphony Student Soloist Competition

The Berkshire Symphony Student Soloist Competition is open to Williams College students who have completed certain required instrumental or vocal studies and are enrolled in qualifying courses. Each of the soloists has received a recommendation from his or her teacher to participate in the competition. The works they perform may be one movement from a concerto, a single-movement work, a concert or operatic aria, or song cycle for soloist and orchestra. A distinguished panel of judges consisting of professional musicians from outside the Williams community chooses the winners after the competition. The director of the Berkshire Symphony Ronald Feldman hosts the competition.

The competition winners will appear with the Berkshire Symphony in the orchestra's final regular season concert on **Friday, April 20, 2018** in Chapin Hall, a gala evening that showcases the remarkable talents of our Williams students.

Faculty Host

Ronald Feldman

Judges for the 2018 Competition are:

Joel Pitchon

Amanda Boyd

Gili Melemed-Lev

Joel Pitchon violinist, is a soloist, concertmaster, chamber music player, and Professor of Music at Smith College. He earned his degrees from The Juilliard School of Music where he studied the violin with Oscar Shumsky and Joseph Fuchs. Mr. Pitchon has served as concertmaster for numerous orchestras, including the Orquesta Ciutat de Barcelona (Spain), the New York Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra, and the EOS Chamber Orchestra. The New York Times noted his playing in the EOS production of Stravinsky's *L'Histoire du Soldat* as "...superb..." For GasparoRecords he recorded a CD of four Sonatas for violin and piano, with the composer Clifton J. Noble, Jr. as well as New England Legacy, works by Quincy Porter, Walter Piston, and Amy Beach with pianist Jonathan Bass. For ARTCD Mr. Pitchon performed on *Sun Threads*, chamber music of Augusta Read Thomas, made with the Walden Chamber Players. Soon to be released, *New England Legacy II*, works by Harbison, Fine, Ives and Noble. Mr. Pitchon is co-director of the Sage Chamber Music Society at Smith College.

Pianist **Gili Melamed Lev** is recognized for her artistic vision and innovative programming. Her unique artistry, soulful interpretations and her focus on creating a 'conversation' with the listeners has enchanted audiences far and wide. "As a performer, her insight, virtuosity and comprehension of the composers conceptions and intentions sets the music free so that the listener can enter a world of beauty, revelation and healing" (Composer Dorothy Haller). She is an engaging, multi-faceted pianist who enjoys a career as a soloist, chamber musician, and collaborative artist. Ms. Melamed-Lev has been the founder and Artistic Director of The Concerts at Camphill Ghent since 2012. Her great love for chamber music began as a teenager while participating in a chamber music seminar held by Isaac Stern in Mishkenot Sha'ananim over looking the old city in Jerusalem. She garnered rave reviews for her collaboration with Australian actor John McManus during their extended tour of *The Snow Goose* by Paul Gallico. She also partnered with Walking the dog Theater (WTD) in the production of *Bon-Appetit*, (about the life of Julia Child), *Red Carnations*, with composer Harold Farberman (*Diamond Street*) as well as with the Actors' Ensemble for their production of the Pulitzer nominated play, *Painting Churches*. Some of her recent performances include a concert with bassoonist Uzi Shalev (Tzavta, Tel-Aviv), a recital with pianist Susan Cohen-Zwlich (Jerusalem) and with Eugene Drucker and Roberta Cooper (Brooklyn, NY). In addition to her concerts at Camphill Ghent and Camphill Village Copake she will be performing this year with members of the Israeli Philharmonic in the Targ Music center in Jerusalem, at Taconic Music, and at Schenectady College Chamber Music Series. She has been a member of the Lev-Evans duo since 2013. For the past 3 summers, the duo was in residence at the Avaloch Farm Music Institute in New Hampshire, and their new CD with music by Brahms, Dvořák and Lasser was released in January 2018. She has held a number of artist-in-residence positions, including with Eurythmy Spring Valley, and the Rudolf Steiner Institute in Maine and Vermont. She was the co-founder of the Music Coalition of Columbia County, dedicated to contemporary and original music, the artistic director of the 88 Keys Concert Series and co-director of Sunbridge College's music department. Recent collaborations include Kenneth Cooper, Eugene Drucker, Aaron Boyd, Judith Mendenhall, Ronald Feldman, Lucy Bardo, Joel Pitchon, Paul Green, Ariel Rudiakov, Elizabeth Morse, Marie-Volcy Pelletier, Roberta Cooper, Joana Genova, Ashley Bathgate, Carmit Zori, Michael Slatkin, Shira Eliasaf, Lior Eitan and Omri Rave. She performed throughout the US, Europe and Canada, on the Goethanum stage (Switzerland), the Jerusalem theater and the Jerusalem Music center, the BPL concert Series, with the Wistaria Chamber Music Society and Capital Chamber players to name a few. A passionate advocate of music education, she teaches, performs, and gives master classes at the Schenectady Community College School of Music, and coaches students at Bard college. Born in Jerusalem, Gili Melamed-Lev studied with Sascha Gorodnitzki, György Sándor and Miyoko Nakaya-Lotto and was a scholarship student at The Juilliard School and Montclair State College. In 2004 she cofounded the "Alternative Therapies Cancer Care Fund" in the Taconic-Berkshire Region. She has held benefit concerts for "Kids-Need-Music" which purchases music instruments for children in public schools and the Child Advocacy Center in Hudson.

Soprano **Amanda Cara Boyd** has been hailed by critics as one of Britain's "Rising Stars." Ms. Boyd trained at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, where she won the Susan Longfield prize and was supported by the Countess of Munster Trust. She also trained at the National Opera Studio in London, where she was supported by *Friends of Covent Garden* and the *Foundation for Sports and the Arts*. Ms. Boyd was coached and supported by Elizabeth Vaughan and Dame Janet Baker throughout her training.

Among her many roles, Amanda Boyd played the title role in the film *Lucia* (Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*). Other operatic roles include: La Contessa (Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*) for the New Opera Festival in Rome, Italy; Ginevra (Handel's *Ariodante*) for the Covent Garden Festival; Adina (Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore*) for Bel Canto UK and the Cambridge Opera Players; Martha (Flotow's *Martha*) for Bel Canto UK; Lucia (Britten's *The Rape Of Lucretia*) for Music Theatre Wales at the Cheltenham and Buxton Festivals; Romilda (Handel's *Xerxes*) with The Early Opera Company; Gretel (Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*); Despina (Mozart's *Così fan Tutte*) for The London Opera Players; Cunegonde and Maria (Bernstein's *Candide* and *West Side Story*) with the Columbia Festival Orchestra, NY.

Ms. Boyd's performances of contemporary works have included the lead as Maeve in the world premiere of Deirdre Gribbin's *Hey! Persephone* for the Almeida and Aldeburgh Festivals; the role of Duende in the world premiere of Simon Holt's *A Nightingale's To Blame* for Opera North UK; and Edward Barnes' one-woman opera *The Vagabond Queen* for Hudson Chamber, NY.

Solo concert appearances include Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* with Sir Simon Rattle; Poulenc's *Gloria* with Sir David Willcocks and Britten folksong arrangements with the Albany Symphony Orchestra. Amanda now lives in New York.

Christine Pash '18

Christine Pash is a music major who studies voice with Erin Nafziger. Christine's opera roles include Miss Paige in An Embarrassing Position (Miami Music Festival) and third spirit in Die Zauberflöte (Bethesda Summer Music Festival). At Williams she sings in the concert choir, chamber choir and Williams Opera Workshop, and is excited to open Tartuffe (Flipote) next month!

Jack Romans '20

Jack Romans '20 is a prospective theatre and mathematics double major from Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Brandon Hilfer '20

Brandon Hilfer is a sophomore from Chappaqua, NY studying music and political science. He studies voice with Marlene Walt and cello with Nathaniel Park.

Amelia Dana '18

Amelia is an economics and classics major. She sings with the college concert and chamber choirs and in the opera workshop.

Leonard Bopp '19

Trumpet player Leonard Bopp is a junior at Williams College studying music and English. He is Assistant Conductor of the Berkshire Symphony, Music Director of the Chamber Orchestra of Williams, and Student Director of the I/O Contemporary Music. As a trumpet player, Leonard plays in the Berkshire Symphony and frequently performs as a soloist and chamber musician.

Kurt Pfrommer '18

Kurt is a music major from Lexington, MA. At Williams, he sings in the Concert and Chamber Choirs and performs in the Williams Opera Workshop.

Sean Wang '18

Sean is a current senior and math major. Hailing from New Jersey, he has played piano for 16 years, and this will be his second time competing in the soloist competition.

Sebastian Black '19

Sebastian Black '19 is a music and psychology double major from Birmingham, Alabama. He enjoys nerdy games, bad puns, and listing things in threes.

Qiana Yang '19

Qiana is a music and math double major at Williams. Her favorite pieces of music are the three Brahms violin sonatas. Her death wish is to have somebody perform all three of the sonatas at her funeral.

Julia Choi '20

Yeojin (Julia) Choi, a sophomore, studies piano as a student of Doris Stevenson and is involved in many music groups including chamber music and the Zambezi Marimba Band. She loves to teach piano and compose music. She intends to major in psychology and music with a concentration in neuroscience.

Jeffrey Pearson '20

Jeff Pearson is a prospective math and music double major and studies violin with Joanna Kurkowicz. As an avid orchestral player and chamber musician, Jeff plays with Berkshire Symphony and the Axxea String quartet, a group he co-founded with other Williams students. Jeff is also a very active jazz guitarist, playing with the Williams Jazz Ensemble as well as both of the smaller combos at Williams.

Erin Kennedy '19

Erin Kennedy '19 is a music major from St. Paul, Minnesota. At Williams, she studies voice with Erin Nafziger and sings in the Concert and Chamber choirs. She also student teaches with the Mt. Greylock Middle School and High School choirs, works as an accompanist, and is a member of the varsity swim team.

Calvin Ludwig '18

Calvin Ludwig, flute, is a fourth-year student flutist at Williams College. A native of Poughkeepsie, NY, Calvin is a 14-time flutist/piccoloist for the Berkshire Symphony and studies under New England Conservatory faculty flutist Jacqueline DeVoe. A double major with Honors in biochemistry and mathematics, Calvin has secured an academic research position following graduation studying hematopoietic developmental biology in the laboratory of Dr. Leonard Zon at Harvard Medical School in Boston, MA. Calvin is honored to be part of the extraordinary music-making that occurs at the College and hopes to find similar opportunities in the future.

Ben Mygatt '20

Benjamin Mygatt is a sophomore currently planning to major in music and mathematics. A native of North Carolina, Ben is an accomplished player of both the violin and the nose flute. When he's not practicing, Ben can be found eating, transcribing opera libretti, or aurally worshipping the music of Alma Deutscher.

Andrew Rim '20

Andrew Rim is currently a sophomore, and a prospective biology and music double major. Andrew has been playing the cello for about 15 years, and enjoys playing works by Schubert, Chopin, and Piazzolla (a wildly wide range of different music eras, but that's what floats his boat). A San Diego resident, Andrew enjoys spending his free time songwriting, playing basketball, and taking long walks along the beach.

Angela Yeo '18

Seunghyun Angela Yeo is a senior, majoring in philosophy, classics, and WGSS (Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies). She has been active in the music department for all four years of college, taking both voice and violin lessons and participating in the greater ensembles such as Berkshire Symphony and Williams Opera Workshop. She is very grateful to the music department for providing so many opportunities to become involved with classical music at Williams.

Dawn Wu '18

Dawn Wu is a computer science major at Williams. Dawn has been playing viola for 7 years and currently studies with Ah Ling Neu at Williams. She is very active in the music department, participating in multiple chamber groups and Berkshire Symphony. Outside of the music department, she enjoys spending time doing studio art, being a radio DJ, and club activities for the Cooking Club.