

patterns in the expressive piano accompaniment while creating a completely integrated art song through the power of harmonic language and inspired melody.

8. Montparnasse

Montparnasse is a quarter of Paris where many artists used to live. Poulenc has been quoted saying, “When the subject is Paris, I often approach it with a full heart and a mind full of music.” Finished in 1945, *Montparnasse* seems to allow Poulenc to re-immense himself in the place of his youth.

9. Les gars qui vont à la fête

*Chansons villageoises* is a song cycle by Poulenc with poetry by Maurice Fombeure. The aim of Fombeure was to “refresh” poetry and to “wash it, brush it up, take it for a walk in the grass, in the wind and the woods.” *Chansons villageoises* contains melodies that have clever stylizations of chansons, and are among Poulenc’s most diverting pieces of musical conjuring.

10. Things change, Jo

Written by contemporary American composer Mark Adamo, *Little Women* is based on the novel of the same title by Louisa May Alcott. After Meg, the oldest of the March sisters, accepts a proposal from John Brooke, Jo accuses Meg of abandoning her. In Meg’s aria “Things change, Jo,” Meg tries to appease Jo as best she can. Instead, it only wounds Jo more deeply.

11. The Red Dress

Ricky Ian Gordon (b.1956) was raised in New York and studied piano, composition, and acting at Carnegie Mellon University. He has written art songs, opera, and music theater. Gordon’s song “The Red Dress” is both beautiful and dream-like, depicting a young woman who longs for the freedom of adulthood and the desire to find the man of her dreams.

*This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of  
the requirements for the degree of  
Master of Music in Performance.*

*This recital is under the direction of Dr. Paul French.*

*Ars longa vita brevis*



**Gracie Ewert**

Mezzo-Soprano, Graduate Recital

Jodi French, piano

Music at SOU

June 9, 2018 ▪ 7:30 p.m.

SOU Music Recital Hall

## PROGRAM

Aime! Dove trascorsi?... Che farò, senza Euridice? from <i>Orfeo ed Euridice</i>	Christopher Willibald von Gluck (1714-1787)
Giusto ciel, in tal periglio from <i>Maometto II</i>	Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)
Saget, saget mir geschwinde <i>Oster Oratorium</i> , BWV 249	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Sposa son disprezzata from <i>Bajazet</i>	Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)
Pupille amate from <i>Lucio Silla</i>	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)
From <i>Vier Gesänge</i> , Op. 43 I. Von ewiger Liebe II. Die Mainacht	Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Montparnasse from <i>Deux Poèmes de Guillaume Apollinaire</i>	Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)
Les gars qui vont à la fête	Francis Poulenc
Things change, Jo from <i>Little Women</i>	Mark Adamo (b. 1962)
The Red Dress	Ricky Ian Gordon (b. 1956)

## PROGRAM NOTES

1. Che faro, senza Euridice?  
“Che farò senza Euridice,” is Orfeo’s lament at losing Euridice. This famous aria, hits home for everyone, since we all wonder from time to time how we’ll manage without those who are close to our hearts.
2. Giusto ciel, in tal periglio  
“Giusto ciel” is an aria sung by Anna, the daughter of a Venetian general. In the aria, Anna has taken refuge in a church and is praying to God for deliverance from the Turks.
3. Saget, saget mir geschwinde  
“Saget mir geschwinde” is taken from Bach’s *Easter Oratorio* and depicts a longing for Jesus and the hope of quickly being reunited with him. In some ways, this is a love aria between Mary Magdalene and Jesus.
4. Sposa son disprezzata  
Antonio Vivaldi’s opera *Bajazet* was written in 1735 for the Carnival season at Verona. In the aria “Sposa son disprezzata” the character Irene scorns her husband for being unfaithful and battles with thoughts of honoring him, hoping that one day he will be true to her.
5. Pupille amate  
The story of Mozart’s *Lucio Silla* revolves around a Roman dictator, Lucio Silla, who lusts after Giunia, the daughter of his enemy. However, Giunia is in love with the senator Cecilio, who Lucio Silla later banishes. In “Pupille amate” Cecilio has secretly returned to Rome. He is by the Tiber River, anticipating seeing his beloved Giunia.
6. Von ewiger Liebe  
Johannes Brahms was one of the great composers of the 19th century and one of the major composers of Lieder. *Von ewiger Liebe* suggests a dark and intense mood. The plot follows a boy walking his girlfriend home and declaring that their love has brought her shame, but she assures him that their love is more enduring than steel or iron.
7. Die Mainacht  
Composed in 1866, “Die Mainacht” was published by J. Reiter-Beidermann in 1868. Brahms relies on a number of shifting rhythmic