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Junior Recital: Kylie Merchant & Austin Kobylarczyk (2023)

St. Norbert College Music Department

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~Program~

- Sonata for Flute and Piano Francis Poulenc
I. Allegro malinconico (1899-1963)
Kylie Merchant, flute
Elaine Moss, piano
- Five Variations in Db Austin Kobylarczyk
(b. 2002)
Elaine Moss, piano
- Summer Music Richard Rodney Bennett
I. Summer Music (1936-2012)
III. Games
Kylie Merchant, flute
Elaine Moss, piano
- Somatic Austin Kobylarczyk
(b. 2002)
Simon Whiteley, cello
- Kokopeli Katherine Hoover
(1937-2018)
Kylie Merchant, flute
- Interpretations I Austin Kobylarczyk
(b. 2002)
Austin Kobylarczyk, piano
- what seemed corporal melted...* Austin Kobylarczyk
(b. 2002)
Kylie Merchant, flute
- Not Quite Reich Austin Kobylarczyk
(b. 2002)
Anna Heinzen, flute; Abbey Barnett, oboe;
Kelly Robinson, trumpet; Tyler Newsom, trumpet
Ellie Brielmeier, clarinet, Simon Whiteley, cello
Austin Kobylarczyk, piano; Mahri Hodges, piano

~Program Notes~

Sonata for Flute and Piano - Francis Poulenc

Francis Poulenc, born January 7th, 1899 in Paris, is considered one of the leading French composers of the 20th century. He preferred the sound of wind instruments and studied them in order to write idiomatically to the instrument. He set out to write four sonatas for each standard woodwind instrument - flute, clarinet, oboe, and bassoon - alongside piano, but unfortunately suffered a heart attack before finishing the fourth. His flute sonata was a commission from the Library of Congress in memory of Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge; the unofficial premiere was performed by Jean-Pierre Rampal on flute and Poulenc on the piano.

**This piece was performed by Kylie at her senior year solo and ensemble. She was set to go to state with the solo, but unfortunately, due to COVID, it was canceled. This piece is dedicated to all of Kylie's music teachers that have seen her grow through the years.*

Five Variations in Db - Austin Kobylarczyk

Five Variations in Db is an exploration of a lopsided theme in $\frac{7}{8}$, which undergoes a number of changes in a set of constantly accelerating variations. The character of the variations shifts drastically, from a slow meditative variation, to a bouncy dance, to a flowing reel, before finishing with a lively, vivace rendition of the original theme.

Summer Music - Richard Rodney Bennett

Richard Rodney Bennett is an English composer that was born in March 1936. He was known as a composer, pianist, and jazz musician. As a composer, he was particularly known for his approach to 12 tone and serial composition. Summer Music was composed in order to bridge the gap between "starting to learn an instrument and playing 'real' music". The first movement is fluid and flowing with two themes - one scalar and one based on arpeggios. The third movement is a game of tag between the flute and piano and is intermixed with themes from the previous two movements.

Somatic - Austin Kobylarczyk

This piece for solo cello was inspired by Béla Bartók's Sonata for Solo Violin, particularly the second movement, *Fuga*. While not a fugue in nature, this piece emulates the repetitive nature of one, drawing heavily from melodic material based around the whole tone scale, and making use of it constantly. The use of the whole tone scale leads to a sound reminiscent of a floating, dream-like state.

Kokopeli - Katherine Hoover

Katherine Hoover is an American flutist and composer born in 1937. She is most known for her flute solo, *Kokopeli*, that is inspired by the Hopi tribe of the Southwestern United States. *Kokopeli* is a flute player and legendary hero of the Hopi and other Native Americans in that area of the United States. He is said to have led a migration with his flute echoing through the canyons and cliffs, which Hoover wanted to capture this sense of spaciousness. Hoover was influenced by Native American flute songs and sounds.

Interpretations I - Austin Kobylarczyk

A return to roots, this piece is a guided interpretation of a story, which tells the tale of a young woman who falls prey to a wicked mamma machinations, and the story of her time trapped with him. The man keeps her captive in an abusive relationship for the rest of her life, while she dreams of her life before him, when things were simpler and easy.

***what seemed corporal melted...* - Austin Kobylarczyk**

Commissioned by Kylie Merchant, this piece explores harmonic language inspired by the improvisations of virtuoso jazz musician, Eric Dolphy, as well as giving the performer a number of choices through aleatoric sections, allowing unique experiences each time it is performed.

Not Quite Reich - Austin Kobylarczyk

Inspired by the work of seminal minimalist composer Steve Reich, this piece for eight musicians does not conform very directly to the concepts of minimalist music, as the shifts in the music are frequent and relatively quick in comparison. This led to the name '*Not quite Reich*', as an homage to the composer, and a pun, as the piece is closely related to his style of writing, but not identical.

This recital of Kylie Merchant is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Music Education Degree.

Kylie is in the studio of Dr. Kortney James

This recital of Austin is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Music Performance.

Austin is in the studio of Dr. John Hennecken