

St. Norbert College

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Music

Fall 11-17-2023

Autumn String Orchestra Concert: "Reflections of the American Spirit" (2023)

St. Norbert College Music Department

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~ *Program* ~

Songs of the American Frontier

arr. Robert Longfield
(b. 1947)

Daybreak

James Naigus
(b. 1987)

“Hoedown”

from *Rodeo*

Aaron Copland
(1900–1990)
arr. Stephen Bulla

Spirit Song: Remembering the 1811 Slave Revolt in New Orleans

Charles Lloyd, Jr.
(b. 1948)

- I. A Mulatto Slave
- II. Deep River
- III. No More Auction Block For Me
- IV. Arise! Arise! Shake Off Your Chains!
- V. Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child
- VI. River Road
- VII. Spirit Song

Kearstin Piper Brown, soprano

Richard Hobson, baritone

Dr. João Paulo Casarotti, piano

Anna Heinzen, flute

Members of St. Norbert College Chamber Singers

St. Norbert College String Orchestra
Dr. Taylor Giorgio, Director

	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Grad. Year</u>	<u>Major/Minor</u>
<u>Violin</u>			
Brittany Blohowiak	Green Bay		Community Member
Anna Etten	Shawano	2027	Biomedical Sciences
Katelyn Flanagan	Neenah	2024	Spanish Education
Ariana Fohrman	Rochester, MN	2022	Alum
Melissa Fritsch**	Appleton	2019	Alum
Katelyn Hanson	Green Bay		Community Member
Matthew Kirkendall*	Cincinnati, OH		Community Member
Kelsie Kohlmeyer	Suamico		Community Member
John Kolar	Green Bay		Community Member
Dr. Toni Maisano			SNC Faculty (Communication & Media Studies)
Sophia Palmeri	Conway, SC	2027	History and French
Lauryn Rather	Appleton	2025	Political Science /Spanish
Tea Raymond	West Bend	2025	English
Sadie Stieglitz-Van Vonderer	Green Bay		Community Member
Abigail Walton	De Pere	2026	Computer Science /Business Admin
Dr. Chris Williams	Columbus, IN		Community Member
<u>Viola</u>			
Dr. Deborah Anderson			SNC Faculty (Biology)
Abbey Barnett	Manitowoc	2026	Instrumental Music Education /History
Dayna Blohowiak	De Pere	2025	Biomedical Sciences
Reegan Carney	Wales	2027	Biology
Alexander Fritsch*	Appleton	2025	Chemistry
Kate Martin	Ann Arbor, MI		Community Member
Maddie Sanderson	Portage	2026	Computer Science, History
Dr. Vicky Tashjian	De Pere		SNC Faculty (History)

Cello

Brian Coulter	Peoria, IL	2026	Business Administration
Ian Froelich	Green Bay	2027	Business / Music
Lucas Hanson	Appleton		Community Member
Emma Hurley	Orland Park, IL	2024	Elementary Education
Paris Riggle	De Pere	2024	Biology/Chemistry
Rose Venechuk		2027	Psychology
Simon Whiteley*	Bethpage, TN	2025	Music Education

Bass

Connor Markohn	West Bend	2027	Computer Science, Liberal Arts
Jacob Risberg	New Berlin	2024	Political Science, International Studies, Sociology

Piano

Tom (Dong Hyeon) Lee	Seoul, South Korea	2025	Music Performance
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Percussion

Mahri Hodges	Ashwaubenon	2025	Music Performance
Nathan Lezotte	Freedom	2025	Instrumental Music Education

**Concertmaster

*Principal

Members of St. Norbert College Chamber Singers
Dr. Sarah Parks, Director

Soprano

Lara Deshler
Lena Farnum
Bekah Gerads
Daphne Johnson
Madeline Kaltz
Grace Krause
Mary Mitchell
Alea Poehls
Grace Spiewak

Alto

Elizabeth Catania
Katie Fabricius
Nicole Hasburgh
Delaney Hennes
Sarah Labinski
Fiona Laffey
Isabella Puchalla
Kate Pytleski
Brynn Schintgen
Ella Wienke

Tenor

Conor Hensley
Tyler Kasper
Tom (Dong Hyeon) Lee
Colton Lemanski
Nathan Lezotte
Fernando Osorio

Bass

Ryan Bekkers
Josh Brown
Carlos Herrada
Austin Kobylarczyk
Evan Larson

~ *Soloists* ~

Charles Lloyd, Jr., *composer*

Charles Lloyd, Jr. is a musician of diverse gifts, and accomplishments as a composer, pianist, arranger, accompanist and vocal coach. Mr. Lloyd is presently Professor of Music and Director of Choirs at Southern University and A&M College, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A native of Toledo, Ohio, he received a B.S. in Music Education from Norfolk State University and a M. M. in Piano Performance from the University of Michigan.

Mr. Lloyd is much in demand as a composer and arranger. In 2013 Mr. Lloyd was honored by The University of Texas with performances of his works by the Huston-Tillotson University Concert Choir, The University of Texas Concert Chorale and the Prairie View Texas A&M University Concert Choir. In 2011 his Cantata “Spirit Song” for Soprano, Baritone, Chorus and Piano was debuted for the 200th Anniversary of the 1811 Slave revolt in Louisiana. On August 2, 2008 his opera Emmett Till was debuted at Science High School in Newark, NJ. The Trilogy Opera Company commissioned the work. Mr. Lloyd was featured on the Hamilton Fairfield Symphony Orchestra American Masters Concert Series as one of America’s Premier exponents of African-American Spirituals. “Ballad of the Black Mother” and “Amazing Grace”, composed and arranged by Mr. Lloyd appear on Songs of America recorded by Oral Moses, bass-baritone on Albany records. Mr. Lloyd was also a collaborative composer for The Sisyphus Syndrome, a thematic concert in the operatic tradition to text by Amiri Baraka, and debuted at The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Kathleen Battle and Jessye Norman on Spirituals in Concert, a 1990 broadcast conducted by James Levine and recorded by Deutsche Grammophon, performed two of his works. His opera Song of Solomon was premiered in Detroit, Michigan, in 1988. His compositions and arrangements appear on Great Day in the Morning and Spirituals, recorded by Jessye Norman on Philips Records; The Passion of Christ in Spirituals recorded by Veronica Tyler, soprano; Let it Shine recorded by Laura-English Robinson, soprano; and the debut recording of Carolyn Sebron, mezzo soprano. Mr. Lloyd has composed more than sixty acappella choral arrangements of spirituals and hymns entitled The Invisible Church.

Mr. Lloyd’s works have been performed in recital, and by orchestra. He was commissioned to adapt spirituals by William L. Dawson for orchestra and chorus which were premiered by the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. In 2000, Warner Bros. Publications published a collection of Mr. Lloyd’s spirituals, entitled The Spiritual Art Song Collection. One of Mr. Lloyd’s compositions is included in The New Spiritual publication, and his art song “Compensation” appears in The Anthology of Art Songs by African American Composers both compiled by Willis Patterson. He was commissioned to write two arts songs for Kevin Maynor, bass, with a text by South

Africa's Don Matera, which can be heard on his recording *The Black Art Song*. Mr. Lloyd has had several choral spirituals published, and his compositions and career has been highlighted in two doctoral dissertations: *The Vocal Works of Charles Lloyd, Jr.: The Dramatic Works, Art Songs and Spiritual Art Song* by Charis Kelly Hudson, Louisiana State University, December, 2011 and *The Contributions of Twentieth Century African American Composers to the Solo Trumpet Repertoire: A Discussion and Analysis of Selected works* by: Ulysses s. Kat, Adolphus C. Hailstork, Regina Harris Baiocchi, and Charles Lloyd, Jr. by Orrin Wilson, University of Nebraska, June 2011.

Mr. Lloyd has been the official accompanist for several international competitions including the International Voice Competition in Rio de Janeiro, the International Gaudeamus Competition of 20th Century Music in Rotterdam, the Munich Voice Competition, and the Sixth International Tchaikovsky Competition in Voice in Moscow, where he was honored with a distinguished accompanying award.

Mr. Lloyd is the recipient of the ASCAP Award, and the Arts Ambassadors' Award by the Baton Rouge Arts Council. In addition, the Baton Rouge Arts Council funded "Revival II", a program of vocal compositions.

Kearstin Piper Brown, *soprano*

American soprano Kearstin Piper Brown has delighted audiences with her award-winning performance in Lynn Nottage and Rocky Ian Gordon's *Intimate Apparel* at the Lincoln Center Theater earning her a World Theater Award, as well as nominations by the Drama Desk Awards, Lucille Lortel Awards, Critic's Outer Circle, and Antonyo Awards. Kearstin has been praised for her interpretation of lead roles in modern operas such as *The Shining* with Opera Parallèle and the Atlanta Opera, *Proximity* with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, *This Little Light of Mine* with Santa Fe Opera, and *It's a Wonderful Life* with San Francisco Opera. Later this season, Ms. Brown makes her Metropolitan debut as Evelyn in *Fire Shut Up in My Bones* and her role and house debut as Nedda in *I Pagliacci* with Florida Grand Opera.

Other operatic highlights of Ms. Brown's career include *Violetta* in *La Traviata*, *Gilda* in *Rigoletto*, *Euridice* in *Orfeo*, *Pamina* in *Die Zauberflöte*, *Musetta* in *La Bohème*, *Micaëla* in *Carmen*, and *Clara* in *Porgy and Bess* at the Teatro di San Carlo. She also portrayed the role of Mrs. McDowell in the world premiere of *Rise for Freedom: The John P. Parker Story* with Cincinnati Opera.

Ms. Brown has performed the role of Bess worldwide with Opera Kazan, New Orleans Opera, Skylight Music Theatre, Dayton Opera, Virginia Opera, Utah Festival Opera, and the Belarusian State Philharmonic Orchestra, Minsk. In addition, the European *Porgy and Bess* tour of New York Harlem Productions brought her Bess to such

prestigious venues as the Hamburgische Staatsoper, the Semperoper Dresden, the Deutsche Oper am Rhein, and the Komische Oper Berlin. Ms. Brown also toured with Cape Town Opera, where she sang at the Edinburgh Festival, the Royal Festival Hall London, and the Israeli Opera.

Highlights of Ms. Brown's performances as a concert soloist include an appearance at Carnegie Hall with the Cecelia Chorus of New York, the Palais Augarten in Vienna, a gala of American music with the Moscow City Symphony Orchestra, Knoxville Summer of 1915 with the San Jose Chamber Orchestra, Handel's Messiah with the National Philharmonic and Lebanon Symphony, the Vaughan Williams Dona Nobis Pacem with the Rochester Oratorio Society, Cedar Rapids Chorale and Symphony, and Geneseo Symphony, the Festival Classique's Opera Under the Stars concert with the Residentie Orkest in The Hague, and the Edison Awards Gala 2010 with the Amsterdam Sinfonietta, both of which were televised live in the Netherlands. She has also appeared as a soloist with the Gateways Music Festival, Dallas Symphony, Atlanta Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, Finger Lakes Opera, Pasadena Symphony, Rochester Early Music Festival, and the Hines-Lee Opera Ensemble at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Ms. Brown starred in a gala concert Our Songs – The Music of African American Composers at the Bruno Walter Auditorium at Lincoln Center with Opera Ebony, and was heard at Jazz at Lincoln Center under the auspices of the Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation. The versatile soprano has also toured with the 3 Mo' Divas (sister group of the 3 Mo' Tenors), and scored an early success as Sarah in the Light Opera Works Chicago regional premiere of Ragtime, earning her a "Best Actress in a Musical" nomination from the Black Theater Alliance in Chicago, and made a triumphant return to the role with the Utah Festival Opera. In addition, she has appeared in theater productions in the Washington DC area with the Studio Theater, Roundhouse Theatre, Arena Stage, and the Kennedy Center Theatre for Young Audiences.

Richard Hobson, *baritone*

Richard Hobson, baritone, is acclaimed for "the strong dramatic persona" he brings to his performances. He is an Affiliate Artist at Southern University where he teaches voice and is The Director of Opera. He has sung professionally for over twenty years in Europe, Australia, the United States, Canada and in South America. The New York Sun wrote of his Rigoletto "...the staff was extremely lucky to draw baritone Richard Hobson as the jester. Here was a voice of deep power and burnished color. In addition to some of the best shading I have heard in some time, Mr. Hobson is an excellent actor who sent chills at the appropriate moments. His scene with the courtiers was really quite memorable. The character might have been stooped by his infirmities, but his voice towered over his peers."

Mr. Hobson has sung on the roster of The Metropolitan Opera for ten consecutive seasons in operas including *Madama Butterfly*, *Carmen*, *Rigoletto*, *Boris Goulanov*, *Les Troyens*, *Andrea Chenier*, *Le Rossignol*, *War And Peace*, *Macbeth*, *Samson Et Dalila*, *Doktor Faust*, *Don Carlo*, *The Nose* and *Die Frau Ohne Schatten*.

At New York City Opera, Mr. Hobson was heard in the title role of *Porgy And Bess*, as *Zuniga* in *Carmen*, *Count Almaviva* in *Le Nozze di Figaro* and *Schaunard* in *La Boheme*.

In 2001 Mr. Hobson made his Italian debut as *Amonasro* in a new production of *Aida* which celebrated the centennial of Giuseppe Verdi's death. The production was directed by Franco Zeffirelli at Teatro Strehler (Piccolo Scala) in Milano, Italy.

In addition to opera, Mr. Hobson made his Broadway debut in *Hal Princes' Showboat* singing the role of *Joe*. He also sang in *St. Louis Woman* and *Treemonisha*.

Recent engagements include the eponymous role in Verdi's *Rigoletto* with Opera Southern and a recital at First United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge.

Upcoming Performances include *Mose Wright* in *Emmett Till: Opera in Three Acts* at The Manship Theatre in Baton Rouge, Louisiana with Opera Southern.

Dr. João Paulo Casarotti, *piano*

Assistant Professor of Music

Brazilian pianist João Paulo Casarotti is the Assistant Professor of Piano at St. Norbert College in De Pere, WI, as well as the Artistic and Pedagogical Director of the Encontro Internacional de Pianistas de Piracicaba, Encontro Internacional de Pianistas do Vale do Aço (Timóteo, MG) and Piracicaba International Piano Concerto Competition. Dr. Casarotti maintains an intense activity as a pianist, pedagogue, researcher, clinician, entrepreneur and piano technology consultant.

Casarotti earned his Doctoral degree in Piano Performance from Louisiana State University, a Master's degree in Piano Performance and Piano Pedagogy at Temple University, a Master's degree in Piano Pedagogy from the University of North Dakota, a Bachelor's degree in Piano from the Universidade de São Paulo (Brazil), the Piano Diploma of the Escola de Música de Piracicaba "Maestro Ernst Mahle", and the Performance Certificate of the National Academy of Music of Sofia (Bulgaria).

Dr. Casarotti performed as soloist and chamber musician in Brazil, the United States, Portugal, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Thailand, Taiwan, South Korea, Bulgaria, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay. He also performed as a soloist for orchestras in Brazil, United States and Ukraine. His areas of expertise include the Taubman Technique, Alexander Technique and Piano Wellness; the use of technology in piano

lessons and the works of Brazilian composer Ernst Mahle. Casarotti published articles for the MTA Magazine, MTNA Business Digest as well as he has been featured on a series of webinars for the Frances Clark Center on the use of technology on piano lessons and the opportunities of online instruction globally after the pandemic.

Dr. Casarotti is currently member of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee of the Music Teachers National Association, as well as member of the Technology Committee of the National Conference of Keyboard Pedagogy and the Competition Coordinator for the Wisconsin Music Teachers Association.

Anna Heinzen '25, *flute*

Anna Heinzen, a native of Manitowoc, WI, is an active performer both while at home and at school. She is currently studying flute performance under the instruction of Dr. Kortney James at St. Norbert College (De Pere, WI). Seated first chair in the St. Norbert College Wind Ensemble and a member of the St. Norbert College flute choir, Anna has also played with the St. Norbert College Jazz Band, Dudley Birder Chorale Orchestra, Manitowoc Marine Band, and the Lakeshore Wind Ensemble. Some of her notable musical achievements include being a finalist in the Lakeshore Wind Ensemble Young Artist Competition in 2022, being a member of the 2022 CBDNA Intercollegiate Band, a member of the 2020 WSMA State Honors Band, and along with many more. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her family, friends, and animals, attending shows and concerts, and finding new hobbies to pursue.

Thank you to the SNC Norman Miller Center for Peace, Justice, and Understanding for their support in bringing in these amazing and inspiring guest artists.