

An Evening With Paul and Christine Seitz and Friends

Saturday, June 3 at 7:30pm
McArdle Theatre, MTU campus

Sunday, June 4 at 4:00pm
St. Paul's Episcopal Church Chapel, Marquette

Program

Music by Paul Seitz

Two Songs

Christine Seitz, voice
Susie Byykkonen, Piano

Reasons (1978)
Poem by Scott Campbell

It is not the morning's glory on the trellis
or the hue of the rising sun
or any brown animal
That this poem celebrates.
It is the earth as the stones hurt it,
as the mountains hurt it,
as rivers destroy.
It is that the sun bellows like a bull,
and that light is a pendulum.
That air is transparent,
that music is invisible,
and that the moon survives,
despite morning,
despite footsteps;
that walls are perpendicular
and that stairways also descend.
It is that angels are the color of the dawn.

Canticle (1989)
Poem by May Sarton

We sat smoking at a table by the river
And then suddenly in the silence someone said,
"Look at the sunlight on the apple tree there shiver:
I shall remember that long after I am dead."
Together we all turned to see how the tree shook,
How it sparkled and seemed spun out of green and gold,
And we thought that hour, that light and our long mutual look
Might warm us some day when we were cold.

And I thought of your face that sweeps over me like light,
Like the sun on the apple making a lovely show,
So one seeing it marveled the other night,
Turned to me saying, “What is it in your heart? You glow.”—
Not guessing that on my face he saw the singular
Reflection of your grace like fire on snow—
And loved you there.

Some Things that Fly (2022) World Premiere
Poems by Emily Dickinson

Christine Seitz, voice
Paul Seitz, guitar

Hope

“Hope” is the thing with feathers—
That perches in the soul—
And sings the tune without the words—
And never stops—at all—

And sweetest—in the Gale—is heard—
And sore must be the storm—
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm—

I’ve heard it in the chilliest land—
And on the strangest Sea—
Yet—never—in Extremity,
It asked a crumb—of me.

The Gentian Weaves

The Gentian weaves her fringes—
The Maple’s loom is red—
My departing blossoms
Obviate parade.

A brief, but patient illness—
An hour to prepare,
And one below this morning
Is where the angels are—
It was a short procession,
The Bobolink was there—
An aged Bee addressed us—
And then we knelt in prayer—
We trust that she was willing—
We ask the we may be.
Summer—Sister—Seraph!
Let us go with thee!

In the name of the Bee—
And of the Butterfly—
And of the Breeze—Amen!

The Secret

Some things that fly there be—
Birds—Hours—the Bumblebee—
Of these no Elegy.

Some things that stay there be—
Grief—Hills—Eternity—
Nor this behooveth me.

There are that resting, rise.
Can I expound the skies?
How still the Riddle lies!

Wild Geese (2023) World Premiere

Danielle Simandl, violin
Paul Seitz, guitar
Adam Hall, cello

Based on the poem by Mary Oliver:

You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
For a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
Meanwhile the world goes on.
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
are heading home again.
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting –
over and over announcing your place
in the family of things.

On Being an Artist (2016, rev. 2023)
Poem by Noelle Kocot

Christine Seitz, voice
Danielle Simandl, violin
Paul Seitz, guitar
Adam Hall, cello
Susie Byykkonen, piano

Saturn seems habitual
The way it rages in the sky
When we're not looking.
On this note, the trees still sing
To me, and I long for this
Mottled world. Patterns
Of the lamplight on this leather,
The sun, listening.
My brother, my sister,
I was born to tell you certain
Things, even if no one
Really listens. Give it back
To me, as the bird takes up
The whole sky, ruined with
Nightfall. If I can remember
The words in the storm,
I will be well enough to sit
Here with you a little while.

*** INTERMISSION ***

Songs for Voice and Lute

John Dowland
(1563-1626)

Christine Seitz, voice
Paul Seitz, lute

Weep you no more, sad fountains,
What need you flow so fast?
Look how the snowy mountains,
Heav'n's sun doth gently waste.
But my sun's heav'nly eyes
View not your weeping,
That now lies sleeping,
Softly, now softly lies
Sleeping.

Sleep is a reconciling,
A rest that peace begets:
Doth not the sun rise smiling,
When fair at ev'n he sets?
Rest you then, rest sad eyes,
Melt not in weeping,

While she lies sleeping,
Softly, now softly lies
Sleeping.

Tell me, true Love where shall I seek thy being,
In thoughts or words, in vows or promise-making,
In reasons, looks, or passions never seeing,
In men on earth, or women's minds partaking.
Thou canst not die, and therefore living tell me
Where is thy seat, why, doth this age expel thee?

Mount then my thoughts, here is for thee no dwelling,
Since Truth and Falsehood live like twins together:
Believe not sense, eyes, ears, touch, taste, or smelling,
Both Art and Nature's forc'd: put trust in neither.
One only she doth true Love captive bind
In fairest breast, but in a fairer mind.

Sorrow, stay, lend true repentant tears,
To a woeful wretched wight,
Hence, Despair with thy tormenting fears:
O do not my poor heart affright.
Pity, help now or never,
Mark me not to endless pain,
Alas I am condemned ever,
No hope, no help there doth remain,
But down, down, down, down I fall,
And arise I never shall.

From the American Songbook

Christine Seitz, voice
Paul Seitz, guitar

I Never Has Seen Snow

music by Harold Arlen
lyrics by Truman Capote

They All Laughed

music by George Gershwin
lyrics by Ira Gershwin

Some Other Time

music by Leonard Bernstein
lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green

It's a New World

music by Harold Arlen
lyrics by Ira Gershwin

Songs of Protest

Christine Seitz, voice
Paul Seitz, guitar

Additional instruments for Hard Times:
Danielle Simandl, violin
Adam Hall, cello

A Hard Rain's a-Gonna Fall

Bob Dylan

Ворожба (Vorozhba; Witchcraft)

Boris Grebenshchikov
Translation by Ian Campbell

Колдуй, баба, колдуй, дед
В тёмном небе странный след
Как-то завелась эта гниль и мразь
И никакого завтра больше нет

Conjure, woman, conjure, grandpa
In the dark sky there's a strange track
Somehow this rot and filth got started
And there's no tomorrow anymore

Колдуй, викинг, колдуй, йог
Порой небо нам не впрок
Жёлтая река слишком глубока
Осталось лишь кричать, что с нами Бог

Conjure, Viking, conjure, yogi
Sometimes the sky's no use to us
The yellow river is too deep
All that's left is to shout that God is with us

Меж воронок жгут огни
Всё это не мы, всё это они
Гой еси, ядрёна вошь
Против самого себя не попрёшь

Fires burn between the shell-holes
All this isn't us, all this is them
Be well, damn it
You gotta face yourself

Как от этой ворожбы
В сердце выросли гробы
Ох, хороша была наша душа
Чёрным дымом из трубы

From this divination
How graves have grown in our heart
Oh, our soul was good
Like black smoke from a pipe

Колдуй, баба, колдуй, дед
Сотню лет один ответ
Но, пока дышу, я всё-таки прошу
Чтобы к нам вернулся ясный свет
Ясный свет

Conjure woman, conjure, grandpa
One answer for a hundred years
But while I'm breathing, I still ask
That the clear light return to us
The clear light

Where Have All the Flowers Gone?

Pete Seeger

Hard Times Come Again No More

Stephen Foster

Performer Bios



Christine Seitz was the Opera Director for the Pine Mountain Music Festival from 1992 through 2002, where she directed productions of *Gianni Schicchi*, *The Magic Flute*, *Suor Angelica*, *Pagliacci*, *La Bohème*, *Susannah*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, *La Traviata*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, *Carmen*, *Falstaff*, and *Don Giovanni*. She sang the leading role of Anna Clemenc in the world premiere of *The Children of the Keweenaw*, by composer Paul Seitz and librettist Kathleen Masterson, in 2001. She appeared on many New Music programs and she also presided at public Voice Master Classes as a part of PMMF during those years. As a dramatic soprano, recent appearances include singing the role of Madame Larina in Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* with the Des Moines Metro Opera, and performances as soloist with the University of Missouri Choral Union. Ms. Seitz has sung operatic roles with the Seattle Opera, the Dallas Opera, Madison Opera, the Los Angeles Opera, the Toledo Opera, Kentucky Opera, the Florentine Opera of Milwaukee, Central City Opera, and in Europe with the Wuppertaler Bühnen and the Stadttheater Bern. She has been the Director of the University of Missouri-Columbia's Show-Me Opera since the fall of 2008, most recently bringing productions of Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* and *The Magic Flute*, and Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance* to the stage of the Missouri Theatre. She directed productions of *Die Fledermaus*, *La Traviata*, *La Bohème*, and *Carmen* for the Missouri Symphony from 2016 through 2019, and she was on staff with the Des Moines Metro Opera as a stage director for the Apprentice Artist Program from 2006 through 2013.

Paul Seitz is a composer of opera and music for instrumental and vocal ensembles large and small. His compositions have been heard in recitals and concerts across the United States as well as around the world, including recent performances in Austria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Colombia, Germany, Netherlands, Scotland, Spain, and New Zealand. Seitz holds a D.M.A. in Composition and M.M. (Music Theory) from the University of Wisconsin and a M.A. from Teachers College, Columbia University. His primary composition teachers were Robert Crane, Fred Lerdahl and Stephen Dembski. Recordings featuring his music include: a new CD by Drei Bones trombone trio (2019 release), *Across the Wide Missouri*, *New Music for Trombone*, by Timothy Howe and a faculty ensemble from the University of Missouri School of Music, *Martyrs*, by the Codigo Trio (Netherlands), *In a Nutshell* (Netherlands) by bass clarinet virtuoso Henri Bok, *Dialogues*, by The Irrelevants (Carrie Koffman, saxophones and Tim Deighton, viola), *Tunnel Vision* by the MU Concert Jazz Band, and *Spiritual Planet (Klavier)* by the UNLV Wind Orchestra. Dr. Seitz currently teaches music theory and composition at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Music.



Susan Byykkonen is an independent music teacher in Houghton County, teaching a full studio of flute and piano students. She grew up in the Keweenaw, taking both flute and piano lessons with Joan Luehrs. She went on to receive her Bachelor of Arts degree in Music from Cedarville University in Ohio where she studied Flute Performance with Marianne Chenoweth and Piano Pedagogy with Connie Anderson. Susan is an active member of the Lake Superior Music Teachers Association and also serves as minister of music for Portage Lake United Church, Houghton. For many years Susan performed at Michigan Tech University as accompanist and associate

director for the Concert Choir, and on flute or piano with various chamber groups and with the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra. From 2000-2004 she served as choir director and piano instructor at Lakeland Christian School in Florida. Over the last ten years, she has had the privilege of performing with the Pine Mountain Music Festival and serving as pianist and director for the UPstarts! program. Most recently, Susan has enjoyed working with Jennifer Wenger, building their piano duo repertoire and collaborating on flute & piano literature.



Adam Hall began his undergraduate studies in Chicago at DePaul University, and later moved to Glasgow where he completed his bachelor's and master's degrees in cello performance at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, studying with Alison Wells. He was then awarded the prestigious Holland Scholarship and continued his post-graduate studies with Michel Strauss and Jan-Ype Nota at the Koninklijk Conservatorium in Den Haag, specializing in contemporary music and improvisation. Adam currently lives in Marquette, Michigan, where he plays regularly with the Marquette and Keweenaw Symphony Orchestras, and the Superior String Alliance (SSA) Chamber Players.

As a teacher, Adam has been on faculty at the SSA Summer Music Camp for almost a decade, and serves as the director of SSA Strings Club. He runs a private studio in Marquette teaching cello lessons, and is a certified Kundalini Yoga teacher.



Danielle Simandl is currently the Executive Director of Superior String Alliance (SSA) and Co-Executive Director of Pine Mountain Music Festival (PMMF), both of which are arts nonprofits based in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Danielle performs with the Quad City Symphony Orchestra in Iowa, and with the Fox Valley Symphony in Wisconsin as Principal Second Violin. An equally dedicated chamber musician, Danielle can be found performing different kinds of chamber music in unique corners of the Great Lakes region, especially with the Tuuli Quartet and the

Superior String Alliance Chamber Players. She is also the Music Director of SSA's Summer Music Camp, and the proud owner of countless tie-dye T-shirts. Danielle holds a Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance and a Bachelor of Arts in Gender Studies from Lawrence University, and a Master of Music in Violin Performance and a Performance Certificate from DePaul University.