

MSU Music

MSU FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
SHOWCASE SERIES

# That's Amore

**Sunday, February 2, 3:00 p.m.**

Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY RUTH CHARLES

University Chorale, conducted by David Rayl

Judy Kabodian, piano  
Alan Nathan, piano  
Derek Polischuk, piano

Molly Fillmore, soprano  
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Melanie Helton, soprano  
Anne Nispel, soprano  
Richard Fracker, tenor  
Harlan Jennings, baritone  
Peter Lightfoot, baritone

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

College of Music

## PROGRAM

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From *La Traviata*  
Libiamo

Giuseppe Verdi  
(1813-1901)

Tutti (Italian for everyone!)  
Derek Polischuk, piano

The courtesan Violetta and her boisterous friends drink to life, love, and happiness in this rousing drinking song.

From *La Donna del Lago*  
Tanti Affetti

Gioachino Rossini  
(1792-1868)

Melanie Helton, Elena  
Derek Polischuk, piano  
University Chorale

The princess Elena has had two kings fighting for her hand by flinging high Cs at her. However, she holds out for the mezzo in a trouser role. In this classic Rossini finale, she sings of her happiness at being free to love the man she wants.

From *Le Nozze di Figaro*  
Crudel! Perche finora

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756-1791)

Anne Nispel, Susanna  
Harlan Jennings, Count  
Judy Kabodian, piano

Susanna is the object of the Count's affections, and he thinks to invoke the right of *droit de Seigneur*, or of sleeping with the bride of a servant on the wedding night. Susanna and the Countess have whipped up a plan to fool the Count. He encounters Susanna and asks her to meet him in the garden. She demurs, cleverly.

Caro mio ben

Giuseppe Giordani  
(1751-1798)

I Signori di University Chorale

Tu lo sai

Giuseppe Torelli  
(1650-1703)

Le Signorine di University Chorale  
Judy Kabodian, piano

Two love poems wedded to beautiful 18th-century melodies. These two songs are part of the classic publication, "24 Italian Songs and Arias," which have been beloved of singers and voice teachers. Here, we present them as unison choral works.

From *La Forza del Destino*  
La vergine degli Angeli

Giuseppe Verdi  
(1813-1901)

Molly Fillmore, Leonora  
Derek Polischuk, piano  
I Signori di University Chorale

Leonora is seeking sanctuary at the monastery of Madonna degli Angeli. The monks pronounce a curse on anyone who betrays her, and then they bless her.

Mattinata

Ruggiero Leoncavallo  
(1857-1919)

Richard Fracker, tenor  
Alan Nathan, piano

A young man passionately serenades his beloved as a brilliant daybreak radiates against her doorstep, and pleads that like this glorious dawn—new love will be born.

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From *Gianni Schicchi*  
O mio babbino caro

Giacomo Puccini  
(1858-1924)

Anne Nispel, Lauretta  
Judy Kabodian, piano

This is probably the most famous opera aria ever, recently heard on *Downton Abbey*! Lauretta begs her father to let her marry Rinuccio in a most charming fashion.

From *Edgar*  
Questo amor, vergogna mia

Giacomo Puccini

Peter Lightfoot, Frank  
Alan Nathan, piano

Frank is terribly in love with Fedelia, who is in love with Edgar (the tenor, of course). He sings of his shameful love.

From *Andrea Chénier*  
Vicino a te

Umberto Giordano  
(1867-1948)

Melanie Helton, Maddalena di Coigny  
Richard Fracker, Andrea Chénier  
Derek Polischuk, piano

The ultimate sacrifice of love, to die together . . . the poet Andrea Chénier has been sentenced to die at the guillotine. Maddalena, who has loved him for years, takes the identity of another woman so that she can join him in death. Their triumphant cry as they are called to their deaths is “Viva la morte, insiem’ “or “Long live death, together!”

INTERMISSION

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La Passegiata  
I Gondolieri  
La regata veneziana  
Il Carnevale di Venezia

Gioachino Rossini

Molly Fillmore, soprano  
Melanie Helton, soprano  
University Chorale  
Judy Kabodian, piano

We take you to the romantic city of Venice where lovers stroll in the piazzas, indulge in secret rendezvous in gondolas, and celebrate the most important time of the year – Carnival.

O sole mio

Eduardo di Capua  
(1865-1917)

Richard Fracker, tenor  
Alan Nathan, piano

“A sunny day is a wonderful thing, but what’s better is the sun from my face shining onto yours.” A Neapolitan love song for the ages.

L’ultima canzone

Francesco Paolo Tosti  
(1846 – 1916)

Peter Lightfoot, baritone  
Derek Polischuk, piano

A sad tale of a young man watching the girl he loves getting married. Ah, unrequited love!

From *Il Trovatore*  
Tacea la notte placido

Giuseppe Verdi

Molly Fillmore, Leonora  
Alan Nathan, piano

Leonora confesses her love for Manrico, the troubadour, or “trovatore”.

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From *Kiss Me Kate*

Where is the Life that Late I Led?

**Cole Porter**

(1894-1961)

Harlan Jennings, baritone

Judy Kabodian, piano

A musical tour of the lovely delights to be found all over Italy!

From *Madama Butterfly*

Un bel di

**Giacomo Puccini**

Melanie Helton, Cio-Cio San

Derek Polischuk, piano

The geisha Cio-Cio San has been waiting patiently for two years for the return of the American sailor who married her in a pretend ceremony. When her maid Suzuki weeps at the hopeless situation, Cio-Cio San assures her that on one beautiful day, they will see the sails rising over the horizon, returning her love to her.

From *La Bohème*

O soave fanciulla

**Giacomo Puccini**

Molly Fillmore, Mimi

Richard Fracker, Rodolfo

Alan Nathan, piano

Rodolfo and Mimi have met and fallen instantly in love. Hearing his friends call out for him from the street below, Mimi shyly asks if she might join them. Teasingly, Rodolfo asks her if she wouldn't rather stay inside, seeing how cold it is. She smiles at him and tells him that he will keep her warm. He gallantly offers his arm and she takes it, leaving for the café.

That's Amore

**Harry Warren**

(1893-1981)

Tutti

Derek Polischuk, piano

When the moon hits your eye, like a big pizza pie . . .

