



College of Music
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Mosaic and Singing Spartans

Mosaic

Meredith Bowen, conductor
Amanda Goldberg, Shelby Laird,
Keilah Ussi, assistant conductors
Yudi Dai, piano

Singing Spartans

Stuart Chapman Hill, conductor
Keilah Ussi, assistant conductor
Dee Mason-Walker, assistant conductor
Connie Gamage, piano

Tuesday, April 7, 2026
Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM

Mosaic

- Domine ad adiuvandum
Isabella Leonarda
(1620–1704)
ed. Meredith Bowen
Amanda Goldberg and Shelby Laird, soprano
Qingzhuo Li and Hannah Hsu, violin
Weian Gu, cello
- from *Anne Frank: A Living Voice*
Sunshine and Cloudless Sky
Linda Tutas Haugen
text: Diary of Anne Frank
- Would You Harbor Me?
Ysaÿe M. Barnwell
- Saro
Folk Song
arr. Joshua Shank
Char Van Arragon, Charlotte Larned,
Maggie Cipriano, Allie Thomas, Alyna Snow, soloists
Qingzhuo Li, violin
- Kaval Sviri
Bulgarian Folk Song
arr. Petar Lyondev
text: Tanya Parvanova
Shelby Laird, conductor
- Nigra Sum
Pablo Casals
(1876–1973)
Amanda Goldberg, conductor
- Stardust
B.E. Boykin
text: Brittny Ray Crowell
Sydney Moore, djembe
Keilah Ussi, conductor
- Stomp on the Fire
Andrea Ramsey
- A Choice to Change the World
Kevin Phillip Johnson
lyricist: Sarah Stephens
Sydney Moore, drums; Laura-Simone, bass
Elle Hyry, Kenny Black, Angel Griffin, Ruby Ricker, soloist

PROGRAM

Intermission

Singing Spartans

- The Lake Isle of Innisfree
Eleanor Daley
text: William Butler Yeats
- To Sit and Dream
Rosephanye Powell
text: Langston Hughes
Dee Mason-Walker, conductor
- Plakatap
Sydney Moore, percussion
Keilah Ussi, conductor
Sydney Guillaume
- Shelter Me
Stuart Chapman Hill
Sydney Moore and Roger David, percussion
- Your children (are not your children)
Joshua Shank
text: Khalil Gibran
Yudi Dai and Connie Gamage, piano
- from *Lifting As We Climb*
We Are All Bound Up Together
Joan Szymko
text: Frances Ellen Watkins Harper
- Until I Reach My Home
Traditional Negro Spiritual
arr. Brandon Boyd
R.J. Kilcher, tenor
Laura-Simone, bass; Sydney Moore, drums
- MSU Shadows
Bernard Traynor
(1894-1980)
- Victory for MSU
Francis Irving Lankey
(1894-1919)

PROGRAM NOTES

Mosaic

This concert begins on a newly restored edition of *Domine, ad adjuvandum me festina*—“Lord, make haste to help me,” by the seventeenth-century Italian composer Isabella Leonarda, one of the most prolific women composers of her time. Written within the Ursuline convent in Novara, Leonarda’s music gives voice to a timeless human impulse: the need to seek help, guidance, and hope in moments of uncertainty. From this opening invocation, the program turns to Linda Tutas Haugen’s *Sunshine and Cloudless Sky*, drawn from Anne Frank’s diary, where even in hiding, beauty persists in sunlight, sky, and birds in flight. Ysaye Barnwell’s *Would You Harbor Me?* expands this reflection into a moral question, asking us to consider who is welcomed, protected, and valued within our communities.

Themes of belonging and separation continue in *Saro*, an Appalachian folk song rooted in the experience of immigration, where the pain of leaving loved ones behind shapes one’s sense of home. In contrast, Petar Liondev’s *Kaval Svirice* celebrates the joy and vitality of communal music-making, reminding us of the ways culture and connection endure across generations. Pablo Casals’s *Nigra Sum* affirms dignity and identity through the Song of Solomon text “I am black, but beautiful,” offering a powerful affirmation of self-worth in the face of judgment. Together, these works explore the human desire to belong—to a person, a place, and a community.

The program then turns toward remembrance, resistance, and action. B. E. Boykin’s *Stardust* honors lives lost while affirming our shared humanity, and Andrea Ramsey’s *Stomp on the Fire* transforms struggle into collective strength through the cries for humanity and the weary struggle against human injustice. The concert concludes with Kevin Phillip Johnson’s *A Choice to Change the World*, a call to recognize the power of individual and collective agency. As we mark the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, these works invite us to reflect on the enduring ideals of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness; to consider who is included and how those ideals continue to be tested, reimagined, and realized through human choice.

MOSAIC

Soprano I

Athens Buren
Julia Clark
Emily Hudders
Shelby Laird
Allie Thomas

Soprano II

Alex Boucher
Brianna Cousino
Amanda Goldberg
Jayden Randall
Mariana Romero Serra
Alayna Snow
Char Van Arragon
Julia Vogt

Alto I

Katie Anason
Maggie Cipriano
Angel Griffith
Kenadi Hazen
Lilly Korkontzelos
Julia Rasmussen
Ruby Ricker
Keilah Ussi

Alto II

Hannah Alstrom
Kenny Black
Maggie Heflin
Elle Hyry
Charlotte Larned
Kat Paloyan
Felicity Savara
Ellen Shaw

SINGING SPARTANS

Tenor

Rosemary Buchtel
Andrew Burns
Dawson Call
Paul Campbell
Carmelo Coleman
Jonathan Dahn
Roger David
Adam Duffy
Tyler Ellis
Caleb Johnson
Luke Klochack
Dee Mason-Walker
Drew McKenna
Isaac Napier
Mason Truett Neeley
Keilah Ussi

Bass

Robin Bernard
Austin Blackmer
Dylan DeMarco
Jaxon Egge
Samuel Fenning
Christian Alejandro Flores Gonzalez
Ethan Fountain
Matthew Gagea
Theo Green
James Hoover
Ikenna Iyioke
Daniel Jaggars
Caleb Jones
Jacob Kantzer
R.J. Kilcher
Ceco Maples
Declan McGrath
Kenneth Milz
Noah Parker
Michael Patterson
Kyle Poyma
Mars Robinson
Eric Ryan
Hunter St John

TEXT AND TRANSLATIONS

Mosaic

Domine ad adiuvandum – Psalm 70

O Lord, make haste to help me.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning,
And now, and forever,
And world without end.
Amen.
Alleluia.

Nigra Sum (I am black)

I am black, but comely, daughters of Jerusalem;
the King hath rejoiced in me, the King hath brought me
into His very own chambers. He spake unto me; rise up,
my fair one, and come away, my love. Lo, for the winter
is past and gone, and the rain is over and gone, flow'rs
appear on the earth, and the time of renewal is come.
Alleluia.

Kaval Sviri – Tanya Parvanova

A kaval plays, mother,
up there, down there, mother
below the village
I am going to see it, mother,
to see it
and hear it.
If he is one of ours.
I will love him from dawn till dusk,
If he is a stranger,
I will love him all my life.

Singing Spartans

Plakatap

Children of all countries,
Youth from everywhere,
Sing, jump, dance!
On foot or by bike,
Our bags on our backs,
Plakatap – Plakatap,
Plakatap – Plakatap!

Let's party, let's sing!
Let's celebrate Humanity with one
heart,
And let us all sing our Fraternity in
chorus!

Regardless of what's happening,
In spite of the distance,
We are one family
Of young men and women.
Let us dwell in the Unity
Of one Humanity.
Plakatap – Plakatap!

United in the same love,
Let us go day by day,
Singing, jumping up and down,
dancing
The Fraternal Dance
Of the children of the World.
Plakatap – Plakatap,

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- Merritt Lutz (Celebrating the Spectrum)
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