

Mozart The Sparrow Mass

Baroque Orchestra Julie Andrijeski, director

Early Music Singers Elena Bailey, director

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Maltz Performing Arts Center, Silver Hall 1855 Ansel Road Cleveland, OH



CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY College of Arts and Sciences Department of Music

Milton and Tamar Maltz Performing Arts Center

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Audience Information

Accessibility

We are committed to providing accessible facilities for all audience members. Please inform our staff if you require assistance or special accommodations.

Noise and Disruptions

Silence all mobile phones, electronic devices, and alarms during the performance. Please refrain from talking, whispering, or making noise that could distract performers or other audience members.

Photography and Recording

Photography, video recording, and audio recording are strictly prohibited during performances unless explicitly authorized by the event organizers. You are welcome to take photos before and after the performance.

Food and Beverages

Outside food and beverages are not permitted inside the performance space. Receptions may take place after an event, and refreshments should be confined to designated areas.

Restroom Locations

Restrooms are located on each level of the venue.

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Familiarize yourself with the nearest exits upon arrival. In the event of an emergency, please follow the instructions provided by staff. Please alert staff if you require medical attention.

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Respect for the Venue

Please respect the facility, instruments, and property of others. Help us maintain a clean and welcoming environment by disposing of waste properly.

Thank you for joining us today. Enjoy the performance!

PROGRAM

| <i>Eine Kleine Nachtmusik</i> , K. 525 Allegro Romanze - andante Menuetto - allegretto Rondo - allegro | Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791) |
|--|--|
| Flute Concerto in G Major, WK 50 Allegro Adagio Presto | Carl Friedrich Abel (1723 - 1787) |
| Ellen Sauer Tanyeri, <i>flute</i> | |
| Adagio and Fugue, K. 546 | Mozart |
| ~INTERMISSION~ | |
| Ergo Interest, K. 143 | Mozart |

Naomi Grace McMahon, soprano

| Missa Brevis no. 9, K. 2 Mass" | 220, "Sparrow | Mozart |
|--|------------------------------|--------|
| Kyrie Eleison Gloria Credo Sanctus Benedictus Agnus Dei | | |
| | Naomi Grace McMahon, soprano | |

Naomi Grace McMahon, soprano Alissa Magee, mezzo Benjamin Brewster, tenor *Tyler Duncan. baritone

PROGRAM NOTES

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Eine kleine Nachtmusik, K. 525, commonly translated as A Little Night Music, is one of the most iconic works in the classical repertoire. Composed in 1787 at the height of Mozart's career, the piece was originally written for a small chamber ensemble but is often performed in orchestral arrangements today. The title, "a little serenade," appears in Mozart's personal catalog and likely refers to the work's intended function—light, entertaining music for social gatherings. While there's some uncertainty surrounding whether Eine kleine Nachtmusik was originally composed in five movements, only four have survived. The second movement, a minuet and trio, was mysteriously removed from the score. The four remaining movements, however, shine with character: the lively Allegro, the sweet Romanze (Andante), the graceful Menuetto (Allegretto), and the exuberant Rondo (Allegro). This charming work continues to captivate audiences and remains a staple of the classical repertoire.

Carl Friedrich Abel was raised in a music family and was a gifted viola da gambist like his father and grandfather before him. As a teenager, he traveled to Leipzig to study and soon got an orchestral job in Dresden. It was there that he began composing, and many of his early published chamber works included flute. In 1759 he traveled to London and had soon established himself there as a master performer. He is most famous for the concert subscription series he led there with Johann Christian Bach, son of the famed Johann Sebastian. Abel's five flute concertos, written before he established himself in London, survive in manuscript form and are clear relatives of the flute concertos of Johann Joachim Quantz or Carl Phillip Emmanuel Bach. All of these composers were writing at a time that Baroque dance forms and filigree were giving way to Classical wit and balance. The fifth flute concerto, in G Major, opens with a jaunty melody that seems to change character three or four times before settling down. The melodramatic middle movement moans and plods its way to the finish line with a poignant insistence, before a frenetic Presto closes things out. Abel's orchestration is masterful, and the flute never needs to fight to be heard in this delightful and multifaceted concerto.

The Adagio and Fugue in C minor, K. 546, composed by Mozart in June 1788, combines a newly written Adagio with a Fugue originally composed for two pianos in 1783 (K. 426). The Adagio alternates between grand, French overture-like rhythms and more lyrical, plaintive passages, while the Fugue showcases Mozart's command of counterpoint. The work was published by the Viennese music publisher F.A. Hoffmeister, who was known for commissioning many of Mozart's late works. This piece reflects Mozart's deepening engagement with Baroque forms, blending them with his own mature style.

Mozart wrote the charming little solo motet Ergo Interest in his later teen years, probably in 1773 after his return to Salzburg from his second visit to Italy. By this point, the motet was rather vaguely defined as a genre, usually referring to a vocal piece with a liturgically appropriate text, regardless of the actual form. The autograph manuscript of Ergo interest... Quaere superna does not have any information about the context for which it was written, but the piece is structured much like an opera aria, with a short recitative and a lyrical aria. The melody is simple, allowing for clear declamation of the text, but Mozart supplied some variation toward the end of the piece by including beautiful flowing melismas.

The Missa Brevis in C Major, K. 220, commonly known as the Spatzenmesse (Sparrow Mass), was composed in 1775 in Salzburg during a period of tension between Mozart and his employer, Prince-Archbishop Colloredo. The work, first performed on Easter Sunday in 1776, blends elements of both the Missa brevis (a shorter mass) and the Missa solemnis (a more festive mass). Its nickname is derived from the playful, chirping violin figures in the Sanctus and Benedictus, evoking the sound of sparrows—likely a reference to Colloredo's demands for brevity in Mozart's compositions. The Mass features four soloists, strings, organ, brass, and timpani, giving it a grander character than typical short masses. The six movements—Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, Benedictus, and Agnus Dei—are concise yet richly orchestrated, with energetic and lyrical melodies and an overall sense of joy. The Mass showcases Mozart's skill in blending solemnity with festive exuberance in his sacred music.

TEXT & TRANSLATIONS

If printed copies are unavailable, please scan the QR Code for today's texts and translations.



PERSONNEL

Baroque Orchestra

Violin Maude Cloutier Parastoo Heidarinejad Liz Loayza Herrera Bruno Lunkes Damonico Taylor

> **Viola** Grace Leonard Julie Andrijeski*

Cello Willow Straccuzzi Sarah Tindall

Bass Brennen Taggart

Trumpets Enzo Barrett Sebastian Cole

Timpani Owen Seech-Hrvatin

Organ Mikhail Grazhdanov

Early Music Singers

Soprano

Rachel Fichter Ishika Kanakath Elizabeth Kaufman Mary Anne Schmidt Maura Sugg Gail West

Alto

Emily Fallick Fallon Goodlin Erin Hohler Naomi Klarreich Olivia Mullins Sharon Mullins Jeanne Regan

Tenor Gabriel Lawrence Timothy Regan Camilo Velasquez

Bass Michael Folise Benjamin Koeppen Robert Mitchell Donald Mullins Keith Norman Mike Wilson

*CWRU/CIM Faculty

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