

**Melany Piech and Alexandra Polubiec**  
**Senior Concert**  
**May 27, 2011**  
**Bennington College**

**Che Faro Senza Euridice, from *Orfeo ed Euridice***

Composed by Christoph Willibald Gluck

Libretto by Ranieri de' Calzabigi

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Yoshiko Sato	Piano

**Gibran Song Cycle (2010)**

Composed by Alexandra Polubiec

Poems by Kahlil Gibran, from *Sand and Foam*

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Yoshiko Sato	Piano

This series of songs is a result of a composition tutorial with Nick Brooke. I was drawn the simplicity and transparency of Gibran's poems, and their capacity to express truths that felt relevant to me. In setting them to music, it was my goal to provide a venue for his words, while also exploring my own musical style.

**Fire and Ice (2011)**

Composed by Melany Piech

Words by Dan Miller

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Yoshiko Sato	Piano

"Fire and Ice" was my first composing assignment this semester for the class "Whose Opera." It was also my first attempt at writing recitative, a style of text setting that is not precisely metered, is often speech-like, generally without textual or musical repetition, and with simple or sparse instrumental accompaniment. Its title refers to the relationship between the text and the music – while the text suggests heat in several instances, its musical setting has always struck me as "cool."

**Darn That Dream**

Music by Jimmy Van Heusen

Words by Eddie DeLange

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Bruce Williamson	Piano

**Don't Get Around Much Anymore**

Music by Duke Ellington

Words by Bob Russell

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Bruce Williamson	Piano

**Moonlight in Vermont**

Music by Karl Suessdorf

Words by John Blackburn

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Melany Piech	Violin
Bruce Williamson	Piano

**Concerto No. 1 in G minor, Op. 26**

Composed by Max Bruch

I. Prelude, Allegro moderato

II. Adagio

III. Finale, Allegro energico

Melany Piech	Violin
Yoshiko Sato	Piano

It was about a year ago that I began to dream about playing the Bruch concerto for this concert. At the risk of sounding cute, playing it tonight for you is truly a dream come true, and I am so grateful to all who supported me in this project (see thank-yous below).

**up into the silence (1990)**

Composed by Allen Shawn

Words by e.e. cummings

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Allen Shawn	Piano

**i carry your heart with me (1990)**

Composed by Allen Shawn

Words by e.e. cummings

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Allen Shawn	Piano

**Memories**

Composed by Charles Ives

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Yoshiko Sato	Piano

**Children's Hour**

Composed by Charles Ives

Text by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Yoshiko Sato	Piano

**Walking**

Composed by Charles Ives

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Yoshiko Sato	Piano

**Charlie Rutledge**

Composed by Charles Ives

Words by D.J. O'Malley

Alexandra Polubiec	Voice
Yoshiko Sato	Piano

Ever since I heard this piece for the first time, I knew I wanted to perform it. At first, it seemed terrifying and impossible, but I hope that what I share with you has half of the power that my first listening had on me. Thank you specifically to Kate Lyczkowsky for her help while I was learning this piece.

**Concerto for Two Violins in D Minor, BMV 1043**

Composed by J.S. Bach

I. Vivace

II. Largo ma non tanto

III. Allegro

Melany Piech	Violin
Emma Piazza	Violin
Yoshiko Sato	Piano

### **Sweet Baby James**

Written by James Taylor

Alexandra Polubiec    Voice  
Jo-Anne Hyun        Guitar

A song I've been hearing around the house my whole life. As you know, this piece is for you, dad. I hope my cover does the original some justice. It spoke to me at a time in my life when I will soon take to my own highway.

### **Time After Time**

Written by Cyndi Lauper

Alexandra Polubiec    Voice, Piano

This song is for my mother. I know it's a song you love, and in working with it, I've come to love it myself. This is also a song for all of the people here at Bennington.

## **Program Notes**

### **From Melany Piech:**

Thank you to:

-Allen Shawn, my beloved advisor, for encouraging and supporting me in my composing and performing endeavors, and for the numerous times you helped me through little crises by pointing out that everything was actually fine.

-Yoshiko, for accompanying me tonight.

- Emma Piazza, my chamber partner these past two and a half years.

-Kaori Washiyama, for helping me develop as a chamber musician and for all of your patience.

- Emily Call, for your incredible generosity and support.

- Martha Caplin, for continuing to transform my relationship to the violin, for guiding me in discovering my sound, and for all of your encouragement and generosity.

- Nick Brooke and Kitty Brazelton for guiding me in my development as a composer.

- the Parents, for everything.



- Holly Myers, for supporting my musical development through generous use of her vehicle; also for being a wonderful roommate and caring for me during my numerous illnesses this term.

- Beverly McGrath and Rocco Mastronardi, whose incredible kindness made all my FWT dreams come true. Thank you so much.

**From Allie Polubiec:**

There are too many people to thank, so I hope I don't forget everyone or get too long-winded. To start with, thank you to the Bennington College faculty, staff, administration, the Office of admissions and campus community at large for providing a place for me to grow into myself, and become the artist I want to be. Or at least take a step closer.

Special thanks:

-My mother, for always being there for me, even when I didn't quite get that you were trying to help. You were often right. And thank you for always being flexible and willing to talk, and to listen to me.

-My father, without whom I might never have become a musician. You've supported me through thick and thin, you've been a sounding board, and an incredible intellectual and musical influence. Good luck with your new school. I'm sure you'll inspire the students there as much as you have me.

-My sister, who has loved me despite being almost completely disinterested in most of the things I enjoy. You're hilarious, intelligent and beautiful. Thank you for all of the concerts and plays you've sat through against your will. You're a trooper.

-Rocco Mastronardi, my new stepfather. Welcome to the family. Thanks for being the type of person who treats his girlfriend's children as he would his own. Your love and support over the years has been appreciated.

-Tom Bogdan, for seeing what I was capable of, and admirably dismissing my moments of low self-confidence. You've made me into the singer I am today. You've given me so much. Thank you.

-Yoshiko Sato, for being so willing to play any music I put in front of her. You've helped me learn so much over these years.

-Nick Brooke, my advisor. Thank you for your inspiration, for always challenging me, for pushing me to try new and courageous things. I've learned a great deal from you.

-Allen Shawn, for supporting me in my compositional explorations, and being so warm and helpful. You've been a great inspiration to me.

-Bruce Williamson, for being my first advisor and putting up with all manner of insanity in that first year. Your support helped me stay sane.