Junior Recital
Casey Cerveny, tenor
Ryan Besser, bass
with
Amelia Hammond, piano
Amanda Jones, piano
Friday, March 19, 2021
Sheslow Auditorium in Old Main
7:30 p.m.

Lucy
I. Strange fits of passion
IV. Three years she grew
V. A Slumber did my spirit seal

Come Away Death

Come Back

Banalités
II. Hôtel
V. Sanglots

Élégie

Gruppe aus dem Tartarus
Aufenthalt

Kuda, kuda, kuda vi udalilis
from Eugene Onegin

Intermission
O tu, Palermo  
from *I Vespri Siciliani*  
Giuseppe Verdi  
(1813-1901)

On the path to the lake  
from *Vanessa*  
La fleur que tu m’avais jetée  
from *Carmen*  
Samuel Barber  
(1910-1981)  
Georges Bizet  
(1838-1875)

Schweig! schweig! damit dich niemand warnt  
from *Der Freischutz*  
Carl Maria von Weber  
(1786-1826)

Tre Sonetti di Petrarca  
I. Pace non trovo  
Franz Liszt  
(1811-1886)

Special thanks to friends of Drake Arts (FDA) for their generous support of Music Department events and projects. For more than 25 years, FDA has helped to provide the best possible fine arts education for Drake students and exceptional fine arts opportunities for the region. For more information or to join, please visit:  
[http://www.drake.edu/friends](http://www.drake.edu/friends)
**About the Artists**

**Casey Cerveny** is currently a junior at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, pursuing a degree in vocal performance and a minor in French. He sings tenor and studies under Leanne Freeman-Miller. Upon graduation, Casey hopes to continue his education in music performance and language in a graduate program. Casey is actively involved in the opera program at Drake and has sang the role of Fenton in Falstaff, and more recently Ferrando in Così fan tutte. He also performs regularly in the opera scenes concerts, the Drake chapter of SNATS, and the Drake Choir. Outside of performing, Casey has worked with other coaches, including Eric Ferring, Rebecca Folsom, Michael Heaston, Gordon Ostrowski, and Tim Bostwick. Casey’s upcoming role of Laurie in Little Women has been cancelled due to COVID-19, but he will be performing in the scenes concert with the Drake Opera Theater in April. Outside of music, Casey also enjoys film, watching Pokémon Indigo League on Netflix, studying language, and spending copious amounts of time working on and stressing over his academics.

**Ryan Besser** (Bass-Baritone) is a junior music education major. He is involved in the choral department as a member of both the Drake Choir and Spēro. He has been involved with Drake Opera Theater and is a member of SNATS, NAfME, and ACDA. Ryan would like to thank his teacher, Leanne Freeman-Miller, and accompanist, Amanda Jones, for their guidance during his time at Drake.

**Amanda RM Jones**, Teaching Artist of Piano, has been a professional pianist in the Des Moines area since 2007. In addition to teaching through both Drake University and the Community School of Music, she is also a collaborative pianist for the Drake University voice department. In that role, she has had the opportunity to engage in cultural exchanges with Minzu University in Beijing, China. She traveled to Beijing as collaborative pianist for Drake voice students in 2011, and accompanied Minzu University Professor Han Changmei (Soprano) on her recital during her 2014 visit to Drake. Amanda has been the pianist for Drake Opera Theatre for the past five opera seasons, and has also had the pleasure of collaborating with the Musical Theatre department. She has been the principle pianist for Drake’s productions of Sondheim’s A Little Night Music, Donizetti’s Elixir of Love, Gilbert and Sullivan’s The Mikado, Rorem’s Our Town, Mozart’s Le Nozze di Figaro, as well as several opera scenes. Amanda received a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music, under the instruction of Dr. Karin Redekopp Edwards.

**Amelia Hammond** is a graduate of Drake University with a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance under the tutelage of Dr. Nicholas Roth. She is a full-time collaborative pianist at Drake, accompanying for multiple vocal studios, masterclasses, and has most recently worked with the Drake Opera and Musical Theater departments for the productions of Verdi’s Falstaff and PIPPIN. In addition, she works as an accompanist for Johnston High School’s award-winning varsity show choir, Innovation. As the accompanist at Waukee High School as their high school choir accompanist where she assisted with their four choirs, jazz choirs, and their production of The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Hammond also enjoys teaching piano lessons out of her studio and working as a free-lance accompanist, playing piano and bass at the Des Moines Playhouse. She currently attends University of Southern California pursuing her Masters in Music in Keyboard Collaborative Arts under Dr. Alan Smith.