



UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

**DESDEMONA'S &
EMILIA'S RESONANCES
THROUGH TIME**

*for the 46th Annual Ohio Valley
Shakespeare Conference*

October 27, 2023

Boll Theatre, KU 6:00-7:00PM

Featuring: Trinity Rice, Megan Carlson, &
Dr. Andrea Chenoweth Wells accompanied
by pianist John Benjamin with
introductions by Dr. Julia Randel

PROGRAM

The Willow Song, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875 - 1912)

Trinity Rice, soprano, Music Performance major

John Benjamin, piano

The Willow Song, Erich Korngold (1897 - 1957)

Megan Carlson, mezzosoprano, Music Therapy major

The Willow Song and Prayer from Othello, Giuseppe Rossini

(1792 - 1868)

Andrea Chenoweth Wells, DMA, soprano

The Willow Aria from Otello, Giuseppe Verdi (1813 - 1901)

Andrea Chenoweth Wells, DMA, soprano

Emilia's Monologue

Willow, Weep for Me, Ann Ronell (1905 -1993)



Trinity Le'shae Rice is a soprano in her second year at the University of Dayton. Before attending the University of Dayton, she graduated from Sinclair Community College's music program with an Associate's degree. She plans to earn her Bachelor's degree in vocal performance and then pursue graduate school. Trinity is a Dayton native who loves to sing in a diverse number of genres, such as classical, gospel, R&B, and musical theater. She has been performing in various choirs and ensembles for fourteen years and has been singing individually for eleven years. Last Fall, Trinity was awarded first place in her age group for the Ohio National Association for the Teachers of Singing (NATS) Fall Student Auditions in the African Negro Spiritual category. Trinity is a member of The University of Dayton's Chorale, Opera Workshop, Jazz Combo, and Dayton Jazz Ensemble. Outside school, she sings in Phillip's Temple Mass Choir and Youth/ Young Adult Choir. She is preparing for her Junior recital next semester on Saturday, March 2nd at 7:30 p.m. Some of her favorite past roles include Bertha Hunt in Sinclair Community College's production of *The Hello Girls* and Annabeth Chase in Sinclair's production of *The Lightning Thief*. She is ecstatic to be presenting to you all! Proverbs 18:16



Megan Carlson is a mezzo-soprano from Cincinnati, OH. Carlson received her Bachelors of Fine Arts in Musical Theater Performance from Northern Kentucky University. She is now in her second year at the University of Dayton for her Bachelors of Music in Music Therapy. Carlson is a member of Opera Workshop, Ebony Heritage Choir, as well as the vocalist for the University Jazz Band on campus. She was also a finalist for the 2022-2023 Honors Recital for the Department of Music. Some of her past credits include: Clarisse from *The Lightning Thief*, Heather in *Different Day* (recordings), Florence Gill/ Swing: Dood from *The Mystery of Edwin Dood*, and Minnie from *West Side Story*. She is very excited to perform for you today!



Andrea Chenoweth Wells, DMA, is a soprano, stage director, and intimacy director based in Dayton, Ohio. Wells has appeared with orchestras and opera companies throughout the US, including regular appearances with the Cleveland Orchestra, the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, Cleveland Opera, and Dayton Opera. Career highlights include her Carnegie Hall debut singing Verdi's Requiem and touring Japan with the Telemann Chamber Orchestra. She is a frequent soloist at Boston's The Shakespeare Concerts; and, she is featured on several recordings of works with text by Shakespeare on the Parma label's Shakespeare Concerts series, as well as on the world premiere recording of Joseph Summer's operatic setting of *The Tempest* produced by Albany Records. She earned her Doctorate in Music in Voice and Opera Directing at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, her Masters of Music degree from The Cleveland Institute of Music and her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Dayton. Wells is an Assistant Professor at the University of Dayton, where she teaches voice, opera, and a course of her own design--Music and Faith On Stage. She is the Vice President of the Ohio Chapter of the National Association for the Teachers of Singing (NATS); and, she serves as Associate Editor of VOICE Prints, the online journal of the New York Singing Teachers Association (NYSTA).



John Benjamin, pianist, has spent a great deal of his musical life as a collaborative musician: chamber musician, coach/accompanist, and opera and choral accompanist. However, he also regularly assumes the roles of church organist, choral director, musical theater conductor, and cast member in opera and musical theater. Mr. Benjamin has been on the piano faculty at the University of Dayton since 2000. In addition to extensive performing, he teaches piano in private and group settings. Before coming to UD, he was on staff at the University of Akron and Butler University. He holds degrees from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music and the University of Akron. Mr. Benjamin also serves as director of traditional worship at Epiphany Lutheran Church in Centerville.



Julia Randel, Ph.D., is a musicologist specializing in music of the 19th and 20th centuries, in particular the intersections of music with dance, literature and drama. Her current research explores the cultural history of theatre and music in the American midwest in the early 20th century, in particular the roles of women. Her work has appeared in the journals *American Music*, *Opera Quarterly*, and *Verdi Forum*, and has been supported by grants from the Newberry Library (Chicago), Harvard Theatre Collection, and Paul Sacher Foundation (Basel, Switzerland). From 2017-23, she served as chair of the Department of Music at University of Dayton. She previously served in the same position at Hope College in Holland, Mich. Dr. Randel holds a Ph.D. in historical musicology from Harvard; masters degrees in musicology from the University of Georgia and in tuba performance from the University of Kentucky; and a B.A. in literature from Yale.