

# Senior Composition Recital – Caleb Miller

April 9th, 2025

7:30pm

All Faiths Chapel, Kansas State University

## PROGRAM

*Metal Roar* ..... Caleb Miller

Jacob Morgan, percussion  
Houston Fleischmann, percussion

*Neighborhood Rabbits in Springtime*..... Caleb Miller

Melissa Fierro, flute  
Kelsey Farr, oboe  
Theresa Wood, clarinet  
Ryan Katzer, bassoon  
Andrew Dearing, horn

*Quella Fiamma*.....A. Parisotti

*Quia fecit mihi magna* from *Magnificat*..... J. S. Bach

*Ach, wir armen Leute* from *Hansel und Gretel* ..... E. Humperdinck

Caleb Miller, baritone  
Cheryl Savage, piano

**KANSAS STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

School of Music,  
Theatre, and Dance

## PROGRAM NOTES

*Metal Roar* is by far the most unique piece I've composed. The objective of this piece, besides simply being somewhat horror-themed, is to establish a setting through a soundscape developed throughout the piece. Much rather than being comedically spooky, I wanted to cause genuine tension with the work and a generally unsettling experience. While this piece can be experienced with your eyes closed, watching the percussionists throughout some of the more intense sections will provide an interesting performance as well.

*Neighborhood Rabbits in Springtime* is a wind quintet characterized by its bouncing, playful melody, reminiscent of the rabbits that hop between bushes next to fences, roadsides, and yards across the neighborhood I live in. While writing this work, I found a lot of joy in the interplay between the varied voices of the wind quintet, and the lovely sounds they produce when working in unison. As you listen, note the different instruments that form pairs or triplets throughout the piece.

*Quella Fiamma* is a passionate aria, describing love for someone akin to fire. The aria's original composer is still in debate, even as it is considered one of the aria standards for male singers. This piece is quite dynamic, providing opportunities for expression throughout the work.

*Quia fecit mihi magna* is an aria from J.S. Bach's large choral work, the *Magnificat*, based on the Latin biblical text of the same name. Bach's *Magnificat* is a twelve-movement piece for five voice parts and a baroque orchestra, with *Quia fecit mihi magna* being the fifth movement in the work. This piece requires a focus on breath support and a smooth line, as it is primarily dominated by long note runs.

*Ach, wir armen Leute*, from the opera *Hansel und Gretel* by Humperdinck, is an aria sang by the father of Hansel and Gretel, Peter, as he walks home through the forest, having finished a long day of selling brooms. This piece is a jovial, jaunting tune, discussing both the pains of poverty and his love of drinking.

## MUSIC LYRICS

### Quella Fiamma

#### Italian Lyrics

Quella fiamma che m'accende  
Piace tanto all'alma mia,  
Che giammai s'estinguerà.  
E se il fato a voi mi rende,  
Vaghi rai del mio bel sole,  
Altra luce ella non vuole  
Nè voler giammai potrà

#### English Lyrics

The flame which sets me on fire  
Is so pleasing to my soul,  
That it will never die.  
And if fate returns me to you,  
Lovely rays of my beautiful sun,  
It will not want,  
Nor ever wish for, other light.

### Ach, wir armen Leute

#### German Lyrics

Rallalala, rallalala!  
Heiße Mutter, ich bin da!  
Rallalala, rallalala!  
Bringe Glück und Gloria!

#### English Lyrics

Rallalala, rallalala!  
Hey, mother—here I am!  
Rallalala, rallalala!  
I bring happiness and glory!

Ach, wir armen, armen Leute!  
alle Tage so wie heute:  
in dem Beutel ein großes Loch  
und im Magen ein größ'res noch.  
Rallalala, rallalala!  
Hunger ist der beste Koch!

Ah, we poor, poor people—  
every day is just like today:  
in the purse a big hole,  
and in the stomach a bigger one.  
Rallalala, rallalala!  
Hunger is the best cook!

Ja, ihr Reichen könnt euch laben;  
Wir, die nichts zu essen haben  
nagen, ach, die ganze Woch',  
sieben Tag an einem Knoch'!  
Rallalala, rallalala!  
Hunger ist der beste Koch!

Yes, you rich people may feast;  
we who have nothing to eat  
nibble, alas, the whole week long—  
seven days on one bone!  
Rallalala, rallalala!  
Hunger is the best cook!

*(continued on next page)*

Ach, wir sing ja gern zufrieden,  
denn das Glück ist so verschieden!

Aber wahr ist's doch,  
Armut is ein schweres Joch!  
Rallalala, rallalala!  
Hunger ist der beste Koch!

Ja ja, der Hunger kocht schon gut,  
sofern er kommandieren tut;  
allein, was nützt der Kommandör,  
fehlt euch im Topf die Zubehör?

Rallalala, rallalala!  
Kümmel ist mein Leiblikör!

Ah, we enjoy being content,  
for happiness is of many different kinds!

But true it is, nonetheless—  
poverty is a heavy yoke!  
Rallalala, rallalala!  
Hunger ist der beste Koch!

Yes, indeed, hunger does cook well,  
so far as it does the commanding:  
but what good is the commander  
if the seasoning is missing in the pot?

Rallalala, rallalala!  
Kümmel is my favorite liqueur!

I would like to thank Dr. Weston for being an excellent teacher and a joy to learn from,  
Dr. Rosine for supporting me throughout my vocal development, my family for always  
supporting me through my education, and my friends for giving me levity when I  
weighed myself down with pressure.

Thank you for coming to my senior recital!

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