



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

University of North Texas College of Music

Faculty Chamber Recital | Thursday, February 5, 2026 | 8:00 p.m.
Paul Voertman Concert Hall

Black History Month Showcase featuring UNT students and faculty of Vocal Studies and Choral Studies

Concert Choir †
Robby Napoli, conductor

University Singers ‡
Marques L. A. Garrett, conductor

Piano
Cristian Garcia + | Stephen Dubberly*

Singing for the Sake of My Soul (1993) + Music and text by Frederick Tillis
(1930–2020)

Molly Fillmore, soprano

More lovely than my Imagining (1941) * William Grant Still
(1895–1978)

Text by Verna Arvey

Andrew Riedel, tenor

Love Let the Wind Cry... How I adore thee (1961) * Undine Smith Moore
(1904–1989)

Text by Sappho

Mark Tempesta, tenor

***Program two hundred forty-nine of the 2025–2026 season
Photography and videography are prohibited***

3 Dream Portraits (1959) *Margaret Bonds
1. Minstrel Man (1913–1972)
2. Dream Variations Text by Langston Hughes
3. I, Too
Sidney Washington, tenor

Give Me Jesus (pub. 2001) *African-American Spiritual
arr. Moses Hogan
(1957–2003)
Daniel Bubeck, countertenor

Striving After God (1958) †Undine Smith Moore
Poetry by Michelangelo
Concert Choir

Oh, Glory! (pub. 1956) *Hall Johnson
(1888–1970)
Text by Pierre Gardy Fontaine
James Wright III, baritone

Steal Away (1917) *African-American Spiritual
arr. Harry T. Burleigh
(1866–1949)
Nicholas Thompson, tenor

We've Had Only Fifty Years, from *Amistad* (1997) *Anthony Davis
(Living)
Text by Thulani Davis
Stephen Morscheck, baritone

Vocal Medley: +

Gnani (n.d.)Traditional
arr. Julien Jouga (1931–2001),
Genevieve Cardos (Living)
Text from Wolof Folklore

He's Got the Whole World (n.d.)Traditional
arr. Margaret Bonds
(1913–1972)

Genevieve Cardos, mezzo-soprano

Nocturne, from Five Short Choral Works (pub. 1984) † Adolphus Hailstork
(Living)
Text by Jim Curtis

Anabelle Parra, soprano
University Singers

His Eye Is on the Sparrow (pub. 2023) † Charles Gabriel
(1856–1932)
arr. Zanaida Stewart Robles
(Living)
Text by Civilla D. Martin

Texts

Singing for the Sake of My Soul | Text by Frederick Tillis

"I ride on the wind--
And sail on the wings of clouds
Dreaming of things which never can be told
Singing for the sake of my soul."

More lovely than my Imagining | Text by Verna Arvey

More lovely than my imagining, her form emerged
from the cloudy shapes of dreams!
More lovely than my envisioning, her features glowed
with a charm radiant as the morning.
From the half-forgotten mists of past ages, she came to me in this life!
Then her voice rang clear, and with her words my thoughts returned
to lives we lived long ago, and love we knew in years gone by.
As she told me the tale of our devotion, my mem'ry stirred;
my mind awoke to the pure and selfless passion of spirit.
I realized that through eternity our love lingers,
and always will remain more constant than the waters of the batou.
Our faith!
Our promise!

Love Let the Wind Cry... How I adore thee | Text by Sappho

Love let the wind cry
On the dark mountain,
Bending the ash trees
And the tall hemlocks
With the great voice of
Thunderous legions,
How I adore thee.
Let the hoarse torrent
In the blue canyon,
Murmuring mightily
Out of the gray mist
Of primal chaos
Cease not proclaiming
How I adore thee.
Let the long rhythm
Of crunching rollers,
Breaking and cursting
On the white seaboard
Titan and tireless,
Tell, while the world stands,
How I adore thee.

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Love, let the clear call
Of the tree cricket,
Fairest of creatures,
Green as the young grass,
Mark with his trilling
Resonant bell-note,
How I adore thee.

Let the glad lark-song
Over the meadow,
That melting lyric
Of molten silver,
Be for a signal
To listening mortals,
How I adore thee.

But, more than all sounds,
Surer, serener,
Fuller of passion
And exultation,
Let the hushed whisper
In thine own heart say,
How I adore thee.

3 Dream Portraits | Text by Langston Hughes

1. Minstrel Man

Because my mouth is wide with laughter
And my throat is deep with song
You do not think I suffer
After I have held my pain so long

Because my mouth is wide with laughter
You do not hear my inner cry
Because my feet are gay with dancing
You do not know I die
You do not know I die

2. Dream Variations

To fling my arms wide
In some place of the sun,
To whirl and to dance
Till the white day is done.
Then rest at cool evening
Beneath a tall tree
While night comes on gently,
Dark like me—
That is my dream!

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To fling my arms wide
In the face of the sun,
Dance! Whirl! Whirl!
Till the quick day is done.
Rest at pale evening . . .
A tall, slim tree . . .
Night coming tenderly
Black like me.

3. I, Too

I, too, sing America.
I am the darker brother.
They send me to eat in the kitchen
When company comes,
But I laugh,
And eat well,
And grow strong.
Tomorrow,
I'll be at the table
When company comes.
Nobody'll dare
Say to me,
"Eat in the kitchen,"
Then.
Besides,
They'll see how beautiful I am
And be ashamed—

Give Me Jesus | African-American Spiritual

In the mornin' when I rise, give me Jesus,
you may have all this world, give me Jesus.
Dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus,
you may have all this world, give me Jesus.
Oh, when I come to die, give me Jesus,
you may have all this word, give me Jesus.

Striving After God | Text from the poetry of Michelangelo

True art is made noble and religious by the mind producing it.
For those who feel it, nothing makes the soul so religious and pure
as the endeavor to create something perfect.
For God is perfection.
And whoever strives after perfection is striving after God

Oh, Glory! | Text by Pierre Gardy Fontaine

Oh, Glory! There is room enough in paradise, to have a home in glory.
Jesus my all to heaven is gone, to have a home in glory.
He whom I fixed my hopes up on, to have a home in glory.

Oh, Glory! There is room enough in paradise, to have a home in glory.
His track I see I'll pursue, to have a home.
The narrowly till him I view, to have a home.

Oh, Glory! There is room enough in paradise, to have a home in glory.

Steal Away | African-American spiritual

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home! I ain't got long to stay here
My Lord, He calls me, He calls me by the thunder!
The trumpet sounds within a my soul
I ain't got long to stay here

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home! I ain't got long to stay here
Green trees are bending. Poor sinner stands a trembling;
The trumpet sounds within a my soul
I ain't got long to stay here
Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus;
Steal away, steal away, I ain't got long to stay here!

We've Had Only Fifty Years, from Amistad | Text by Thulani Davis

The case of the Mende Africans who were kidnapped by Spanish slavers, sold into slavery and shipped to Cuba may be the most important case argued before the Supreme Court involving slavery in the United States before the Dred Scott v. Sandford case of 1857. This fascinating story was made into an opera and a movie called Amistad. In the first act of the opera Lewis Tappan, an abolitionist and founder of the "Amistad Committee" approaches John Quincy Adams (1767-1848), the former president of the United States (1825-1829), asking him to serve as the lead attorney in defending the Mende Africans in their case before the Supreme Court. Tappan exits leaving Adams to consider his request. It is 1841.

We've had only fifty years to try our experiment -
to heal the blood and tears and trials of war
and begin to invent a nation built on liberty.

Only fifty years since to Bill of Rights.
We learn its meaning only from day to day.
How each man must test what we say and do,
how we uphold this liberty.

We dwell in satisfaction upon our dreams and vision,
yet we forget liberty is power.

continued on following page

The nation blessed with the greatest liberty must
exert the greatest power
to secure liberty for one thus liberty for all.
And still we forget, the greatest liberty brings the
greatest power
but only to be used for the greater good.

Could God intend us to do otherwise?

Gnani | Traditional Wolof Folklore

The Legend and Resistance of the Kingdom of Niani in pre-colonial Gambia and Senegal and its resistance to fall under siege by French forces in the early 1860s. The Gambia is the birth home of the legendary Kunta Kinte, whom Alex Halley based his film, *Roots* primarily on.

Refrain:

Gnani bagn na
Djalo Maba Djobo
Sallah-Fatma Hurédja

Nyani has refused
Praising his family name: Djalo
Maba Djob, Sallah-Fatma Hurédja

Verse 1:

Gnuala gaynago dane djel
Lat Dior-Thiar-Koulidior-Diob
Faal-Fatim-Gai,
Thialaw-MaSamba-Yassin-Njisjam,
Codou-Samba,
Ndey Marguet ak Djogomaye
Sakhevar ak gagno
Senti Thia mbarago
Djalo Samba Fatma Thube

The herdsman,
Lat-Dior thiar ...
Praising his name:
Lat Dior the ruler...
Your legend is well known
in these lands.

Verse 2:

Gnuala gayenago dane djel
Samba Binta Mam Dièye Diop
Guet la gnou ko aye
Mu dem Traarza, indi ay naar
Samba Binta Mam Dièye Diop
Gnou dellou ko aye guet
Mu dellou Traarza indi ay naar
Samba Binta Mam Dièye Diop
Goni hello ko aye guet,
Mu dello toubab bu
N'guda Babacar Diop~

Singing the praises of the
legendary herdsman,
Samba-Binta-Mam-Dieye Diob.

He's Got the Whole World | Traditional

He's got the whole world in His hand.
He's got the woods and the waters in His hand,
He's got the sun and the moon right in His hand,
He's got the whole world in His hand.

continued on following page

He's got the birds and the bees right in His hand,
He's got the beast of the field right in His hand,
He's got the whole world in His hand.

He's got you and me right in His hand,
He's got everybody in His hand,
He's got the whole world in His hand.

Nocturne, from Five Short Choral Works | Text by Jim Curtis

Have you known the beauty of a summer night
with a white streak of stars in a charcoal sky?

Have you heard the insects, with their countless array of sounds,
endlessly busy through the otherwise silent night?

Have you walked in the field with the cool wind
and the black grass rustling around you?

Have you at last turned your face to the brilliant sky above,
and seen the sound floating there, each a fiery universe?

Have you lost yourself in that broad expanse so that the black grass
and the humming insects and the chill breeze have all vanished?

Have you felt the wonder that flows in those mighty spaces,
where countless fires burn in the surrounding darkness?

Have you kissed the night and its promise,
when it turned its expectant face to your lips?

If you have done these things, lover, then come and watch these skies,
come and watch these fields with me, oh my love.

His Eye Is on the Sparrow | Text by Civilla D. Martin

"Let not your heart be troubled,"
His tender words I hear,
And, resting on his goodness,
I lose my doubts and fears.

Though by the path he leads me,
Though one thing I may see,
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know he watches me.

Why should I feel discouraged?
Why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart feel lonely
And long for heav'n and home,
When Jesus is my portion?
A constant friend is he.
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know he watches me.

I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free.
Oh, his eye is on the sparrow,
And I know he watches me.

Ensemble Personnel

Concert Choir

Evan Barnes
Eli Barreto
Luke Barsun
Ellen Beene
Jade Breitstein
Jakob Burnham
Megan Cornejo
Kassidy Cubbison
Marianna Delgadillo
Andrew Eggers
Jalen Ellis
Gabriel Emig
Julianna Estrada
Silar Franklin
Maddie Frost
Abigail Garner
Grace Glaser
Alek Gonzalez
Davide Gucciardi

Anya Guidry
Jimmy Hademenos
Riley Higgins
Collin Huffman
Jaden Jackson-Cooper
Mia Jamison
Cadence Jansen
Jaden Johnson
Kassie Kaluf
Caroline Konkle
Rebecca Lang
Luke Lawless
Abigail Lewis
Sam McGlamery
Connor McLeod
Kade Miller
Reece Mooney

Nick Navarro
Kris Nearhood
L'acasion Newton
Karson O'Neal
Evan Reza
Demetrius Robinson
Constanza Ruiz de Vinaspre
Austin Russ
Ed Schultz
Rowan Simmons
Angie Smith
Alex Stroud
Sophia Sweny
Sofia Torbello
Jaedon Trevino
Belle Vega
Marc Villaceran
Emberly Whitley
Elijah Williams

University Singers

Christian Anderson
Ian Baez Matos
Faye Barber
Megan Cornejo
August Crowson
Kathryn Davidson
Marianna Delgadillo
Christian Eddington
Landry Escobedo
Autumn Forgey
Aydric Griffin
Ty Holcomb

Julia Houting
Preston Johnson
Ellyse Joseph
Ashton Landry
Alena Law
Danika Locey
Ethan Matous
Wyatt McNeely
Elena Menasco
Alexis Mendoza-Sánchez
Kade Miller
José Nava

Anabelle Parra
Ian Pfaffenberger
Jay Quinn II
Justin Reece
Kaitlyn Rivera
Sean Roossien
Alyssa Schelski
Connor Sturgeon
Adriana Sweet
Milo Warrior
Maddie White
Jackson Whitmire