

SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
MUSIC DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS

SENIOR RECITAL

TIFFANY BLANCO, VOICE

WITH

VIVI KONDRAT, PIANO
ZHANHONG KUANG, PIANO
KAYLA SUHERMAN, PIANO
MIGUEL VASQUEZ, GUITAR
IRVIN BLANCO, GUIRO
KEIRA SHAW, GUITAR AND VOICE
JOSEPHINE PARTRIDGE, VOICE
KARLA NAVARRO, VOICE
CARLOS ARIAS, VOICE
MARIPAZ GUTIERREZ, VOICE
GABRIELLA BLANCO, VOICE

NICKERSON STUDIOS
FRIDAY, MAY 22ND, 2026 | 7:30 P.M.

WELCOME AND PROGRAM NOTES

I am so happy you can join me tonight, and I am excited to share the heart behind this program. The theme of this recital, “An Evening of Songs from the Heart,” reflects familiar and meaningful music that tells stories of faith, love, longing, memory, and hope. I hope these songs speak to your heart as much as they have to mine.

We begin with our art songs set, centered on faith and reflection. Franz Schubert’s “Ave Maria” stands as the heart of this recital, expressing the beauty of the “Hail Mary” prayer and my own devotion to Mary through the Rosary. Hugo Wolf’s “Auf ein altes Bild” (“On an Old Painting”) paints a gentle image of the Child Jesus with the Virgin Mary, while Claude Debussy’s “Nuit d’étoiles” (“Night of Stars”) closes the set with themes of longing and love.

Next is our Disney set, filled with wonder, nostalgia, and inspiration. “Once Upon a December” honors one of the first songs I performed in a recital with my elementary music teacher, Mrs. Nelson. Songs like “Go the Distance” and “Colors of the Wind” invite us to reflect on courage, purpose, and the beauty of the world around us.

Our Spanish set explores themes of identity, grief, and home. Bad Bunny’s “Lo Que Le Pasó a Hawaii” reflects on the struggles and changes happening in Puerto Rico, while “En Mi Viejo San Juan” remembers the places that shape our lives. “Verde Luz” expresses longing for home, and “Confieso” shares the deep emotions of grief and remembrance. We conclude the set with Juan Gabriel’s “Abrázame Muy Fuerte,” sung in honor of my dad and the importance of cherishing those we love.

Finally, our ballads and folk set brings us home through memories and hope. Adele reminds me of belting as a child at my grandma’s house in Puerto Rico, while “The Climb” reflects my transition into adulthood and the importance of faith through life’s changes. “Will You Go, Lassie, Go?” celebrates unity and new beginnings, and we conclude with “Goodness of God,” joined by incredible women on campus whose faith and friendship have deeply inspired me.

Thank you for being here tonight and for supporting this journey. Enjoy the evening of songs from the heart!

PROGRAM

ART SONGS

Ave Maria	Franz Schubert (1797-1828)
Auf ein altes Bild	Hugo Wolf (1860-1903)
Nuit d'étoiles	Claude Debussy (1862 -1918)

DISNEY SET

Once Upon a December <i>From Anastasia</i>	Stephen Flaherty (1960 -)
Colors of the Wind <i>From Pocahontas</i>	Alan Menken (1949 -)
Reflection <i>From Mulan</i>	Matthew Wilder (1953 -) & David Zippel (1954 -)
God Help the Outcasts <i>From The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i>	Alan Menken (1949 -)
Go the Distance <i>From Hercules</i>	Alan Menken (1949 -)

Intermission (15')

SPANISH SET

Lo Que Le Pasó a Hawaii	Bad Bunny (1994 -)
En Mi Viejo San Juan	Noel Estrada (1918 - 1979)
Verde Luz	Antonio Cabán Vale (1942–)
Confieso	Kany García (1982–)
Abrázame Muy Fuerte	Juan Gabriel (1950–2016)

BALLADS & FOLK

Someone Like You	Adele Adkins (1988–) and Dan Wilson (1961–)
The Climb <i>From Hannah Montana the Movie</i>	Jessi Alexander (1972–) & Jon Mabe
Will You Go, Lassie Go? <i>From Sinners</i>	Traditional Irish Folk Song
Goodness of God	

Ben Fielding (1980–), Ed Cash (1971–), Jason Ingram (1974–), Jenn Johnson (1982–), and Brian Johnson (1978–)

TRANSLATION

Ave Maria

Ave Maria, gratia plena
Dominus tecum;
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.
Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with thee;
Blessed art thou amongst women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

Auf ein altes Bild

In grüner Landschaft Sommerflor,
Bei kühlem Wasser, Schilf und Rohr,
Schau, wie das Knäblein sündelos
Frei spielt auf der Jungfrau Schoss!
Und dort im Walde wonnesam,
Ach, grünet schon des Kreuzes
Stamm!!

On an old painting

In the summer haze of a green landscape,
By cool water, rushes and reeds,
See how the Child, born without sin,
Plays freely on the Virgin's lap! And ah!
growing blissfully there in the wood,
Already the tree of the cross is turning
green!

Nuit d'étoiles

Nuit d'étoiles, Sous tes voiles,
Sous ta brise et tes parfums,
Triste lyre Qui soupire,
Je rêve aux amours défunts.
La sereine mélancolie
Vient éclore au fond de mon cœur,
Et j'entends l'âme de ma mie
Tressaillir dans le bois rêveur.
Nuit d'étoiles ...
Je revois à notre fontaine
Tes regards bleus comme les cieux;
Cette rose, c'est ton haleine,
Et ces étoiles sont tes yeux.
Nuit d'étoiles ...

Night of Stars

Night of stars, Beneath your veils,
beneath your breeze and fragrance,
Sad lyre That sighs,
I dream of bygone loves.
Serene melancholy
Now blooms deep in my heart,
And I hear the soul of my love
Quiver in the dreaming woods.
Night of stars...
Once more at our fountain I see
Your eyes as blue as the sky;
This rose is your breath
And these stars are your eyes.
Night of stars...

TRANSLATION

LO QUE LE PASO A HAWAII

Ella se ve bonita, aunque a veces le vaya mal. En los ojos una sonrisa, aguantándose llorar. La espuma de su orilla parecieran de champán, Son alcohol pa las herida', pa la tristeza bailar, Son alcohol pa las herida', porque hay mucho que sanar

En el verde monte adentro, aún se puede respirar. Las nubes están más cerca, con Dios se puede hablar. Se oye al jíbaro llorando, otro má' que se marchó. No quería irse pa Orlando, pero el corrupto lo echo
Y no se sabe hasta cuando-

Quieren quitarme el río y también la playa
Quieren al barrio mío y que abuelita se vaya. No, no suelte' la bandera ni olvide' el lelolai. Que no quiero que hagan contigo lo que le pasó a Hawái.

Aquí nadie quiso irse, quien se fue sueña con Volver. Si algún día me tocara, que mucho me va a doler

Otra jíbara luchando, una que no se dejó
No quería irse tampoco y en la isla se quedó

Y no se sabe hasta cuando-

Quieren quitarme el río y también la playa
Quieren al barrio mío y que tus hijos se vayan

No, no suelte' la bandera ni olvide' el lelolai
Que no quiero que hagan contigo lo que le pasó a Hawái

No, no suelte' la bandera ni olvide' el lelolai
Que no quiero que hagan contigo

What Happened to Hawaii

She looks beautiful even when things sometimes go wrong. In her eyes, a smile holds back her tears

The foam of her shores looks like champagne
It's alcohol for her wounds, for dancing away the sadness. It's alcohol for her wounds, 'cause there's so much to heal

Deep in the green mountains, you can still breathe

The clouds are close, with God you can speak
You hear the jíbaro crying, another one who left. He didn't want to leave to Orlando, but the corrupt ones pushed him out
And no one knows for how long—

They want to take my river and my beach too
They want my neighborhood and grandma to leave. No, don't let go of the flag nor forget the lelolai

'Cause I don't want them to do to you what happened to Hawaii. No one here wanted to leave, and those who left dream of returning
If one day it's my turn, it's gonna hurt so much. Another jíbara fighting, one who wouldn't give up. She didn't want to leave either and on the island she stayed
And no one knows for how long...

They want to take my river and my beach too
They want my neighborhood and your kids to leave. No, don't let go of the flag nor forget the lelolai. 'Cause I don't want them to do to you what happened to Hawaii

No, don't let go of the flag nor forget the lelolai

'Cause I don't want them to do to you—

TRANSLATION

Verde Luz

Verde luz de monte y mar, isla virgen del coral, si me ausento de tus playas primorosas, si me alejo de tus palmas silenciosas, quiero volver, quiero volver.

A sentir la tibia arena a dormir en tus riberas, isla mía, flor cautiva, para ti quiero tener.

Libre tu cielo, sola tu estrella isla doncella, quiero tener, verde luz de monte y mar.

En Mi Viejo San Juan

En mi viejo San Juan,
Cuántos sueños forjé en mis noches de infancia. Mi primera ilusión y mis cuitas de amor son recuerdos del alma.

Una tarde me fui hacia extraña nación
Pues lo quiso el destino, pero mi corazón
Se quedó frente al mar, en mi viejo San Juan

Adiós, adiós, adiós

Borinquen querida, tierra de mi amor

Adiós, adiós, adiós

Mi diosa del mar, mi reina del palmar, me voy pero un día volveré

A buscar mi querer. A soñar otra vez

En mi viejo San Juan

Pero el tiempo pasó y el destino burló.

Mi terrible nostalgia y no pude volver

Al San Juan que yo amé. Pedacito de patria

Mi cabello blanqueó y mi vida se va

Ya la muerte me llama y no quiero morir

Alejado de ti, Puerto Rico del alma

Adiós, adiós, adiós

Borinquen querida, tierra de mi amor

Adiós, adiós, adiós

Mi diosa del mar, mi reina del palmar

Me voy pero un día volveré. A buscar mi querer. A soñar otra vez

En mi viejo San Juan

Green Horizon

Green light of the mountains and sea
virgin island of coral.

If I'm absent of your exquisite beaches,
If I'm far from your silent palms,
I want to go back, I want to go back.

To feel the warm sand
to sleep in your shores,
my island, captive flower, I want you.

Your sky free, a lone star
maiden island, I want to have,
green light of mountains and the sea.

In My Old San Juan

In my old San Juan

How many dreams I forged. In my childhood years, my first illusion and my love sorrows are memories of the soul

One afternoon I left towards a strange nation as destiny wanted, but my heart stayed by the sea, in my old San Juan

Goodbye, Goodbye, goodbye

Beloved Borinquen, Queen of the palm grove

Goodbye, Goodbye, goodbye

My goddess of the sea, Queen of my love
I'm leaving I'm leaving now

But one day I will return

To seek my love, to dream again

In my old San Juan

But time passed and destiny mocked

My terrible nostalgia and I couldn't return
To the San Juan I loved

A piece of homeland, my hair turned white
My life is fading, death is calling me

And I don't want to die away from you

Puerto Rico of the soul, beloved Borinquen
Queen of the palm grove

Goodbye, Goodbye, goodbye

My goddess of the sea Queen of my love
I'm leaving now

But one day I will return

To seek my love, to dream again

In my old San Juan

TRANSLATION

Confieso

Allí miré tu foto en la nevera
De aquel viaje que hicimos en noviembre
Sonríó al descubrir tus mil maneras para
quererme
Hoy, como cada tarde, te imaginaba
Confieso que me haces tanta falta
Para decirme: Todo va a estar bien
Para escucharme con una guitarra
Sentado, con tu taza de café
Lloré porque tu voz no está en la casa
Reí porque me amaste con todo tu ser
Es una mezcla que me agarra el alma
Y rompe en cada esquina de mi ser
¿Y cómo no? Si eras mi todo
¿Y cómo no?

La noche buena se vuelve más fría
Y en abril se caen todas las flores
Y siento que me hablas cada día, en mil
canciones
Hoy, como cada tarde, te imaginaba
Confieso que me haces tanta falta
Para decirme: Todo va a estar bien
Para escucharme con una guitarra
Sentado, con tu taza de café
Lloré porque tu voz no está en la casa
Reí porque me amaste con todo tu ser
Es una mezcla que me agarra el alma
Y rompe en cada esquina de mi ser
¿Y cómo no? Si eras mi todo
¿Y cómo no?
Miro al cielo y no me basta
Y tus fotos que me engañan
Y me hacen creer que hoy llamas en la
tarde para saludarme
Confieso que me haces tanta falta
Para decirme: Todo va a estar bien
Para escucharme con una guitarra
Sentado, con tu taza de café

I confess

There I looked at your photo on the
Refrigerator. From that trip we took in
November. I smile when I discover your
thousand ways to love me. Today, like
every afternoon, I imagined you
I confess that I miss you so much
To tell me: Everything is going to be okay
To listen to me with a guitar
Sitting with your cup of coffee
I cried because your voice is not in the
house. I laughed because you loved me
with all your being. It's a mixture that grabs
my soul
And it breaks in every corner of my being
And how not? If you were my everything
And how not?

Christmas night gets colder and in April all
the flowers fall
And I feel that you speak to me every day,
in a thousand songs. Today, like every af-
ternoon, I imagined you
I confess that I miss you so much
To tell me: Everything is going to be okay
To listen to me with a guitar
Sitting with your cup of coffee
I cried because your voice is not in the
house. I laughed because you loved me
with all your being
It's a mixture that grabs my soul
And it breaks in every corner of my being
And how not? If you were my everything
And how not?
I look at the sky and it's not enough
And your photos that deceive me
And they make me believe that today you
call in the afternoon to greet me.

TRANSLATION

Abrázame Muy Fuerte

Cuando tú estás conmigo es cuando yo digo
Que valió la pena todo, todo lo que yo he sufrido
No sé si es un sueño aún o es una realidad
Pero cuando estoy contigo es cuando digo que este amor que siento es porque tú lo has merecido
Con decirte, amor, que otra vez he amanecido
Llorando de felicidad
A tu lado yo siento que estoy viviendo
Nada es como ayer
Abrázame que el tiempo pasa y él nunca perdona
Ha hecho estragos en mi gente como en mi persona
Abrázame que el tiempo es malo y muy cruel amigo
Abrázame que el tiempo es oro si tú estás conmigo
Abrázame fuerte, muy fuerte y más fuerte que nunca
Siempre abrázame
Hoy, que tú estás conmigo
Yo no sé si está pasando el tiempo o tú lo has detenido
Así quiero estar por siempre
Aprovecho que estás tú conmigo
Te doy gracias por cada momento de mi vivir
Tú cuando mires para el cielo
Por cada estrella que aparezca, amor, es un te quiero (te quiero)
Abrázame que el tiempo hiere y el cielo es testigo
Que el tiempo es cruel y a nadie quiere, por eso, te digo (te digo)
Abrázame muy fuerte, amor, mantenme así a tu lado
Yo quiero agradecerte, amor, todo lo que me has dado
Quiero corresponderte de una forma u otra a diario
Amor, yo nunca del dolor he sido partidario
Pero a mí me tocó sufrir cuando confié y creí
En alguien que juró que daba su vida por mí
Abrázame que el tiempo pasa y ese no se detiene
Abrázame muy fuerte, amor, que el tiempo en contra viene
Abrázame que Dios perdona pero el tiempo a ninguno
Abrázame que no le importa saber quién es uno
Abrázame que el tiempo pasa y él nunca perdona
Ha hecho estragos en mi gente como en mi persona
Abrázame que el tiempo es malo y muy cruel amigo
Abrázame muy fuerte, amor

Hug Me Tightly

When you are with me, that is when I say that everything I have suffered was worth it. I do not know if this is still a dream or if it is reality, but when I am with you, that is when I say. That this love I feel is because you have deserved it
Just to tell you, my love, that once again I woke up
Crying tears of happiness
By your side I feel that I am truly living
Nothing is like yesterday. Hold me close, because time passes and it never forgives. It has left its mark on my people as well as on me
Hold me close, because time is harsh and a very cruel friend, Hold me close, because time is golden when you are with me, Hold me tight, very tight, tighter than ever before. Always hold me.
Today, now that you are with me
I do not know whether time is passing or if you have stopped it
This is how I want to stay forever
I take advantage of the fact that you are here with me
I thank you for every moment of my life
And when you look up at the sky
For every star that appears, my love, it means "I love you"
Hold me close, because time wounds and the heavens are witness, that time is cruel and loves no one, that is why I tell you
Hold me very tight, my love, keep me here by your side. I want to thank you, my love, for everything you have given me
I want to repay you in one way or another every day
My love, I have never been someone who embraces pain, but I had to suffer when I trusted and believed
In someone who swore they would give their life for me
Hold me close, because time passes and it never stops
Hold me very tight, my love, because time is coming against us. Hold me close, because God forgives, but time forgives no one. Hold me close, because it does not care who anyone is. Hold me close, because time passes and it never forgives. It has left its mark on my people as well as on me.
Hold me close, because time is harsh and a very cruel friend
Hold me very tight, my love

BIOGRAPHIES

Tiffany Blanco is a senior at Seattle Pacific University who is pursuing a BA in Music with a concentration in Vocal Performance, and will be graduating this Spring with the Class of 2026. Tiffany began singing ever since she was little. Her mom recalls her making fun songs on the way to school and at home. When she was around 8 years old, when she lived in Puerto Rico, she began to truly form a desire to sing. Once she moved to Seattle a few years later, she was presented with many opportunities for singing, some being; a youth children's church choir at St. James Cathedral, doing musicals at a Broadway Bound, musicals in high school, and joining school choirs up until college. Overtime, she felt a calling to continue to cultivate the gifts God has bestowed upon her, and she hoped to continue singing whether it be at church or with students in the future. She spends her free time serving at church, leading SFLA club on campus, singing in choir, and living a life rooted in the Lord, which makes her life look different everyday. In her time at SPU, Tiffany has taken voice lessons from Pro. Bonnecroy and Pro. Sigars and participated in different SPU ensembles such as Concert Choir, with Dr. Ellis. After graduation she will commit 2 years with FOCUS as a missionary! Her favorite bible verse is "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances" (1 Thess 5:16-18).

Tiffany performs tonight in partial fulfillment of a B.A. in Music with an emphasis in Vocal Performance.

Zhanhong Kuang is an active collaborative pianist in the Seattle area. With a BA degree in Piano Performance from Seattle Pacific University, Zhanhong has accompanied numerous choir concerts, musicals, recitals, master classes, music festivals, and competitions. In addition, she has been working as an accompanist for the Seattle School District since 2017, and Shoreline School District since 2024. Zhanhong is also the collaborative pianist of Magnolia Chorale, Norwegian Ladies Chorus of Seattle, Seattle Jewish Chorale, and Seattle Children's Chorus.

Vivi Kondrat is a senior getting her degree in B.S. Environmental Science and Terrestrial Resource Management at the University of Washington. Her main instruments are voice, organ, and piano. At UW she is a Scholar Lead for the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship and is

a team member of the Student Ministry at the UW Newman Center. Some past opportunities she has had were being a Peer Minister at UW Newman Center with Tiffany and a Monastic Intern with Benedictine Sisters on Shaw Island! Music, to her, has the power to speak to the depths of the heart in a way sometimes inaccessible to words alone. The ache of beauty, joy, and longing that melody and harmony can evoke truly reflects the beauty of God to her soul! Her favorite bible verse is 1 John 4:18!

Miguel Vasquez is a senior at Seattle Pacific University pursuing a degree in Music Therapy. While music remains his passion, he finds even greater meaning in bringing hope, comfort, and moments of joy to those navigating difficult seasons of life. Miguel is currently completing his internship at Seattle Children's Hospital and aspires to pursue a master's degree in mental health counseling, continuing to grow as both a clinician and musician. Through his work, he hopes to use music as a source of light for those who may feel hidden in darkness. Miguel often says that his greatest goal is to be the kind of person who inspires and supports others in stepping into their own spotlight. He is deeply honored to be one of the singers featured in Tiffany's recital and hopes he can create space for her artistry to shine.

Kayla Suherman is an accomplished pianist and multi-instrumentalist studying Music Production at Seattle Pacific University. Classically trained for over ten years, she has received recognition from competitions and festivals including Chopin Northwest, Pacific International, the Russian Chamber Music Foundation, and the Virtuoso Festival. In addition to solo performance, she has played keyboard with Canyon Hills Worship and performed as a cellist with the Cascade Youth Symphony Orchestras. She also enjoys songwriting, exploring new instruments, and views music as one of God's greatest blessings. Colossians 3:16 says to "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God," and she seeks to reflect that truth through both her performance and creativity, using music as a way to worship, connect, and inspire others!

BIOGRAPHIES

Carlos Arias (bass, voice) is a freshman at SPU, currently studying mechanical engineering. He has been part of the SPU choir for almost two quarters now. He joined in hopes of getting better at singing. He thinks music is important in the world because it is a form of expression that brings people together. His favorite Bible verse is, "If you hear his voice, harden not your hearts" Psalm 95: 7-11

Karla Navarro is a senior at Seattle Pacific University completing her studies as a Political Science and Social Justice major with a minor in Sociology. Her main instruments are voice (alto) and viola. Some accomplishments she has been a part of is being the Students for Life Club Vice President and ASSP Senator for Commuters. To her the song, "Goodness of God" is very close to her heart because it has helped her get through difficult moments by reminding her of God's love, grace, and closeness.

Maripaz Gutierrez is a senior at SPU studying a degree in Community Psychology. Her main instrument is voice (Mezzo-Soprano). She is the Vice President of ASSP, former VP of Students for Life, and First Generation student. She believes that in the midst of the chaos in the world, music brings us together despite our differences. Her favorite Bible verse is 1 Peter 5:6, "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time".

Keira Shaw is currently a senior at Seattle Pacific University studying composition and piano performance. She has participated in many ensembles at SPU, including Percussion, Collaborative Ensemble, and Concert Choir where she first met Tiffany! She finds music important as it strengthens community through listening and collaborating, particularly through worship. Her desire is

to do as Romans 12:1 says, "to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God," especially in using her God-given talents to create music for His glory. Keira is excited to support Tiffany in her Senior Recital!

Josephine Partridge is a Theatre Performance, Honors, and Music (Vocal Performance) major pursuing the performing arts as a singer, dancer, actress, writer, director, and more. She has completed her Theatre and Honors degree and is excited to stay a 5th year to finish her music degree. Knowing Tiffany since high school, Josephine is so proud of her and is honored to sing in her Senior recital.

Gabriella Blanco is Tiffany's youngest sister and an alto who has been involved in musical theatre for many years. A senior at Roosevelt high school, she also sings in the Jubilate Young Women's Choir at St. James Cathedral and loves performing whenever she gets the chance. Outside of theatre and choir, one of her favorite things is singing karaoke with her sister. Music has always been a way for her to connect with others and bring joy to the people around her. She is very excited and honored to be part of this recital tonight!

Irvin Blanco is a 2024 Ottawa University graduate with a B.A. in Communications. His most recent accomplishments are being a content creator and working full time in Seattle. He has been a volunteer of an annual choral summer camp at St. James Cathedral in Seattle and has a love for the live music culture in Seattle. This is Irvin's debut as a percussionist and is excited to be volunteered by Tiffany to play guiro, he hopes you enjoy the night.

*Society needs artist...
artists have their unique place.
Obedient to their inspiration in creating
works both worthwhile and beautiful,
they ...enrich the cultural heritage
of each
nation and of all humanity.”
-St. John Paul II*

UPCOMING SPU RECITALS AND CONCERTS:

Anthea Tay, Voice | May 26, 2026 | 7:30pm | Nickerson Studios

Choir and Orchestra Concert | May 28, 2026 | 7:30pm | First Free Methodist

Echo Vance, Piano | May 29, 2026 | 7:30pm | Nickerson Studios

Again, thank you so much for being here tonight, it means much more than you know! You all have been in my prayers, and I am so grateful to everyone who helped make this evening possible!

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Special thanks to the Nickerson House and Tech Team

