

SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
MUSIC DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS

SENIOR RECITAL

ANTHEA TAY
SOPRANO

WITH

ASTA VAIČEKONIS , PIANO
ADAM HAAGENSEN, PIANO
KAYLA SUHERMAN, PIANO; VOICE
GAVIN ABEL, PIANO; VOICE
MARINA LAWSON, CELLO
CHRISTINA VALDEZ, PIANO

NICKERSON STUDIOS
TUESDAY, MAY 26TH 2026 | 7:30 P.M.

PROGRAM

O mio babbino caro	Giacomo Puccini and Giovacchino Forzano
Lascia ch'io pianga	Georgic Frederic Handel (1685-1759)
Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal	Roger Quilter (Op.3, No.2); Alfred Tennyson
How Beautiful Are the Feet of Them	George Frederic Handel (1685-1759)
Pie Jesu	Gabriel (Op. 48. 1887=1890); Andrew Loyd Webber
Part of Your World From the <i>Little Mermaid</i>	Alan Menken, Howard Ashman
Reflection from <i>Mulan</i>	Matthew Wilder, David Zippel

Intermission

Ceilings	Elizabeth (Lizzy) McAlpine
What a Wonderful World	Louis Armstrong; George David Weiss, Bob Thiele
Sanctuary from the movie <i>Nashville</i>	Sarah Sikind, Jill Andrews, and Gary Nicholson
In The Stars	Benson Boone; Jason Evigan; Michael Pollack
Older	Sasha Alex Sloan; King Henry; Daniel Silberstein
Falling	Harry Styles; Tom Hull (Kid Harpoon)
Angel	Sarah McLachlan
Die on this Hill	Sienna Spiro, Omer Fedi, Michael Pollack

PROGRAM

Run To You

Kayla Suherman, Anthea Tay

Turn Your Eyes

Natalie Grant; Bernie Herms; Daniella Mason

It is Well

Horatio Spafford (adapt. Tommee Profit; Bay Porter)

BIOGRAPHIES

Anthea Tay is a senior at Seattle Pacific University. She has studied voice for a total of ten years, under the tutelage of April Perkinson, Jan Nelson, Beth Ann Bonnecroy, and Julie Kae Sigars and has sung in various choir such as the SPU treble choir. Recognized by friends and family, she is seen as an individual of steadfast faith and love for others. Her life and experience with music has only strengthened her spiritual relationship with God, and through that, her desire to serve and bring healing to those who are suffering.

She would like to thank all her educators, family, friends and loved ones for constantly supporting her journey as a musician, and for being a constant source of love and support. She would also like to thank the SPU house crew, as well as all the instrumentalists; Asta Vaicekonis, Adam Haagensen, Kayla Suherman, and Gavin Abel for being an integral part of this recital and for giving up this time and energy to help make this performance possible.

Anthea performs tonight in fulfillment of a BA in Vocal Performance

Asta Vaicekonis holds her MM in Piano Performance from the University of Washington and her bachelor's degree from Lithuanian Academy of Music. Asta was granted a diploma for best accompaniment in the International Competition of Chamber Music in Kaliningrad, Russia. She was a soloist with the Port Angeles Symphony Orchestra, performed in the University of Washington Summer Arts Festival, the Bach Festival in Lake Chelan, Washington, accompanist for the Ladies Musical Club of Seattle's Award Tours, and the Bumbershoot Festival in Seattle. Asta served as an accompanist and coach in the Summer Chamber Music Seminars in Berlin, Germany, and has performed in the Chamber Dance Company of UW. She has played many recitals and chamber programs in various cities of the United States, Lithuania, Latvia, Germany, Russia, and Israel, and Indonesia, and made several recordings for the Lithuanian Radio and Television, Seattle King FM. She was the first solo pianist to play in Seattle's own Benaroya Hall in the Open House Concert. Asta has been on faculty at Music Works Northwest and collaborative pianist at Lithuanian Academy of Music, Bowling Green University, University of Washington, Western Washington University, and is currently on the faculty at Seattle Pacific University, while maintaining a private piano studio.

BIOGRAPHIES

Kayla Suherman is an accomplished pianist and multi-instrumentalist studying Business Administration and 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 along with exploring new instruments like the electric guitar, drums, bass, and more. Kayla has big dreams of working in the music business with band representation and management.

Gavin Abel is a multi-instrumentalist singer/songwriter, studying music production and film studies. He has released original music under his own name as well as with his band Clover, whom he writes and performs for. Gavin has played several notable venues in Seattle such as the Moore Theatre, THING Festival, and Barboza. Graduating this year, he looks forward to continue expanding his musical talent and career within the community of the Greater Seattle Area.

Christina Valdez is a senior at SPU studying Physiology and Honors Liberal Arts. She has taken piano lessons since she was young and has most recently studied under Dr Dainius Vaicekonis while at SPU. Her accomplishments include placing 3rd in the 2025 SPU Solo Competition and performing in several student recitals (including her own). She loves learning different styles of music and is honored to play with this ensemble.

Marina Lawson is a post-baccalaureate student at SPU. She has always gravitated towards music, starting on the piano at age seven and later transitioning to the highland bagpipe. Competing in both solo and band categories, Marina has won awards in Oregon, Washington, California, and British Columbia. In 2001, Marina earned the opportunity to compete at the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow, Scotland. Marina has found her musical home in the cello, which she has been playing for six years.

Adam Haagensen is a Seattle-based musician and producer who graduated from Seattle Pacific University in 2025 with a degree in music production. He enjoys creating music both as a solo artist and in collaboration with other musicians around Seattle. Along with releasing music under the name ADM and producing for other artists, he also leads worship at Coastline Church in downtown Seattle.

Thanks to the Nickerson House and Tech Team

