



Synesthesia: A Celebration of Painting & Music

HONORING **TRUDIE AND NEIL PRIOR '56**

SEPTEMBER 9, 2017

The Last Reflection of Ophelia

There is a willow grows aslant a brook,
That shows his hoar leaves in the glassy stream;
There with fantastic garlands did she come
Of crow-flowers, nettles, daisies, and long purples
That liberal shepherds give a grosser name,
But our cold maids do dead men’s fingers call them:
There, on the pendent boughs her coronet weeds
Clambering to hang, an envious sliver broke;
When down her weedy trophies and herself
Fell in the weeping brook. Her clothes spread wide;
And, mermaid-like, awhile they bore her up:
Which time she chanted snatches of old tunes;
As one incapable of her own distress,
Or like a creature native and indued
Unto that element: but long it could not be
Till that her garments, heavy with their drink,
Pull’d the poor wretch from her melodious lay
To muddy death.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, HAMLET, 1599

Prelude

Last Reflection of Ophelia:
A Colored Musical Score

5:28

Premiere of a short film, directed by Jacques Boumendil, documẽanting the creation of the painting *Last Reflection of Ophelia: A Colored Musical Score* by Gabrielle Thierry. Featuring the composition *Last Reflection of Ophelia* by Eric Lebrun, performed by musicians Clara Michel-Mazzoleni, cello and Théophile Thierry, piano. Renaud Michel, Sound Engineer.

7:45 p.m.

Opening remarks by

Margaret Freije P19, 13
Provost and
Dean of the College

Tonight’s program marks the dedication of the commissioned works *Last Reflection of Ophelia* by French visual artist Gabrielle Thierry and composer Eric Lebrun in recognition of Trudie and Neil Prior’s significant commitment to and support of academic excellence and the arts at Holy Cross, inspiring and transforming the lives of students, during their time at Holy Cross and beyond.

Ophelia, a tragic character from Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*, serves as the inspiration for both works by Lebrun and Thierry. Lebrun’s music is infused with the colors of the water, its reflections in spring time, and the depths of the pond that inexorably draws Ophelia to her demise. Thierry, transported by Lebrun’s music, captures visually the drama of the scene – with horizontal lines representing the surface of the water and the vertical lines, both the reflection of the water and its depths. As Ophelia disappears slowly under the water, flowers and waves surrounding her, the long chords of the cello, brown and red, give a temporality to the scene, while three blue shapes of souls witness the drama.

The world premiere of Lebrun’s composition and Thierry’s original artwork this evening celebrate artistic expression and the commitment of the College to supporting creative, multi-sensory explorations of the arts. Other works performed this evening include pieces Thierry has associated with her paintings currently on view in the exhibition *The Musicality of the Water Lilies / La Musicalité des Nymphéas* at the Cantor Art Gallery.

8:00 p.m.
Musical Program

Kevin Chen '21

Brooks Scholar, piano

Anastasia Dulskiy '19

Brooks Scholar, piano

Adam Golka

Artist-in-Residence, piano

Jan Müller-Szeraws

Artist-in-Residence, cello

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Invention no. 1 BWV 772

Johann Sebastian Bach arr. F. B. Busoni
(1866-1924)

Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesus Christ BWV 639

Kevin Chen '21, piano

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Moments Musicaux no. 3

Anastasia Dulskiy '19, piano

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Sonata for piano and Cello no. 3 op. 69

Allegro ma non tanto
Scherzo – Allegro molto
Adagio cantabile – Allegro Vivace

Jan Müller-Szeraws, cello
Adam Golka, piano

Eric Lebrun (*1967)

Last Reflexion of Ophelia, op. 39 (2017)
pour violoncelle et piano

Jan Müller-Szeraws, cello
Adam Golka, piano

Franz Liszt (1811-1886)

Mephisto Waltz no.1;
Der Tanz in der Dorfschenke, S. 514

Adam Golka, piano

Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)

Sonate pour piano et violoncelle (1948)

Allegro – Tempo di Marcia
Cavatine
Ballabile
Finale

Jan Müller-Szeraws, cello
Adam Golka, piano

Eric Lebrun
Composer

A winner and finalist of several international competitions (organ, composition, chamber music), Eric Lebrun, in 1990, was appointed organist of the Cavaillé-Coll organ of the Saint Antoine des Quinze-Vingts church in Paris, where he recorded complete works Of Jehan Alain, Maurice Duruflé and César Franck as well as several programs for France-Musique. He founded and directed since 1991 the Choirs of St. Anthony, whose repertoire includes the great scores of sacred works from the Middle Ages to the present day.

He is the composer of some fifty works, ranging from the solo violin to the oratorio, including a cycle of *Mysteries of the Rosary*, *Three Liturgical Poems* (commissioned by the Sacred Music Festival of Sylvanès Abbey), *Sonata sacra* for large organ (commissioned by the Comminges Festival), and *Canticum fratris solis* after François d'Assise (creation France-Musique).

The year 2010 saw the publication of the *Twenty Mysteries of the Rosary* op. 10, and a double album dedicated to Franz Liszt at Bayard-Musique. In 2011 Lebrun performed in the church of Saint-Eustache his Suite op. 18 for large organ. Finally, in 2012, he published a monograph on César Franck at Bleu-Nuit. Eric Lebrun is a member-rapporteur of the National Commission for Historic Monuments. He was appointed Honorary Professor at the Royal Academy of Music in Aarhus (Denmark) in December 2015. He and Marie-Ange Leurent have undertaken an ambitious recording of Bach's work in 20 CDs scheduled for completion in 2020 (Monthabor Musique). In 2016, he published a new biography of Johann Sebastian Bach (Bleu-Nuit Editeur).

The College of the Holy Cross is honored to receive his commissioned work, *The Last Reflection of Ophelia*, in collaboration with Gabrielle Thierry's painting of the same title and theme. Op. 39, for cello and piano will be performed this evening by artists-in-residence Adam Golka, piano, and Jan Müller-Szeraws, cello.

Gabrielle Thierry
Artist

Gabrielle Thierry was born in 1966 and resides outside of Paris in Andrésey, France. Before devoting her career to painting a little over 10 years ago, Thierry was an engineer specializing in cognitive sciences and knowledge management. She studied at the Atelier du Carrousel - Louvre and École des Beaux Arts in Paris and obtained a Cambridge, UK graduate degree from Christie's Education. This will be the first exhibition of her work in the United States.

Thierry's series of eight large-scale paintings were inspired by her rediscovery of the *Water Lilies* landscapes by Claude Monet on view at the the Musée de l'Orangerie in Paris. With special permission from the museum, Thierry painted in front of Monet's originals over a period of 18 months from 2010 to 2012, where she explored the inner musical qualities of Monet's famous paintings and visually interpreted them in her own. Exploring the perceptual phenomenon known as "synesthesia," Thierry experienced the musicality she felt embedded in Monet's semi-abstract impressionist paintings, which she then transcribed in abstract form, translating paintings into colored musical scores.

Gabrielle Thierry: The Musicality of the Water Lilies/La Musicalité des Nymphéas is on view through October 7. The College and the Cantor Art Gallery would like to acknowledge and thank the French Cultural Ministry, through the Boston Consulate, for providing support for the transportation of Thierry's works to Holy Cross.

Jan Müller-Szeraws
Artist-in-Residence, cello

Since September 2014, Jan Müller-Szeraws has been an Artist-in-Residence at the College of the Holy Cross where he coordinates the Performance Program. He is also artistic director of the Chamber Music Institute at Holy Cross, an intensive chamber music summer immersion program for gifted high school and college students. Müller-Szeraws has been artist and teacher in residence at the "Jornadas Musicales Internacionales de Invierno" in Concepción, Chile and has taught Master Classes at the Garth Newel Music Center, Columbus State University and Academia de Música Antonio Vivaldi, Concepción. He was a guest lecturer at the Universidad Católica de Chile and currently also teaches at the Phillips Academy Andover.

Jan Müller-Szeraws studied at the Musikhochschule Freiburg, Germany and holds a Bachelor and Master of Music Degree from Boston University. His teachers include Andrés Díaz, Christoph Henkel, Arnaldo Fuentes and Javier Santamaría.

Müller-Szeraws is a prize-winner at the Washington International Competition, as well as a grant recipient of the Saul and Naomi Cohen Foundation, which is generously lending him a cello by David Tecchler (1717).

Müller-Szeraws regularly performs recitals with pianists including Adam Golka, Ya-Fei Chuang, Victor Santiago Adunción and Sally Pinkas and is cellist of the contemporary music ensemble Boston Musica Viva. Other recent projects include the release of "Anusvara", a disc with music by Shirish Korde for cello, tabla and carnatic soprano, the premiere of "Mutations" for solo cello and computer by Chris Arrell and the premiere and recording of Thomas Oboe Lee's "Suite for Solo Cello", both written for him, as well as a recording of sonatas for piano and cello by Brahms and Chopin with pianist Adam Golka for Hammond Performing Arts and a series of recitals for cello and harp with harpist Sivan Magen.

Adam Golka
Artist-in-Residence, piano

Polish-American pianist Adam Golka was recently selected by Sir András Schiff to perform recitals at the Klavier-Festival Ruhr in Germany, Tonhalle Zürich, as well as in Berlin and New York (organized by the 92nd Street Y). Adam has been regularly on the concert stage since the age of sixteen, when he won first prize at the 2nd China Shanghai International Piano Competition. He has also received the Gilmore Young Artist Award and the Max I. Allen Classical Fellowship Award from the American Pianists Association.

As a child, Adam studied with his mother, Anna Golka, as well as with Dariusz Pawlas. For most of his teenage years and as a young adult, Adam studied with the late José Feghali, whom he considers his most significant influence. Adam also spent four years at the Peabody Conservatory studying with Leon Fleisher. Since finishing his official studies, Adam has continued his work in inspiring lessons with great musicians such as András Schiff, Alfred Brendel, Mitsuko Uchida, Richard Goode, Murray Perahia, Ferenc Rados, and Rita Wagner.

With his extensive concerto repertoire, Golka has appeared as a soloist with dozens of orchestras, among those the BBC Scottish, Atlanta, Houston, Dallas, Indianapolis, New Jersey, Milwaukee, Phoenix, San Diego, Fort Worth, Vancouver, Seattle, and Jacksonville symphonies, Grand Teton Festival Orchestra, National Arts Centre Orchestra of Ottawa, the Sinfonia Varsovia, the Shanghai Philharmonic, the Warsaw Philharmonic, and the Teresa Carreño Youth Orchestra of Venezuela. Adam made his Carnegie Hall Isaac Stern Auditorium Debut in 2010, performing Rachmaninoff's Third Concerto with the New York Youth Symphony, and also performed a cycle of all five Beethoven concerti in 2011 with the Lubbock Symphony, under the baton of his brother, Tomasz Golka.

Adam Golka is an Artist-in-Residence at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA.

Anastasia Dulskiy '19
Brooks Scholar, piano

A music and biology double major from Windham, New Hampshire Anastasia Dulskiy is a member of the Class of 2019. Prior to coming to Holy Cross, she studied with Mila Filatova at her piano academy in Manchester, New Hampshire and received coaching from Tamara Poddubnaya for many years. She participated in a number of national and international piano competitions and festivals growing up, and often attends the Music Without Borders International Music Festival in Bethel, Maine during the summer. Anastasia now studies piano with Artist in Residence Adam Golka and has received coaching from Artists in Residence Jan Müller-Szeraws and Saul Bitrán, and has had many opportunities to perform and connect with peers and faculty on campus as a Brooks Scholar.

Kevin Chen '21
Brooks Scholar, piano

Kevin Chen is a pianist from Andover, Massachusetts and is the Brooks Scholar of the Holy Cross Class of 2021. He has been studying piano since the age of six under the tutelage of Mila Filatova and has received extra guidance from professors such as Tamara Poddubnaya, Victor Rosenbaum, Max Levinson, Carleen Graff, and Arnaldo Cohen. Kevin currently studies piano with Artist in Residence Adam Golka and is a member of the Holy Cross Marching Band and Concert Band. Kevin has performed music in numerous venues internationally, such as Perugia, Italy and Vologda, Russia. He has also worked with his high school's theater group in a performance of 33 *Variations*, by Moises Kaufman and has worked with many soloists who play instruments such as violin, clarinet, and flute.



Gabrielle Thierry
Last Reflection of Ophelia, 2017
Oil on canvas
60 x 120 cm / 23.62 x 47.24 in
Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Art Gallery Permanent Collection
2017.02



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