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### Faculty Recital: Love, Nature and the Divine

Clara Cheng

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Peter Atherton

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Sam Savage

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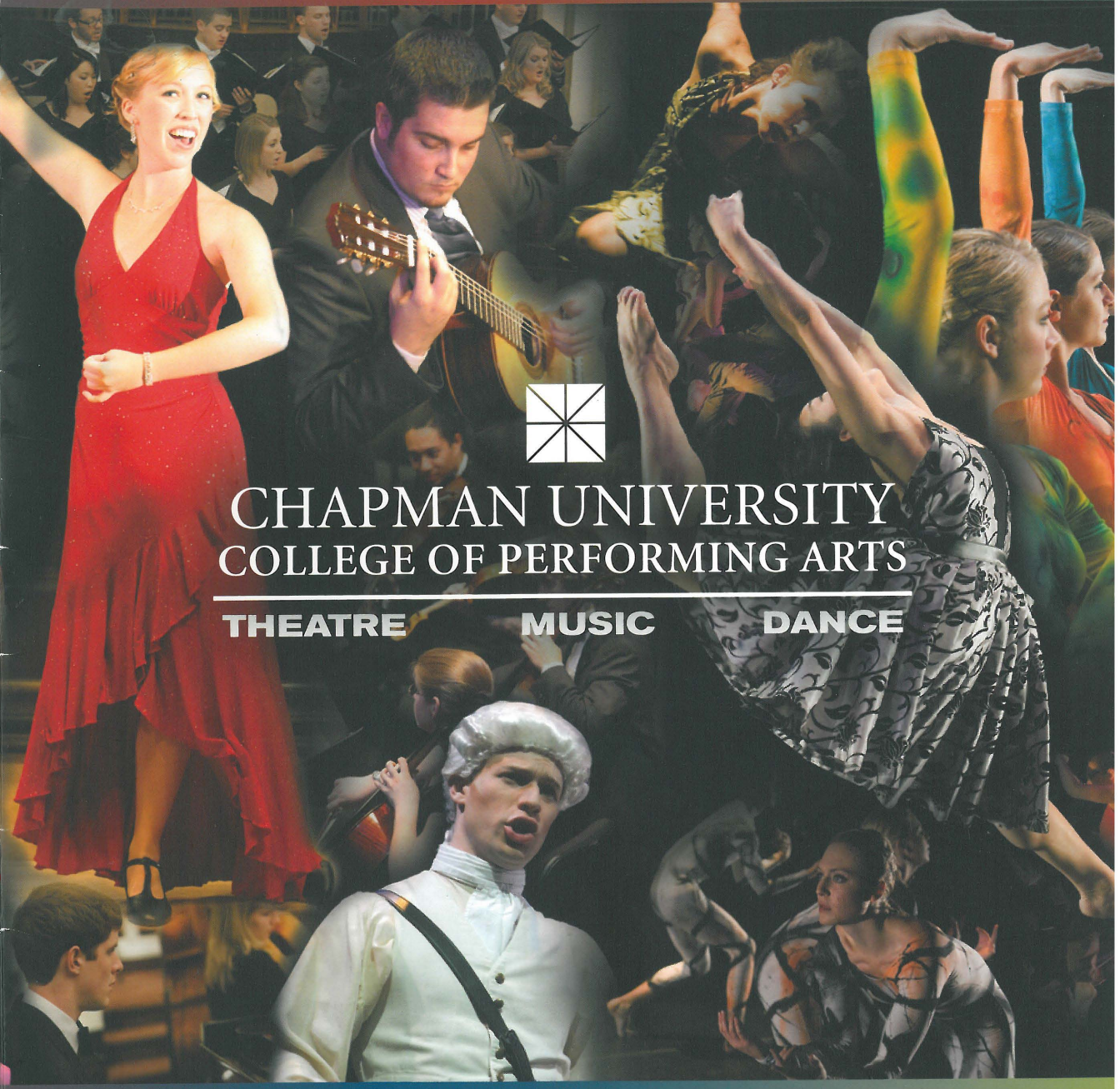
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CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS

**THEATRE**

**MUSIC**

**DANCE**



CHAPMAN  
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF  
PERFORMING ARTS

**SPRING 2011**



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING ARTS

**Spring 2011 Event Highlights**

THEATRE:

*Macbeth*

by William Shakespeare .....Feb. 17-19, 24-26

*Picasso at the Lapin Agile*

by Steve Martin .....Mar. 17-19, 24-26

Student Directed One-Acts.....Apr. 28-30

MUSIC:

University Choir Home Concert..... Feb. 4

Ensemble in Residence – Penderecki String Quartet..... Feb. 15

Chapman Chamber Orchestra and University Choir..... Mar. 4

Chapman University Wind Symphony..... Mar. 12

Opera Chapman..... Apr. 1-3

Guest Artists in Recital – EAR Unit.....May 5

Sholund Scholarship Concert: Beethoven's *Leonore Overture No. 3*,

*Sanft wie du Lebtest* and *Mass in C*.....May 7

DANCE:

Dance Works in Progress.....Mar. 5-6

Concert Intime.....Mar. 31, Apr. 1-2

Spring Dance Concert.....May 11-14

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CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY  
*Conservatory of Music*

*presents a*

Faculty Recital

***Love, Nature and the Divine***

Clara Cheng, piano

with

Peter Atherton, Bass-baritone

Sam Savage, Tenor

Maria Lazarova, Mezzo-soprano

Tony Cho, Pianist

Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 • 8:00 P.M.  
Salmon Recital Hall

Program

Songs

- 1 Circus Band
- 2 Evening
- 3 Children's Hour
- 4 Memories
- 5

0:50  
3:03  
5:20  
7:40

Sam Savage, tenor

Charles Ives  
(1874-1954)

From *Twelve Poems of Emily Dickinson*

- 6 Nature, the gentlest mother
- 7 There came a wind like a bugle
- 8 The world feels dusty
- 9 Heart, we will forget him
- 10 Sleep is supposed to be
- 11 Going to Heaven!
- 12 The Chariot

11:05  
14:52  
16:30  
18:26  
20:33  
23:12  
26:14

Maria Lazarova, mezzo-soprano

Aaron Copland  
(1900-1990)

Intermission

Songs

- His Exaltation
- 14 The Greatest Man
- 15 In The Alley
- 16 An Old Flame
- 17 from "Night of Frost in May"
- 18 Autumn
- 19

8:00

Peter Atherton, bass-baritone

Charles Ives  
(1874-1954)

Four Dialogues

- 20 The Subway
- 21 The Airport
- The Apartment
- In Spain and in New York
- 22

97:48  
101:02

Maria Lazarova, mezza-soprano  
Sam Savage. Tenor  
Clara Cheng, piano I  
Tony Cho, piano II

Ned Rorem  
(1923 -)

About the Artists

Bass-baritone **Peter Atherton** has had the joy of performing over forty-five roles ranging from Seneca in The Coronation of Poppea to Frederick in A Little Night Music. His operatic credits include performances with the Los Angeles Opera, Seattle Opera, Baltimore Opera, Lyric Opera Cleveland, Wolf Trap Opera, Virginia Opera, San Francisco Opera Touring Division, Opera Atelier, Cairo Opera and the Operafestival of Rome and Verona. He has performed with such conductors as Leonard Bernstein, Pierre Boulez, Lucas Foss, James Conlon, Kurt Herbert Adler, David Effron and Myung-Whun Chung.

In concert and oratorio he has performed to acclaim with numerous orchestras including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, L'Orchestra de la Suisse Romande, Basel Chamber Orchestra, Bach Cercle Genève, International Chamber Ensemble Rome, Los Angeles Master Chorale, Orchestre de Belgique, Philadelphia Singers, San Diego Symphony, William Hall Chorale, Angeles Chorale and the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival. Equally popular in recital, he has performed in Vienna, Zürich, Rome, Hannover, Basel, Geneva, New York, Houston, Miami, Las Vegas and Los Angeles.

Mr. Atherton's versatility as a singing-actor enabled him to perform six different roles in The Phantom of the Opera in New York, Los Angeles and Toronto. He has also recorded a program of French Art Song for the Hannover Radio in Germany.

Mr. Atherton holds the Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from The Juilliard School, Master of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Southern California, and Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of California at Los Angeles. He has received numerous awards including Artist of the Year sponsored by The National Arts Club in New York City and a full scholarship to The International Academy for Soloists where he studied exclusively with Elisabeth Schwarzkopf.

Mr. Atherton presently is Director of Operatic Studies and Associate Professor of Voice at Chapman University and Co-Artistic Director of Operafestival di Roma. He has taught at the University of Southern California, the University of California at Los Angeles, Occidental College and at Operafestival di Roma and has presented Master Classes throughout North America. His students have been admitted to prestigious graduate and apprentice programs across the country, with many performing professionally in Europe, the United States and Canada.

Tenor **Sam Savage** has enjoyed varied performance experiences includes opera, oratorio, musical theater and recitals. He has over twenty roles in his repertoire and has appeared with New York City Opera's national tour, Operafestival di Roma, Virginia Opera, Sarasota Opera, Maryland Opera Studio, Western Plains Opera and Metropolitan Opera Chorus. As a young artist, Savage performed with Pittsburgh Opera Center and Glimmerglass Opera. Savage made his Carnegie Hall debut in 1996 performing the tenor solos in works by Leonard Bernstein and Adolphus Hailstork. Dr. Savage's awards include the Virginia Music Teachers Concerto Competition, the A. Eli and Esther Nisenfeld Award for Outstanding Tenor, and a finalist in the Richard Tauber International Competition for Tenors.

Dr. Savage is a Pi Kappa Lambda Scholar, and received his DMA degree from the University of Maryland at College Park in 2002. His previous teachers include the late Maestro Franco Corelli, Vladimir Chernov, David Jones, Linda Mabbs and Dr. Kenneth Bowles.

Currently, Dr. Savage is the Coordinator of Studio Voice at Indiana University- Purdue University Fort Wayne where he also teaches private voice, vocal pedagogy, vocal literature and directs the opera ensemble. His previous teaching appointments include The University of Texas at Arlington, The University of Virginia, the Operafestival di Roma, Longwood University and the University of Richmond.

Students who have studied with Dr. Savage have appeared on and off-broadway, in film and TV, leading regional opera houses, national and international summer festivals, and major apprentice programs. They have been winners of the Metropolitan Opera Auditions and regional finalists as well as winners and the recipients of the highest awards at the National Association of Teachers of Singing Competitions and regional finalists. Some of these same students have been the highest recruits at prestigious graduate programs such Eastman School of Music, The University of Michigan, The University of Maryland at College Park, Baylor University and Texas Christian University.

**Dr. Maria Lazarova**, soprano, earned her Bachelor of Music from California State University at Long Beach, Masters of Music and Doctorof Musical Arts with a concentration in music education, stage directing, and jazz studies from the University of Southern California.

Dr. Lazarova was born in Bulgaria and has lived in Algeria, France, and Italy. Residing in Southern California for the last fifteen years, she has performed as a soloist in numerous venues, including the Orange County Performing Arts Center, Irvine Bowl, Barclay Theatre, Carpenter Performing Arts Center, Ahmanson Theatre, and the

Hollywood Bowl. Ms. Lazarova's solo opera repertoire includes roles in *Don Giovanni*, *Cendrillon*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *La Calisto*, *The Medium*, *Turandot*, *Abduction from the Seraglio*, *Madame Butterfly*, *The Hand of Bridge* and *Dead Man Walking*. As the recipient of the Giovanni Colao Scholarship in 2001, she attended Istituto Europeo in Florence, Italy and was selected to perform a solo recital in the historical site, *Chiesa di Santa Maria die Ricci*. Ms. Lazarova has won numerous competitions and scholarships, some of which include the Marilyn Horn Scholarship, the International Liszt Competition, the Long Beach Mozart Festival Vocal Competition, the Brentwood/Westwood Symphony Orchestra Competition, the Young Musicians Foundation Solo Competition, the CSULB Concerto Competition, and the New York Alumni Scholarship. Her vocal coaches include Brent McMunn, Alan Smith, Katherine Olsen, Mark Robson, Bill Vendice, and Henri Venanzi.

In the summer of 2009, Dr. Lazarova was appointed to be the new director of the Opera and Choral Conservatory at the Orange County High School of the Arts. In addition to her work at OCHSA, she also maintains her position on the voice faculty of the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music on the campus of Cal Stat University Long Beach. As part of her continuing interest and pursuit of excellence in the field of music education, Dr. Lazarova has been lecturer in the past two International Society of Music Educators World Conferences held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and Bologna, Italy. She is currently working on further research to be presented in upcoming 2010 ISME world conference held in Beijing, China. Other professional affiliations include the American Guild of Musical Artists, the National Association of Teachers of Singing, and Pi Kappa Lambda.

Pianist **Tony Cho**, a native of South Korea, enjoys a varied and active career as a vocal/instrumental collaborator and opera coach. He has performed concerts at such notable venues as Weill Carnegie Hall in New York City, Meany Hall in Seattle, Harris Concert Hall in Aspen, Doris Duke Theatre at Honolulu Academy of Arts in Hawaii, and Zipper Hall in Los Angeles, among many others in the US and abroad. He has also been a guest artist in many music festivals, including *El Festival Internacional de Jovenes Pianistas* and the Italian Art Week Festival in Asuncion, Paraguay.

His work as assistant conductor and coach/pianist at Aspen Opera Theatre Center, Central City Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, Hawaii Opera Theatre, Juilliard Opera Center, The Juilliard School, Virginia Opera, Opera Company of Brooklyn, USC Thornton Opera, and the Opera Theatre of Lucca in Italy has given him a repertoire of over 40 operas, including a number of World and US premieres, and a West Coast premiere of Wagner's *Das Liebesverbot* at USC as a part of the Los Angeles Ring Festival. In addition, he has served as music director of Virginia Opera's Spectrum Resident Artists, Hawaii Opera Theatre's Opera Residency, and Glimmerglass Opera's American Young Artists Concert Tour.

He earned his Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from the University of Washington; a Master's Degree from the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music; and a Bachelor's Degree *cum laude* from Oklahoma State University with a minor in Organ and Spanish Literature.

Dr. Cho is currently an Adjunct Faculty at Chapman University; a Principal Opera Coach at USC Thornton Opera; and a regular music staff at Central City Opera in summer seasons. Prior to these appointments, he was an Associate Coach for Vocal Arts at The Juilliard School.

A native of Taiwan, pianist **Clara Cheng** has worked extensively in recitals, masterclasses and studios with renowned musicians, including pianists Malcolm Martineau, Martin Katz, Walter Ponce, and Judith Hansen, violinists Mark Kaplan and Earl Carlyss, violist Donald McInnes, tenor Robert White, and baritone Vladimir Chernov, among others. She has played as an orchestral pianist and opera répétiteur under the batons of Maestri Jane Glover, Richard Bado, Josep Caballe, Brent McMunn, and John Williams. Ms. Cheng had given numerous performances of both solo repertoire and chamber music in prestigious venues such as Zipper Hall in Los Angeles, Irvine Barclay Theater, and Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center in New York City. In 2008, Clara made her first international appearances with young violinist Andria Chang in Japan and Taiwan. She had also received various awards, including first prize from the Benno Rubiny Competition and Gluck Fellowship.

Ms. Cheng was invited to Aspen Opera Theater Center in summers of 2009 and 2010 as a fellowship coach where she worked with prominent figures such as soprano Dawn Upshaw, and stage director Edward Berkeley. She also participated in the Music Academy of the West 2007 as a collaborative piano fellow. In summers of 2005 and 2006, Clara joined Operafestival di Roma as a vocal coach and recital pianist, in which she worked closely with sopranos Elizabeth Dodd and Beverly Hay in preparing young participants for public performances in central Rome.

After graduating from University of California at Los Angeles with Bachelor of Arts in piano performance, Cheng continued her musical journey in New York City where she completed her master's degree in Collaborative Piano at The Juilliard School in 2007. She is now finishing her DMA at the University of Southern California under the guidance Dr. Alan Smith. Teachers with whom she studied include renowned pianists Jonathan Feldman, Brian Zeger, Margo Garrett, and Walter Ponce. Ms. Cheng now serves as a vocal coach at Fullerton College and a keyboard faculty at Chapman University.

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