**Program Notes**

**El Majo Timido**

El Majo Timido was composed by Enrique Granados ( July 1867-March 1916). Granados was a pianist and composer and a leader of the movement toward nationalism in the late 19th century. This song is about a young woman who knows that a gentleman is attracted to her; However, she also knows that he is too afraid to ever make a move.

**Chi vuol la zingarella**

Chi vuol la zingarella was composed by Giovanni Paisíello (May 1740-June 1816). This Neapolitan composer was well known for some of the most beautiful operatic works around the world. He is specifically admired for his realism, robust, and dramatic sound. This song is about a beautiful gypsy girl. She knows that all the men want her and turn their head and stare at her. This lady is a big flirt.

*Italian Lyrics* English Translation

Chi vuol la zingarella Who desires the gipsy girl,Graziosa accorta e bella? graceful, prudent, and beautiful?

*Signori, eccola qua.* Gentlemen, here she is.  
*Le donne sul balcone* The ladies on the balconies

*So bene indovinar.* are easily to be figured out  
*I giovani al cantone* are teased more easily.

**Panis Angelicus**

“Panis Angelicus” is a beautiful piece that is composed by Cesar Frank and Sylvester Wagner. The earliest release of this song was in 1861. This Latin song is the penultimate of a strophe hymn from *Sacris solemniis’* for the feast of Corpus Christi to complete liturgy of the feast, such as praying for the masses. The Latin words were written by Saint Thomas Aquinas. The title of this song means “bread of angels.” Ultimately, this song is a prayer that many Christians desire to see and experience, because to be absent in the body is to be present with the Lord.

English Translation

May the Bread of Angels Oh, thing miraculous!  
Become bread for mankind; The body of the Lord will nourish  
The Bread of Heaven puts The poor, the poor,  
All foreshadowing to an end; The servile, and the humble.

**Deep River**

“Deep River” was arranged by Moses Hogan ( 1957 – 2003). He is known for his marvelous arrangements of spirituals. Hogan was a pianist, conductor, and arranger who was internationally renowned. This song speaks to the understanding that this world is not our home, but just a place that we are passing through. This song even captures the feeling of yearning to learn of the unknown. I would like to dedicate this song to my dear grandmothers, Betty Davis and Jinny Irons.

**It’s Me, O Lord**

“It’s Me, O Lord” is a phenomenal spiritual composed by Betty King Jackson in 1988. This song is a prayer that most of us find ourselves in at times. It is a normal custom or practice to pray for others that are dear or close to you. However, sometimes we need to pray for ourselves because we need help throughout our own journey. We need the Lord’s help too. And Ms. Betty King understood that we need the Father’s help.

**The Trolley Song**

This song was written by Ralph Blane and Hugh Martin in 1944. This song was made famous for being featured on the film *Meet me in St. Louis*. It was made famous by the performance by Judy Garland. Originally, the song was written about a trolley car ride. After, the song was rejected numerous times. They rewrote it. They were inspired by an old vintage picture of a St. Louis trolley with the words clang, clang, clang, and at the moment this song came alive.

**Almost There from *The Princess and the Frog***

The main character is Tia. She is a waiter at a café. Her father worked for a factory, but he died before he could make his dream a reality. So, her goal is to save up enough money to purchase the building and start her own business. And she’s almost there! This song takes place in the middle of the summer in Louisiana by the bayou, where the character is now envisioning herself accomplishing her goals.

**Stay with Me from *Into the Woods***

“Stay with Me” was written by Stephen Sondheim. This song is known because of the musical, *Into the Woods*. This musical is about a witch who curses multiple fictional characters from popular fairytales such as “Jack and the Beanstalk,” “Little Red Riding Hood,” and “Cinderella.” In the moment of this song, the witch is singing to Rapunzel. She is upset because Rapunzel left the tower without permission. Rapunzel yearns to be free. But, the witch is selfish and wants Rapunzel for her youth, beauty and even company.

**It's a Quiet Thing from *Flora the Red Menace***

“It’s a Quiet Thing” is from a musical entitled *Flora the Red Menace*. The main character is experiencing a quiet yet beautiful moment. She gets offered a job; however, she doesn’t scream or shout. She then realizes that happiness can appear in quiet moments. Sometimes, we forget that there is joy in the quiet and stillness found around us.

**Believe in Yourself from *The Wiz***

Charlie Smalls composed “Believe in Yourself around 1975. It debuted in one of the most well-known musicals, *The Wiz*. The musical tells the story of a young girl going on a journey to finds her way back home from the imaginary land called The Oz. Dorothy, the main character, finds out that life isn’t all what it’s cracked up to be. Glinda tells her in this song that if Dorothy just believes in herself, then she will find her way back home. Sometimes in life, it’s easy to look at all the obstacles and say that we can’t do something. However, if the truth is told, one will realize that if one truly believes in themselves first and work sat their craft, then there is nothing that they cannot do or obtain. This is why this song means so much to me. I would like to dedicate this song to everyone who ever doubted their dream or ever experienced disappointment or delay. May this song bring you joy and encouragement. Remember, believe in yourself as I believe in you. Thank you for coming to my recital tonight and may God’s grace be with you.