

GEMMA ARTS *presents*

IDAHO SONGS

SUNDAY, JULY 26

3PM



featuring
Soprano, Jordan Bowman
Pianist, Chad Spears
Fiddler, Jessica Joy Harned
Cellist, Micah Claffey

IDAHO STATE MUSEUM

610 Julia Davis Dr, Boise, ID 83702


**BOISE CITY
DEPT OF ARTS
& HISTORY**



IDAHO STATE
MUSEUM
/ IDAHO STATE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Program

Coal Country Ballads

words & music by Nathan Scalise

(feat. Jessica Joy Harned, fiddle/Micah Claffey, cello)

Jack Wertz

Stephen Brisuda

Charles Wertz

Leonard Tokarczyk

Centralia

Intermission

Absurd Songs

words & music by Brian Hosefros

The Art of Nonsense

Le Parapluie des Larmes

Ze Fish

É Ben Essere il Parasole

Nonsense Dreams

Idaho Songs

Texts by Jordan & Madelein Bowman, Nathan Scalise

Music by Nathan Scalise

She-Devil Mountain, a Nez Perce Legend

Rest Stop

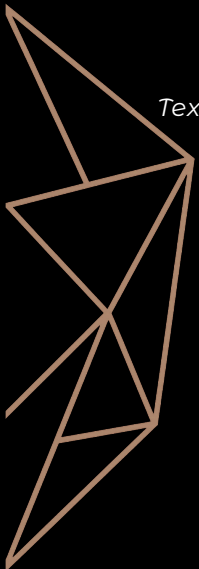
Oh, My Cabin

Thanksgiving in Weiser

Big Sky

*Our gratitude for our partnership with the
Idaho State Museum & wonderful staff!*

*This series generously funded by a
City of Boise Arts and History: America 250 Grant.*



Artists

Jordan Bowman

Soprano



Soprano Jordan Bowman, known for her opulent vocal color, robust chest voice, and heart-wrenching dramaticism, is a three-time district winner of the Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition, a first prize winner of the NYC SongSlam, and placed third in the American Prize with composer Nathan Scalise for her performance of the Idaho Songs. Last year, she debuted the role of Pamina in Opera Mississippi's production of Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, performed the role of Belinda in the concert version of Jake Landau's new work & Aeterna with Off-Brand Opera in New York City, and was a semi-finalist in the Palm Springs Opera Guild Competition as well as the Premiere Opera Foundation International Vocal Competition. This past season, she fulfilled her debuts with Light Opera of New Jersey as Gilda in *Rigoletto*, Idaho Falls Symphony, Opera Idaho as the role of Myrtale in *Thaïs*, and Bel Cantanti Opera as the title role in *Anna Bolena*.

In 2024, she enjoyed her Carnegie Hall debut as the soprano soloist for Durante's *Magnificat a 4 in Bb Major* with MidAmerica Productions and the New England Symphonic Ensemble. She has previously been seen with Gemma Arts in their inaugural production of *Le nozze di Figaro* as Susanna.



Chad Spears

Pianist

Chad Spears, a native of Boise, Idaho, has performed across the U.S., with additional appearances in Canada and Mexico. He has been featured with the Spokane Symphony, Washington-Idaho Symphony, Coeur d'Alene Symphony, and the University of Idaho Symphony Orchestra. Chad received his Doctor of Music Degree in Piano Performance at Florida State University under the tutelage of Dr. Read Gainsford. He currently serves as an adjunct instructor for Boise State University's Department of Music, teaching ear training and class piano. He is also the accompanist for the Opera Theatre course and serves as a freelance collaborative pianist for the department. Chad is the pianist for the Boise-based group Tree City Chamber Players and collaborates with TRICA, Alley Repertory Theater, Gemma Arts, Opera Idaho, the Boise Philharmonic, and other Treasure Valley orchestras. You can also find him at The Brickyard Steakhouse, where he provides dinner music on occasional Thursdays. In his spare time, Chad enjoys composing music for solo piano, spending time with friends and family, and supporting the Treasure Valley's vibrant arts community!

Artists



Jessica Joy Harned

Fiddler

Jessica Harned is a classically trained Violinist and lives in Boise, ID. She first became a member of the Boise Philharmonic in 2016, and since, has performed with local professional ensembles, including Mariachi Sol de Acapulco, who won the Governor's Award for Musical Excellence in 2018.

In 2020, Jessica received her Masters degree from Boise State, where she won the Boise Philharmonic Graduate Quartet Fellowship. This experience emboldened her to speak up about the life and experiences of the BIPOC community within classical music and to launch a podcast, Classical Queens, which addresses these issues. Since then, she has spent her time fostering conversation about representation in classical music, on the radio, in the classroom, and within her own work, all while participating in music in inventive and diverse spaces.



Micah Claffey

Cellist

Micah Claffey began his cello studies with Samuel Smith (Langroise Trio) in Boise, ID and in 2002 became a member of the Boise Philharmonic. He later went on to study music at Vanderbilt University where he obtained his Bachelor of Music in cello performance from the Blair School of Music under Felix Wang. At Vanderbilt, he was winner of the collegiate concerto competition and the Jean and Alexander Heard Prize. In 2010, he obtained his Masters in cello performance from Rice University. While at Rice, Mr. Claffey studied with renowned cellist Norman Fischer and served as Chamber Music Assistant for the Shepherd School of Music.

Mr. Claffey recently served as acting Associate Principal Cellist for the Boise Philharmonic (2016-2017 season). He is currently the Associate Principal Cellist of the Boise Baroque Orchestra and serves as Principal and Section Cello for Opera Idaho. He has performed in many major cities in the United States, China and London. Mr. Claffey is currently the Director of Classical Music at Idaho Fine Arts Academy in Eagle, Idaho and a founding member of the Boise Cello Collective.



HERE WE HAVE IDAHO

concert series

Here We Have Idaho is presented by Gemma Arts in partnership with the Idaho State Museum that celebrates the diverse cultures, histories, and musical traditions that have shaped Idaho. Through performances by local artists, storytelling, and newly commissioned works, the series brings Idaho's history to life while fostering connection, cultural understanding, and community pride.



Deep River:
music rising
through the water

Sept 20

**The Heart & Joy of
Germany** *Nov 1*



IDAHO STATE
MUSEUM
/ IDAHO STATE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY





OPERA BY THE RIVER — AUGUST 15TH —

ON THE LAWN OF THE STAR RIVER HOUSE
960 S MAIN STREET IN STAR



PERFORMANCES BY
GEMMA ARTS



6 PM DINING &
STROLLING MUSICIANS



FOOD • WINE •
BEER • DESSERTS

7 PM FEATURED
OPERA PERFORMERS

FREE ADMISSION
TO LAWN SEATING

RESERVED TABLE SEATING AVAILABLE

GEMMA ARTS PRESENTS

Handel's MESSIAH SING-A-LONG

FEATURING SEAN ROGERS ON ORGAN
GEMMA ARTS SOLOIST & VOCAL ENSEMBLE



DECEMBER 20TH

AT THE EGYPTIAN THEATRE, BOISE IDAHO | 700 W MAIN ST, BOISE, ID 83702