



SCHOOL OF
MUSIC

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS | THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Doctoral Lecture Recital

We ask that patrons please not attend any show if they have been exposed to COVID-19 or are feeling unwell. The CDC recommends that individuals stay up to date with vaccines and boosters, get tested when symptomatic, and that high-risk individuals discuss mask precautions with their health provider. Those who still wish to wear masks are encouraged to do so, especially those at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

Holly Banfield,
mezzo-soprano

Student of Professor Kirstin Chávez

James Bobick as Bluebeard
Holly Banfield as Judith
Callee Murray, Lydia Bushman,
and Ariel Brown as Wives
Jeffrey Price, piano

Friday, October 28, 2022

Dumke Recital Hall

Virtual Venue: <https://music.utah.edu/libby-live/index.php>

5:00 p.m.

Program

*(Please hold applause until the end of each section
and turn off all electronic devices that could disrupt the concert.)*

Lecture:

"Deeper Symbolism and Meaning behind Bluebeard's Castle"

Intermission

Bluebeard's Castle

Béla Bartók
(1881-1945)

James Bobick as Bluebeard

Holly Banfield as Judith

Callee Murray, Lydia Bushman, and Ariel Brown as Wives

Jeffrey Price, piano

Synopsis

Bluebeard takes Judith, his new wife, to his castle. The castle is dark; there are no lights or windows, and the castle walls are weeping wet with water. Judith notices 7 locked doors. She is desperate to change the castle ambiance and demands to open the doors. Bluebeard is reluctant to, but one by one, he gives her the key to each one. In each of the first five rooms, strangely, Judith finds two things, regardless of what else is actually in that room: blood and light. In the sixth room she finds a lake of tears. Bluebeard refuses to answer her questions about the blood and the tears in the different rooms. Judith concludes from Bluebeard's lack of response and the evidence in the rooms that the village rumors must be true and the blood and tears must have come from his former wives. She confronts Bluebeard about the truth and demands the 7th key where she believes his dead wives exist. When she opens the 7th door, she discovers the wives, but they are not dead. They are alive, mute, and immortal Goddesses of beauty. Bluebeard then confesses that their blood feeds his castle, and now Judith must join them. Judith resists at first but inevitably succumbs to her fate and enters the 7th room, trapped forever in silent, isolated, immortality. The castle darkens and Bluebeard is left alone.

This recital is presented as partial fulfillment for
the requirements for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree.