

FORBES CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY®

School of Music

presents

Pastoral Poetry

JMU Chamber Orchestra

**Conducted by Dalton Guin &
Noelle Singleton**

graduate conductors in the doctoral program

featuring Dr. Kirsten Blair, voice

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

7 pm

Recital Hall



There is no intermission.

Patrons are reminded to turn off all pagers, cell phones, personal computers, and any other electronic devices.

The unauthorized videotaping or any other recording of this production is strictly prohibited in adherence with Federal copyright laws.

Program

Overture “In the Italian Style” in C Major, D. 591 Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

“Porgi, amor,” from *Le nozze di figaro* Wolfgang A. Mozart
(1756-1791)
Dr. Kirsten Blair, *voice*

Pavane pour une infante défunte Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)

Masques et Bergamasques, suite d’orchestre Op. 112 Gabriel Fauré
(1845-1924)

- I. Ouverture
- II. Menuet
- III. Gavotte
- IV. Pastorale

Biographies



Dr. Kirsten Ann Blair, soprano, enjoys a vibrant musical lifestyle as a singer and educator. Dr. Blair is a versatile performer, having recently participated in opera, classical, and contemporary performances on both national and international stages in Africa, Mexico, Europe, and the United States. Dr. Blair has shared the orchestral stage with ensembles such as the Orquestra de Cámara de Zapopan (Guadalajara), Uplands Festival Orchestra (South Africa), Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra (Alaska, USA), American Institute of

Musical Studies: Graz Festival Orchestra, Northern Lights String Orchestra (Alaska, USA), Arizona State University Orchestra (USA), Phoenix Symphony Orchestra (Arizona, USA), Varna International Muzika! Academy Orchestra under the baton of Maestro Gregory Buchalter of the Metropolitan Opera, and most recently with the Chamber Orchestra of Kona (Hawai'i). Selected roles on the operatic stage include Micaëla (Bizet's "Carmen"), Rose (Weill's "Street Scene"), Lucy (Menotti's "The Telephone"), and Roxy LaRue in the World Premiere of "The Color of Gold." An avid recitalist, she has performed at Arizona State University, the Eastman School of Music, San Francisco Conservatory, Iowa University, James Madison University, Loyola University, West Virginia University, Lisbon (Portugal), Athens (Greece), East London, White River and Nelspruit (South Africa), Harare (Zimbabwe), and in her home states of Maine and Alaska. She has been a featured soloist with the Arizona Women's Collaborative, University of Alaska Fairbanks New Music Festival, Collaborative Piano Institute (University of Michigan), Hawai'i International Music Festival, Vianden Festival (Luxembourg), and two consecutive sessions in Zimbabwe for Music Inspire Africa. Recently, she sang with the Fairbanks Ragtime Club, Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival Jazz Combo, Blue & Gold Alumni Celebration rock/pop cover band, and Golden Heart Performing Arts' circus artists as a singing aerialist. Dr. Blair is currently a voice instructor at the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz and James Madison University.

Biographies - *continued*



Dalton M. Guin, a native of Erwin, North Carolina, began his musical life at home, with a family that loved music, and in the choir loft of a Southern Baptist church. He has performed with instrumental and vocal groups across North America and the Pacific as both conductor and hornist. He holds a Bachelor's in Horn Performance and Master's in Instrumental Conducting, both from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Dalton is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Orchestral Conducting, Pedagogy, and Literature from James Madison University in Virginia, where

he studies with Dr. Kira Omelchenko.



Noelle Singleton began her doctoral studies in orchestral conducting, pedagogy, and literature at James Madison University in August 2025. She is a conductor of the JMU Chamber Orchestra, an assistant conductor of the JMU Symphony, and is music director of the upcoming JMU Opera production of Poulenc's *Dialogues of the Carmelites*. Prior to her DMA studies, she held a one-year faculty appointment at Brigham Young University –Idaho conducting their University Orchestra and teaching violin. She holds a MM in

orchestral conducting and BM in music education. Singleton is a champion for female composers, promoting orchestral compositions both on and off the stage. Her research, teaching, and performance has highlighted the works of Augusta Holmès Amy Beach, and Florence Price. She is native to Salt Lake City, Utah.

JMU Chamber Orchestra Personnel

Dalton Guin and Noelle Singleton, *conductors*

Johnny Park, *librarian*

Flute

Daniel Esperante*

Isabelle Pearson

Oboe

Jasper Dirks*

Lynette Salins

Clarinet

Emerson Garmendia-Arevalo*

Breanna Boyd*

Alisa Billups*

Bassoon

Michael Ross*

Hannah Gerick

French Horn

Anthony Burnett*

Riley Truong*

Trumpet

Leah Petronella*

Destiny Morón

Percussion

Thomas Creighton IV*

Harp

Dr. Annie Savage

Violin I

Gina Bretz*

Anna Alderson

Violin II

Ella Patterson*

Hezekiah Tucker

Mikayla Lao

Viola

Victoria Fawole*

Erin Williams

Emma Marie Thomas

Sunny Robertello

Cello

Jennifer Castellon Rivera*

Courtland Hurley

Matty Kent

Laura Mulligan Thomas

Bass

Kataryna Hoagland*

Andrew Cravens

*denotes principal/co-principal player

Friends of the Arts and Design

Thanks to our generous Friends of the Arts and Design scholarship donors whose support allows our students to continue to create, perform, and inspire.

Arts and Design Hero (\$5,000+)

James McHone Jewelry • Ann & Mark Siciliano

Arts and Design Champion (\$1,500 - \$4,999)

Rubén Graciani & Matt Pardo • Hotel Madison • George and Marilou Johnson Kathy Moran Wealth Group • Mack & Towana Moore • Shannon Tierney

Arts and Design Advocate (\$500 - \$1,499)

John Allemeier • Beth Chandler Cahill & Jim Cahill • Nancy Davis •

Matthew Duffy • Christine Jimenez-Duffy • Energy Windows LLC

Jonathan Fox • Quillon Hall & Karin Tollefson-Hall •

Holly Haney & Bob Kolvoord • Charles Ma & Sumei Wang •

Matchbox Realty • Barbara & William Mayo • Ron Pugh •

Scott & Wren Stevens • Debbie & Greg St. Ours •

Matthew & Sarah Von Schuch

Arts and Design Ally (\$250 - \$499)

Paul Ackerman & Weldon Bagwell • Elizabeth Alspaugh •

Jerry Benson & Martha Ross • Stephen Bolstad & Stephanie Wasta •

Robert & Suzanne Bothamley • Jared & Jenny Burden •

David & Jennifer Campfield • Jennifer Copeland • Myron Dickerson

Len & Miriam Discenza • Rhonda Dolan • Hillary Ellis

Joe & Rose Estock • Bob & Linda Failes • Johnny & Phyllis Garber •

John Keightley & Tammy Mannarino • Brenda & Ronald Krablin • JoAnn & Ric

Leobold • Kristi Lewis • Kathryn & Michael Loy • Brock Materson • Tom McKenzie

• Jamie & Tim Miller • Rebekah Noonan • Sharon Shewbridge • Barbara Shifflett •

Nick Swartz • Kristee Jo Trumbo • Cecelia Wolf • Melinda Wood

Marlon Foster Scholarship

How you can make a difference!

Dear Patron,

Thank you for attending this School of Music performance, we appreciate your support! The QR code below will take you to a page where you can donate to the Marlon Foster Scholarship. Marlon Foster ('82, '95) served in the United States Air Force, taught in Harrisonburg City Public Schools for 26 years, and taught percussion in the JMU School of Music. Marlon was awarded Teacher of the Year from Harrisonburg City Public Schools, and he was inducted into the Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association's Hall of Fame.

