



The Deep Has Always Known Me
Brandon Patrick George
Bryan Wagorn

IN COLLABORATION WITH TIPPET RISE ART CENTER



THE DEEP HAS ALWAYS KNOWN ME

William Grant Still (1895–1978)

1 Pastorela 9. 55

Carl Reinecke (1824–1910)

Sonata in E Minor “Undine,” Op. 167

2 I. Allegro 7. 05

3 II. Intermezzo: Allegretto vivace 3. 38

4 III. Andante tranquillo 3. 40

5 IV. Finale. Allegro molto agitato ed appassionato, quasi presto 5. 56

Lili Boulanger (1893–1918)

6 Nocturne 2. 33

Florence Price (1887–1953)

Five Songs

7 A White Rose 1. 13

8 The Moon Bridge 2. 15

9 Night 1. 49

10 Song to the Dark Virgin 1. 45

11 Travel’s End 1. 56

Franz Schubert (1797–1828)

12 Introduction, Theme, and Variations on Trockne Blumen, D. 802 20. 25

Total playing time: 62. 16

Brandon Patrick George, flute

Bryan Wagorn, piano



*Durch die Liebe erst ward ihr eine
Seele.*

Through love, she first received a soul.

Friedrich de la Motte Fouqué,
Undine (1811)

In 2021, one year into the global COVID-19 pandemic, we were presented in one of the first concerts at the legendary 92NY in New York City. This performance marked the venue's return to live audiences after nearly a year of silence and our debut appearance as a duo, shaped as much by shared life as by shared music.

In considering what to program for such a moment, we gravitated toward the romantic cornerstones of the repertoire by Franz Schubert and Carl Reinecke. These works share striking parallels: both are set in the dark, introspective key of E minor and rooted in narratives of love and despair. Reinecke draws on Friedrich de la Motte Fouqué's 1811 novella *Undine*, while Schubert's *Trockne Blumen* uses an original theme from his song cycle *Die schöne Müllerin*,

inspired by the poems of Johann Ludwig Wilhelm Müller. In each, nature becomes the emotional landscape for stories of longing, devotion, and heartbreak.

To build on this foundation, we turned to composers whose vivid musical voices similarly reflect intimacy, vulnerability, and passion. The works of Lili Boulanger, Florence Price, and William Grant Still deepen the journey through their literary inspirations and distinct compositional voices while sharing the warmth of harmony and expressive richness we cherish from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

This repertoire invites reflection and introspection, but it also mirrors the way we make music together: through close listening, trust, and a shared emotional language that extends

beyond the page. These pieces have become part of our personal dialogue, shaped by the bond we share and the way we breathe, phrase, and respond to one another in real time.

We are deeply grateful to 92NY for inspiring us to reflect on how music might offer solace during one of the most challenging moments of our time, and to Tippet Rise for believing in our artistry and helping carry this program beyond the moment of performance through this recording.

**Brandon Patrick George & Bryan
Wagorn**



Tippet Rise Art Center is located in Fishtail, Montana, against the backdrop of the Beartooth Mountains, roughly midway between Billings and Bozeman and just north of Yellowstone National Park. Set on a 12,500-acre working sheep and cattle ranch, Tippet Rise presents performances by internationally acclaimed musicians during its annual summer concert season and through films and high-resolution recordings. From June to October, visitors can experience large-scale outdoor sculptures installed throughout the landscape by some of the world's foremost artists and architects. Tippet Rise is anchored in the belief that art, music, architecture, and nature are intrinsic to the human experience, each making the others more powerful.



TIPPET RISE
ART CENTER



Acknowledgements

PRODUCTION TEAM

Executive producer **Tippet Rise Art Center**

Recording engineers **Monte Nickles & Jim Ruberto**

Recording producer, editing, & mixing **Monte Nickles**, assisted by **Jim Ruberto**

Piano Technician **Mike Toia** | Piano **Steinway & Sons Vera**

ARTWORK

Photography **Titilayo Ayangade**

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