

# VOICES That Heal: For the Beauty of the Earth

Thursday, April 22 @ 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. Eastern

Sponsored by Winston J. Willis in loving memory of his wife, Barbara Willis Investment is provided by City of Savannah's Weave-A-Dream Program

Hospice Savannah and Savannah VOICE Festival are proud to partner to present a series of informative "listening labs" featuring songs and music from various genres which comfort, soothe and heal the soul. This listening lab features Savannah VOICE Festival's Education and Outreach Coordinator, Chad Sonka, and Hospice Savannah's Board-Certified Music Therapist, Kourtney Tigner, MT-BC.

## **Song Selections**

For the Beauty of the Earth by Conrad Kocher

Sean Christensen, Angela De Venuto, Peter Lake, Liz Lang, Carlton Moe, Nan Qin, Chad Sonka Timothy L. Hall, piano Sherrill Milnes, conductor Francisco González, violin Video edited by Matt Marco

Frère! Voyez!...Du gai soleil from Werther by Jules Massenet

Emily Yocum Black, soprano Cindy Miller, piano Video edited by Patrick Joel Martin

**Flor de Yumuri** by Jorge Anckermann Evelyn Saavedra, soprano Luis Urbina, piano Video edited by Maria Zouves

### **Under the Greenwood Tree** by Roger Quilter

Carlton Moe, tenor Video edited by Maria Zouves

**Die Nacht** by Richard Strauss Sherrill Milnes, baritone Jon Spong, piano

**What a Wonderful World** by Bob Thiele and George David Weiss Performed by Louis Armstrong

#### **Place of Peace - Meditation Exercise**

Led by Kourtney Tigner

### **Biographies**

**Chad Sonka** is establishing himself as a versatile American baritone, teacher, and director. He was a featured artist with the Franklin County Young Artists Festival this spring. Most recently, he performed as the baritone soloist in Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem* at Carnegie Hall with lowa State University and Mahler's *Kindertotenlieder* with Oneota Valley Community Orchestra. Previous performing credits: *Tosca* (Scarpia - cover) with Central City Opera; *Gianni Schicchi* (Marco) with Savannah Music Festival; *Man of La Mancha* (Don Quixote) and *Carmen* (Dancaïro) with Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre; *The Mother of Us All* (Virgil T.), *The Rape of Lucretia* (Junius), *Faust* (Wagner), *Elijah* (Elijah) with Manhattan School of Music; and *Amahl and the Night Visitors* (King Melchior) with Nevada Opera. He was the first-place winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions - Iowa District in 2017. Chad is an active voice teacher and director and currently serves on voice faculty at Iowa State University. He is also the Education and Outreach Coordinator with Savannah VOICE Festival and VOICExperience. Directing credits include multiple scenes programs, *Cendrillon* (Viardot), *Hansel and Gretel* (Humperdinck), The Little Prince (Portman), *Dido and Aeneas* (Purcell).

**Kourtney Tigner, MT-BC** is the board-certified music therapist for Hospice Savannah. Kourtney received her Masters degree in music with an emphasis in music therapy from Texas Woman's University (2019) and her Bachelors degree in music from the University of Montevallo (2014). She is currently pursuing the certificate of Hospice and Palliative Care Music Therapy (HPMT) from the Center for Music Therapy in End-of-Life Care. Kourtney finds her passion in providing comfort and compassion to those facing end of life issues and their families through music.