

GCSU Department of Music

# Senior Recital

**Lily Butler, violin**

**Dr. Hue Jang, piano**

**Monday, April 20, 2026**

**Max Noah Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.**

**Also live-streamed on [Facebook.com/GCMusicDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/GCMusicDepartment)**



## Program

Rumanian Folk Dances

I. Joc cu bată

Bela Bartok  
(1881–1945)

Sonata for Harpsichord and Violin No. 2 in A Major BWV. 1015

I. Andante

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685–1750)

II. Allegro

III. Andante un poco

IV. Presto

Sicilienne

Maria Theresia von Paradis  
(1759–1824)

Violin Concerto No.3 in G Major, K.216

I. Allegro

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756–1791)

Sonatina in G Major, Op.100

I. Allegro risoluto

Antonin Dvořak  
(1841–1904)

II. Larghetto

III. Scherzo & Trio (Molto vivace)

IV. Finale (Allegro)

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of Lily's Bachelor of Arts degree.

**Lily Butler** is a student of Dr. Bryan Hall

## Program Notes

**Béla Bartók (1881-1945)** was a prominent 20th century Hungarian composer. He began composing at the early age of nine and eventually went on to graduate from the Liszt Academy in Budapest. His compositions were heavily influenced by Hungarian and Central European folk music (Griffiths).

His work *Rumanian Folk Dances* was originally written for solo piano in 1915. Since then, the work has been adapted for many instruments including violin. The work features six, short distinct movements which are all inspired by traditional Romanian folk music. Movement one, *Jocul cu bată*, translates to *Stick Dance*, and was inspired by a melody Bartok heard in Transylvania (Rhodes). While short, this piece remains impactful through its extensive use of double stops and its bold character.

**Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)** was a German composer during the Baroque era. Bach was born into a musical family with his father being a violinist and his first teacher, however, after his father died when Bach was still a child he went on to study with Georg Bohm and attend St. Michael's School in Luneburg. He eventually took positions in German cities such as Weimar, Cothen, and Leipzig, where he composed, taught and performed (Wolff).

Sonata in A major is the second of six works composed for violin and harpsichord by Johann Sebastian Bach. Unlike many other pieces in the Baroque era, the melody is passed between the violin and harpsichord opposed to the harpsichord only serving as the basso continuo. This is because Bach was playing the harpsichord part when these were performed in Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Kothen's court (Sonata for Harpsichord). The work opens with a gentle first movement followed by an energetic second movement. The third movement of this work features a gloomy and delicate melody in F# minor which is resolved by an upbeat and victorious fourth movement.

**Maria Theresia von Paradis (1759-1824)** was a pianist and classical era composer born in Vienna. Although she went blind at age three, she went on to play piano across Europe and became a friend to Mozart. Despite her virtuosic playing, prolific composing, and connections to other famous musicians, Paradis is largely forgotten and overshadowed in today's classical music conversations (Pentreath).

Despite being attributed to Paradis, *Sicillienne* may have not been written by her. The piece was discovered by Samuel Dushkin; however, he never produced the original manuscript. Dushkin was a student of Fritz Kreisler, a violinist known to perform these types of musical hoaxes. This combined with the piece being more romantic than classical in quality creates a compelling case that Dushkin wrote the piece himself (Predota). Despite the uncertain nature of the works composer, the piece remains a lush and nostalgic work that allows for players to demonstrate their lyricism and dynamic range.

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)** was a classical era composer born in modern day Austria. From an early age, Mozart began learning violin, piano, and composition. His father paraded Mozart around Europe where he would perform at various courts and exhibits. As an adult, Mozart settled in Vienna where he eventually passed away from illness at only 35 years old (Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart).

Violin Concerto No. 3 in G Major is the third of five concertos Mozart wrote for violin. It is believed that he wrote all five concertos in 1775 at the age of 19 while employed as a court musician in Salzburg (Counts). While originally written for solo violin and orchestra, this arrangement places the piano in the role of the orchestra. The first movement, Allegro, is a brisk and cheery piece that explores the range of the violin.

**Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)** was a Czech composer during the Romantic era. Dvořák began studying violin and singing from Josef Spitz and eventually went on to study with Antonin Liehmann. While Dvořák spent most of his life working in Prague, he traveled to America for three years where he worked as the composition teacher and director of the National Conservatory of Music of America in New York (Beveridge).

While in America, Dvořák wrote *Sonatina in G Major*. The work, like many of Dvořák's other compositions, focused on elements of folk music, nature, and nationalism. Throughout the four-movement work, Dvořák takes the listener on a journey through the American landscape.