

THE ST. OLAF COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

presents in

GUEST ARTIST RECITAL

SARA AIMÉE SMISETH

pianist and narrator

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022 • URNESS RECITAL HALL • 8:15 P.M.

PROGRAM

AGATHA BACKER GRØNDAHL THE STORY OF AN ARTIST

Suite, Op. 20

1. Prelude

Agatha Backer Grøndahl (1847–1907)

Norwegian Folk Tunes and Folk Dances, Op. 33

1. Halling

6. Springdans

4 Sketches, Op. 19

1. Allegretto leggiero

3. Piano Pieces, Op. 15

Sérénade

Huldreslaatt – Dance of the Huldra

Concert Etudes, Op. 57

1. Allegretto

Norwegian Folk Tunes and Folk Dances, Op. 30

The Maidens of the Kivle Valley

Concert Etudes, Op. 11

4. Allegretto

Fairytale Suite, Op. 44

In the Hall of the Trolls

The artist is presented through the generous support of the Dag Schjelderup-Ebbe Endowment

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

AGATHE BACKER GRØNDAHL

Agathe Ursula Backer was born in Holmestrand in 1847. She grew up in a wealthy and art-loving family as the second youngest of four sisters. The family moved to Oslo (then Christiania) in 1857, where Agathe continued taking music lessons, before moving to Berlin to study with Professor Theodor Kullak when she was 17.

She continued her studies with Hans von Bülow and Franz Liszt, and was able to pursue a career as a pianist and composer both in Norway and abroad. She played a major role in the period often called the golden age of Norwegian music history, and she composed more than 400 works for piano, orchestra, voice, and choir.

SARA AIMÉE SMISETH

Born in Oslo, Norway, Sara Aimée Smiseth pursued her education at The Norwegian Academy of Music and The Royal Conservatory of Brussels with professors Einar Steen-Nøkleberg, Einar Henning Smebye, and Jan Michiels. She also has a degree in Musicology from the University of Oslo.

She has distinguished herself with her unique combination of both verbal and musical ‘storytelling’ — weaving the history and relevance of her subjects into her virtuosic piano concerts. After finishing her studies in 2014 she has toured regularly with her lecture concerts home and abroad.

www.sarasmiseth.com