

WELCOME FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



ANTOINE PLANTE

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

LYNN WYATT CHAIR

Dear Friends,

At Mercury, we love to create new and imaginative ways to share art, and *Loving Clara Schumann* illustrates our desire to bring a dramatic and moving story to you.

Tara Faircloth and I have worked together on several projects before, but this time, we raised the bar by creating a completely new performance piece, using German Romantic music and poetry.

After months of listening to music by Clara and Robert Schumann and Johannes Brahms, Tara and I have come up with a selection of their most beautiful and profound chamber music and art songs to tell the story of Clara Schumann's exceptional life.

It has been rewarding to work with our fantastic creative team, making every moment and aspect of this performance special. We are also joined by wonderful soloists who magically take turns as Clara, Robert and Johannes throughout the story.

I hope you will enjoy this unique opportunity of hearing beautiful music, this time, with a theatricality that we hope will resonate and stay with you always.

Enjoy the experience!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Antoine Plante". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.