

## 2026: Love Program

Shi-An Costello - piano

### Program and Notes

Franz Liszt - *Liebesträume "Love Dreams" No. 3* (romantic love)

Ludwig van Beethoven - *Für Elise, WoO 59* (mysterious love)

Billie Eilish - *"Wildflower"* (love that haunts)

Billie Eilish - *"my future"* (love of self)

Piotr Ilyitch Tchaikovsky - *January "By the Fireside", Op. 37a* (love for the seasons)

### **\*\*\*Brief Intermission\*\*\***

The Beatles - *"In My Life"* (nostalgic love)

J.S. Bach - *Prelude in C major, BWV 846, Clavier-Ubung III No. 2, BWV 803* (religious love)

Charli xcx - *"so I"* (love for a friend)

Frederic Chopin - *Mazurkas Op 7/2, Op 24/3* (love of country)

Claude Debussy - *Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum, from Children's Corner* (love of children)

Robert Schumann - *"Child Falling Asleep," "Dreaming," Kinderszenen, Op. 15* (love of childhood)

Johannes Brahms - *Romance, Op. 118/5 in F Major* (romantic love)

Associated texts:

Franz Liszt - *Liebesträume "Love Dreams" No. 3* (romantic love)

*O Lieb, so lang du lieben kannst* (Love as long as love you can)

By Ferdinand Freiligrath

O lieb', so lang du lieben kannst!/O love, as long as love you can,

O lieb', so lang du lieben magst!/O love, as long as love you may,

Die Stunde kommt, die Stunde kommt,/The time will come, the time will come,

Wo du an Gräbern stehst und klagst!/When you will stand at the grave and mourn!

Und Sorge, daß dein Herze glüht/Be sure that your heart burns,

Und Liebe hegt und Liebe trägt,/And holds and keeps love

Solang ihm noch ein ander Herz,/As long as another heart beats warmly  
In Liebe warm entgegenschlägt!/With its love for you

Und wer dir seine Brust erschließt,/And if someone bears his soul to you  
O tu ihm, was du kannst, zulieb!/Love him back as best you can  
Und mach' ihm jede Stunde froh,/Give his every hour joy,  
Und mach ihm keine Stunde trüb!/Let him pass none in sorrow!

Und hüte deine Zunge wohl,/And guard your words with care,  
Bald ist ein böses Wort gesagt!/Lest harm flow from your lips!  
O Gott, es war nicht böß gemeint, -/Dear God, I meant no harm,  
Der andre aber geht und klagt./But the loved one recoils and mourns.

O lieb', solang du lieben kannst!/O love, love as long as you can!  
O lieb', solang du lieben magst!/O love, love as long as you may!  
Die Stunde kommt, die Stunde kommt,/The time will come, the time will come,  
Wo du an Gräbern stehst und klagst!/When you will stand at the grave and mourn.

Dann kniest du nieder an der Gruft/You will kneel alongside the grave  
Und birgst die Augen, trüb und naß,/And your eyes will be sorrowful and moist,  
– Sie sehn den andern nimmermehr -/- Never will you see the beloved again –  
Ins lange, feuchte Kirchhofsgras./Only the churchyard's tall, wet grass.

Und sprichst: O schau' auf mich herab,/You will say: Look at me from below,  
Der hier an deinem Grabe weint!/I who mourn here alongside your grave!  
Vergib, daß ich gekränkt dich hab'/Forgive my slights!  
O Gott, es war nicht böß gemeint!/Dear God, I meant no harm!

Er aber sieht und hört dich nicht,/Yet the beloved does not see or hear you,  
Kommt nicht, daß du ihn froh umfängst;/He lies beyond your comfort;  
Der Mund, der oft dich küßte, spricht/The lips you kissed so often speak  
Nie wieder: Ich vergab dir längst!/Not again: I forgave you long ago!

Er tat's, vergab dir lange schon,/Indeed, he did forgive you,  
Doch manche heiße Träne fiel/But tears he would freely shed,  
Um dich und um dein herbes Wort -/Over you and on your unthinking word –  
Doch still – er ruht, er ist am Ziel!/Quiet now! – he rests, he has passed.

O lieb', solang du lieben kannst!/O love, love as long as you can!  
O lieb', solang du lieben magst!/O love, love as long as you may!  
Die Stunde kommt, die Stunde kommt,/The time will come, the time will come,  
Wo du an Gräbern stehst und klagst!/When you will stand at the grave and mourn.

Billie Eilish - **“Wildflower”** (love that haunts)

Things fall apart, and time breaks your heart  
I wasn't there, but I know  
She was your girl, you showed her the world  
You fell out of love, and you both let go  
She was cryin' on my shoulder, all I could do was hold her

Only made us closer until July  
And I know that you love me, you don't need to remind me  
I should put it all behind me, shouldn't I?  
But I see her in the back of my mind  
All the time  
Like a fever, like I'm burning alive  
Like a sign  
Did I cross the line?  
Mm, hm  
Well, good things don't last (good things don't last)  
And life moves so fast (life moves so fast)  
I'd never ask who was better (I'd never ask who was better)  
'Cause she couldn't be (she couldn't be)  
More different from me (more different from me)  
Happy and free (happy and free) in leather  
And I know that you love me (you love me)  
You don't need to remind me (remind me)  
Wanna put it all behind me, but, baby  
I see her in the back of my mind (back of my mind)  
All the time (all the time)  
Feels like a fever (like a fever), like I'm burning alive (burning alive)  
Like a sign  
Did I cross the line?  
You say no one knows you so well (so)  
But every time you touch me, I just wonder how she felt  
Valentine's Day, crying in the hotel  
I know you didn't mean to hurt me, so I kept it to myself (oh)  
And I wonder  
Do you see her in the back of your mind?  
In my eyes?  
You say no one knows you so well  
But every time you touch me, I just wonder how she felt  
Valentine's Day, crying in the hotel  
I know you didn't mean to hurt me, so I kept it to myself

Billie Eilish - *"my future"* (love of self)

I can't seem to focus  
And you don't seem to notice  
I'm not here  
I'm just a mirror  
You check your complexion  
To find your reflection's all alone  
I had to go  
Can't you hear me?  
I'm not comin' home  
Do you understand?  
I've changed my plans  
'Cause I, I'm in love  
With my future

Can't wait to meet her  
And I, I'm in love  
But not with anybody else  
Just wanna get to know myself  
I know supposedly I'm lonely now (lonely now)  
Know I'm supposed to be unhappy  
Without someone (someone)  
But aren't I someone? (Aren't I someone? Yeah)  
I'd (I'd) like to be your answer (be your answer)  
'Cause you're so handsome (you're so handsome)  
But I know better  
Than to drive you home  
'Cause you'd invite me in  
And I'd be yours again  
But I, I'm in love (love, love, love, love)  
With my future  
And you don't know her  
And I, I'm in love (love, love)  
But not with anybody here  
I'll see you in a couple years

The Beatles - ***"In My Life"*** (nostalgic love)

There are places I'll remember  
All my life, though some have changed.  
Some forever, not for better;  
Some have gone and some remain.  
All these places had their moments  
With lovers and friends I still can recall.  
Some are dead and some are living,  
In my life I've loved them all.  
But of all these friends and lovers  
There is no one compares with you.  
And these mem'ries lose their meaning  
When I think of love as something new.  
Tho' I know I'll never lose affection  
For people and things that went before,  
I know I'll often stop and think about them,  
In my life I love you more.  
Tho' I know I'll never lose affection  
For people and things that went before,  
I know I'll often stop and think about them,  
In my life I love you more.  
In my life I love you more.

Charli xcx - ***"so I"*** (love for a friend)

Always on my mind  
(Every day, every night)  
Your star burns so bright  
(Why did I push you away?)

I was scared sometimes  
You had a power like a lightnin' strike  
When I'm on stage, sometimes I lie  
Say that I love singin' these songs you left behind  
(And I know you always said) "It's okay to cry"  
So, I know I can cry, I can cry, so I cry  
Wish I tried to pull you closer  
You pushed me hard, made me focus  
Your words, brutal, lovin', truthful  
I was petrified  
You're a hero and a human  
Track was gone, I'd make excuses  
You would say, "Come on, stay for dinner"  
I'd say, "No, I'm fine"  
(Now I really wish I stayed)  
Always on my mind  
(Every day, every night)  
Your star burns so bright  
(Why did I push you away?)  
I was scared sometimes  
You had a power like a lightnin' strike  
When I'm on stage, sometimes I lie  
Say that I love singin' these songs you left behind  
(And I know you always said) "It's okay to cry"  
So, I know I can cry, I can cry, so I cry  
Guilty feelings keep me fractured  
Got a phone call after Christmas  
Didn't know how I should act  
I watched you dance online  
Your sounds, your words live on, endless  
When I make songs, I remember  
Things you'd suggest, "Make it faster"  
Would you like this one?  
(Maybe just a little bit?)  
Always on my mind  
(Every day, every night)  
Your star burns so bright  
(Why did I push you away?)  
I was scared sometimes  
You had a power like a lightnin' strike  
When I'm on stage, sometimes I lie  
Say that I love singin' these songs you left behind  
(And I know you always said) "It's okay to cry"  
So, I know I can cry, I can cry, so I cry

Claude Debussy - *Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum, from Children's Corner* (love of children)

"A ma chère petite Chouchou, avec les tendres excuses de son Père pour ce qui va suivre. C. D."

(To my dear little Chouchou, with tender apologies from her father for what follows)