In Memoriam: Zachary Novak

Good Evening, I’m _____________________, and I welcome you to the second in a series of memorial programs remembering the lives of the five Indiana University Jacobs School of Music graduate students whose lives were cut tragically short by a plane crash on the evening of April 20th as they returned to Bloomington from a rehearsal in Lafayette, Indiana.

In this program, we honor the life and musical accomplishments of Zachary Joseph Daniel Novak. Zach was born to Dan and Misty Novak on September 17, 1980, in Anderson, Indiana. His commitment to music began at an early age, and he started studying the piano at the age of five. He continued to pursue his love of music throughout his time at Highland High School, performing with various ensembles including the Highland Singers. Zach then studied music at Anderson University, graduating summa cum laude, in 2004. At Indiana University, he was working towards a masters degree in choral conducting, with a minor in vocal performance.

Zachary Novak was a multi-talented and dedicated musician: gifted at singing, playing the piano and organ, and conducting. He is remembered for his compassionate leadership as a teacher and choir director, his faith, his devotion to friends and family, and his enthusiasm for music. Over the next hour, we celebrate his life and musical gifts, through the legacy of his recordings.

(2:30)

We begin with a performance of the duet, “Domine Deus,” from Johann Sebastian Bach’s Mass in B Minor. This recording is from December of 2004, during Zach’s first semester at the IU Jacobs School of Music. Carmen Helena Tellez directs the IU Contemporary Vocal Ensemble, University Singers and Chamber Orchestra, with tenor soloist Zachary Novak and soprano Georgina Joshi.

MUSIC: Bach; Burned CD, T. 1 (8:49)
We heard the “Domine Deus,” from Bach’s Mass in B minor, BWV 232, performed by tenor Zachary Novak and soprano Georgina Joshi. They were joined by the IU Contemporary Vocal Ensemble, University Singers, and Chamber Orchestra, all under the direction of Carmen Helena Tellez.

(9:47)  (total pgm.=12:17)

We now turn to a performance of the quintet from Mendelssohn’s Psalm 42. The first tenor part is sung by Zachary Novak, with soprano Georgina Joshi, tenor Timothy Shantz, and basses Jye-Sung Moon and Young-Ju Lee. They join the Indiana University Motet Choir, conducted by Susan Kim.

**MUSIC: Mendelssohn; Burned CD, T. 2 (4:02)**

The quintet, “Der Herr hat des Tages verheissen” from Felix Mendelssohn’s Psalm 42, recorded in concert on February 22, 2005. The soloists were soprano Georgina Joshi, tenors Zachary Novak and Timothy Shantz, and basses Jye-Sung Moon and Young-Ju Lee. The conductor was Susan Kim.

(4:59)  (total pgm.=14:46)

Zachary shared his love of music and skill as a conductor with the communities in which he resided. In Anderson Indiana, he had been choir director at Bethel United Methodist Church and choir director and organist at St. Ambrose Catholic Church. He then served as worship coordinator at Bloomington’s First United Methodist church, where he directed the children’s choir and the adult Wesley choir.

Here are selections from a performance that Zachary conducted in April 2005. He led the Indiana University Chorale in a performance of Handel’s *Thus Pants the Hart*, HWV 251b.
Georg Frideric Handel’s anthem *Thus Pants the Hart*, HWV 251b, performed by the Indiana University Chorale, under the direction of Zachary Novak. The soloists were soprano Elizabeth Marshall, tenor Edward Mout, and bass Joseph Legaspi.

(11:07)
(total pgm. 25:53)

In the fall of 2005, Zach was tenor soloist with the IU University Chorale in Johann Pachelbel’s *Magnificat in F Major*. The performance was directed by his mentor and conducting professor William Jon Gray. The other soloists in this performance were soprano Georgina Joshi, mezzo-soprano Patricia Thompson, and baritone Chris Carducci.

We heard tenor soloist Zachary Novak in a performance of Johann Pachelbel’s *Magnificent in F Major*. William Jon Gray led the IU University Chorale with other soloists soprano Georgina Joshi, mezzo-soprano Patricia Thompson, and baritone Chris Carducci.

(13:28)
(total pgm.=39:21)

Zach took the role of the Evangelist in a performance of Hugo Distler’s setting of the reformation hymn *Er ist ein rose entsprungen*, better known as “Lo How a Rose e’er Blooming.” Zachary Novak is joined by Patricia Thompson as Mary; Lindsay Kerrigan as The Angel; Rachel Erie as Elizabeth, and the IU University Chorale, led by Daniel Spaw.

We heard tenor soloist Zachary Novak in a performance of Johann Pachelbel’s *Magnificent in F Major*. William Jon Gray led the IU University Chorale with other soloists soprano Georgina Joshi, mezzo-soprano Patricia Thompson, and baritone Chris Carducci.
Hugo Distler’s *Er ist ein rose entsprungen*, from *Die Weihnachtsgesichte, Op. 10*, in a performance by the IU University Chorale conducted by Daniel Spaw. Zachary Novak sang the role of the Evangelist; Patricia Thompson was Mary; Lindsay Kerrigan, The Angel; and Rachel Erie was Elizabeth.

(10:09)

(total pgm=49:30)

In the past hour, we’ve paid tribute to the life and music of Zachary Novak, through his recorded legacy.

Our program was written by Mona Seghatoleslami, with assistance from Adam P Schweigert. Our executive producers are Christina Kuzmych and Cary Boyce. We are grateful for the assistance of Dean Gwyn Richards, Alain Barker, Konrad Strauss, and William Jon Gray for the IU Jacobs School of Music, as well as Annie Corrigan who assisted in the preparation of the musical excerpts for this program.

For WFIU, I’m _________________.

(0:56)

(total pgm=52:58)