

## About the performer, Broc Hite



**Broc Hite** has been the Organist and Associate Director of Music at First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista since 2012. He also teaches piano privately and at the Shepherd Music School, based at Central United Methodist Church in Rogers. Prior to moving to Arkansas in 2010, he was the Organist and Music Director at St.

Timothy's Episcopal Church, Fairfield, CT.

He earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Piano Performance from Purchase College in Purchase, New York, studying under German Diez. He earned the Master of Music Degree in Piano Accompanying at The Juilliard School, studying under Margo Garrett and Marshall Williamson, and performance classes with Samuel Sanders and Jonathan Feldman. In conjunction with his other career in business, he achieved the Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Connecticut.

More information about Broc:

On the Web: <https://brochite.com>

On Facebook and Instagram: @BrocKeysPedals

### ~ About First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista ~

The church recently celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and continues to serve the needs of its members and guests. The beautiful sanctuary where traditional services are held, features a concert grand Steinway piano (2004) and a 30-rank Casavant Frères/Temple pipe organ (1971/2008). Becker Hall functions as a Contemporary Worship space and fellowship hall which hosts many functions for both church and outside groups. Its piano is a 7-foot grand Model BB Mason & Hamlin (1993).



First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista  
20 Boyce Drive, Bella Vista, AR 72715  
[fumcbv@lovelearnlead.com](mailto:fumcbv@lovelearnlead.com)  
[www.lovelearnlead.com](http://www.lovelearnlead.com)  
[facebook.com/fumcbv](https://facebook.com/fumcbv)



*First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista  
20 Boyce Drive, Bella Vista, AR*

*proudly presents*

*It's Almost Spring*

*Broc Hite, Pianist*

*Sunday, March 3, 2019*

*12:10pm*

## *Ah! Vous Dirai-Je, Maman*

*Ah! Vous dirai-je maman  
Ce qui cause mon tourment ?  
Papa veut que je raisonne  
Comme une grande personne  
Moi je dis que les bonbons  
Valent mieux que la raison*

*Oh! Shall I tell you, Mommy  
What is tormenting me?  
Daddy wants me to reason  
Like a grown-up person  
Me, I say that sweets  
Are worth more than reasoning*

## About the Composers & Pieces

### Program

#### *It's Almost Spring*

Variations on *Ah, Vous Dirai-Je, Maman* (1781/1782)  
W.A. Mozart

The Seasons (1875-1876) P.I. Tchaikovsky

- Octobre - *Chant d'automne*
- Novembre - *En Troïka*
- Décembre - *Noël*
- Janvier - *Au coin du feu*
- Février - *Carnaval*
- Mars - *Chant de l'alouette*



**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**  
(1756-1791)

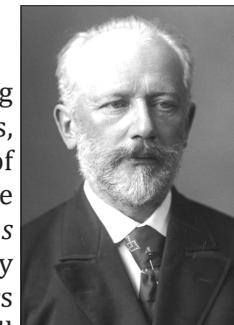
wrote this piece near the middle of his composing career. The work's catalog number changed from K .265 and K.300e due to finding that the piece was written several years later after his stay in Paris in 1778, where he likely first heard the popular song.

It's okay if you think of this as the "Twinkle, Twinkle" variations, though it's incorrect to call them that. After all, Mozart was dead for 15 years before that English poem was written. The melody was published in 1761, and the French words were matched to it in 1774. This makes Mozart's composition very timely, much like a cover artist would re-interpret a pop song today!

Even the French might be wrong to call it by its given title, because they most likely thinking about a text that belongs to a children's song that is many decades removed from the original text. The children's song starts with the same two lines as the more adult version. In the children's song, a little girl complains to her mom about her father who wants her to be serious, when all she wants is to think about candy. In the original song, it's a young woman who complains to her mom about her lover, with lots of details. It's not vulgar, but still something that you wouldn't sing to your six-year-old! The children's version is printed below.

If this was confusing, then don't even get into the history of how hymns came to be paired! The texts and tunes were often written by different people in different eras. What you sing today may not be what was originally intended. You'll see this if there is a large mismatch between the date of the lyrics versus the hymn tune that's listed at the bottom of each hymn.

**Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky**  
(1840-1893)



was a Russian known for writing in a wide variety of forms, including a respectable amount of solo piano works. The twelve months comprising *The Seasons* were written for a monthly magazine, where subscribers would receive one new piece all year during 1876.

Last year, I played six of these pieces in sets of three during two separate recitals. Today, I close the cycle by playing the remaining six pieces. I begin where I left off, in October, and play through to March. The most famous piece of this part of the cycle is November, which refers to a carriage led by three horses. It was a favorite encore of Sergei Rachmaninoff.

These pieces have a firm place in the literature, both as a vehicle for pianists who may never play the virtuoso piano concertos, as well as those looking for bite-sized pictures of harsh Russian life. By the titles alone, you know that there are far more cold months than warm ones. I chose to list the original French titles; French had a special place as the cultural, or one might say snobby, second language of Tsarist Russia. To translate, we begin with the song of autumn, take a ride in a three-horse carriage, and arrive at Christmas. For the new year, we sit by the fireplace, celebrate carnival, and hear the song of the lark.