

P O E T R Y



F O U N D A T I O N

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**Poetry Foundation Collaborates with HBO on
Classical Baby (I'm Grown Up Now): The Poetry Show
Latest installment of the Emmy-winning series debuts April 12**

CHICAGO—The Poetry Foundation, in collaboration with HBO, is pleased to announce the premiere of *Classical Baby (I'm Grown Up Now): The Poetry Show*, a television special for kids and their families about poetry. The latest installment of HBO's acclaimed *Classical Baby* series transports viewers into the world of literary arts, planting the seeds for a new generation to become lifelong lovers of poetry. Featuring classic poems by some of the world's greatest poets—including William Shakespeare, Langston Hughes, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Gertrude Stein, William Carlos Williams, Christina Rossetti, and Federico García Lorca—the program premieres on Saturday, April 12, at 5:30p.m. Central Standard Time, exclusively on HBO.

“We're certain that young children—and their parents—who are introduced to poetry via this enchanting program will be captivated by the beauty and wonder of the art form,” said John Barr, president of the Poetry Foundation. “Our research confirms that a positive experience with poetry early in life is the best way to create a lifelong reader of poetry.”

An HBO original program produced in association with the Poetry Foundation, *Classical Baby (I'm Grown Up Now): The Poetry Show* introduces audiences to timeless poetry through animation and song. Featuring the voices of performers Andy Garcia, John Lithgow, Elizabeth Mitchell, Gwyneth Paltrow, Susan Sarandon, and Jeffrey Wright, and poets Langston Hughes, Gertrude Stein, and William Carlos Williams, *Classical Baby (I'm Grown Up Now): The Poetry Show* consists of approximately a dozen short segments presenting well-known poems—and some surprises—in a delightful format. Between each segment, children—ranging in age from 4 to 9—offer commentary and muse on the meaning and mystery of poetry.

Poems featured in the program include the following:

- “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening” by Robert Frost; read by Susan Sarandon
- “The Swing” by Robert Louis Stevenson; sung by Beverly Gile and Frances Archer
- “The Red Wheelbarrow” by William Carlos Williams; recited by Finn, age 7

- “Grassy Grass Grass” by Woody Guthrie; performed by Elizabeth Mitchell
- “The Owl and the Pussycat” by Edward Lear; read by John Lithgow
- “Sonnet XVIII” by William Shakespeare; read by Jeffrey Wright
- “Mariposa” by Federico García Lorca; recited by Andy Garcia in Spanish with English subtitles
- “This Is Just to Say,” written and read by William Carlos Williams
- “April Rain Song,” written and read by Langston Hughes
- “A Very Valentine,” written and read by Gertrude Stein
- “Who Has Seen the Wind?” by Christina Rossetti; read by child Maria Molloy
- “How Do I Love Thee?” by Elizabeth Barrett Browning; read by Gwyneth Paltrow

About HBO’s *Classical Baby*

Designed to introduce the whole family to masterpieces of classical music, painting, dance, and now poetry, the Emmy and Peabody award-winning *Classical Baby* series is the brainchild of director-producer Amy Schatz. On April 17, HBO Family and HBO Video will release *Classical Baby (I’m Grown Up Now): The Poetry Show* on DVD.

About the Poetry Foundation

The Poetry Foundation, publisher of *Poetry* magazine and one of the largest literary organizations in the world, exists to discover and celebrate the best poetry and to place it before the largest possible audience. The Poetry Foundation seeks to be a leader in shaping a receptive climate for poetry by developing new audiences, creating new avenues for delivery, and encouraging new kinds of poetry through innovative literary prizes and programs. For more information, please visit www.poetryfoundation.org.