

Stanford



Calvin Van Zytveld

Ph.D. Student in Music, admitted Autumn 2023

Bio

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Calvin Van Zytveld is pursuing a Ph.D. in Musicology at Stanford University. His research interests include hymnody of pre-industrial America and agricultural practices of the early modern period.

Calvin graduated summa cum laude in music from Princeton University, with a certificate in cello performance. Following graduation, he began master's degrees in music composition and cello performance at the University of Michigan, but lost his vision suddenly in the second year of his studies due to Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy (LHON). Unable to read music, Calvin performs and writes music less frequently now, though he can be heard performing with the Plymouth Chamber Players, a grassroots chamber collective he co-directs with violinists Paolo Dara and Karisa Chiu in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Calvin enjoys organic vegetable gardening, drinking tea, and walking with his guide dog, Wake.