Non-degree Recital

Maria Phillips, soprano
Judith Cole, piano

Monday, December 5, 2016 at 11:30 am
Music Building Recital Hall
Fifty-ninth Concert of the 2016-17 Concert Season
program

I.

HENRY PURCELL (1659-1695)
*I attempt from love's sickness*
from *The Indian Queen*

II.

FRANZ SCHUBERT (1797-1828)
*Frühlingsglaube*

JOHANNES BRAHMS (1833-1897)
*Wie Melodien zieht es mir*

CLARA SCHUMANN (1819-1896)
*Liebst du um Schönheit*

III.

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756-1791)
*Ridente la calma*

GIACOMO PUCCINI (1858-1924)
*O mio babbino caro*
from *Gianni Schicchi*

ALESSANDRO SCARLATTI (1660-1725)
*Se Florindo è fedele*
from *La donna ancora è fedele*
IV.

SAMUEL BARBER (1910-1981)
Sure on this shining night

JOHN DUKE (1899-1984)
i carry your heart

LEONARD BERNSTEIN (1918-1990)
I Feel Pretty
from West Side Story
program notes

_I attempt from love's sickness_ | Henry Purcell
from _The Indian Queen_

Henry Purcell was an English composer during the Baroque Era. He was the most important English composer of his time, and he is most remembered for his songs, his miniature opera _Dido and Aeneas_, and his incidental music to _The Fairy Queen_. Purcell composed for many venues including the church, the stage, the court, and private entertainment. “I attempt from love’s sickness” is from Purcell’s unfinished opera, _The Indian Queen_ (1664). In this song, Purcell included several moments of word painting, on being the use of the word “fly.” Running eighth notes create a light and lifted motion to accompany “fly.”

_Frühlingsglaube, D. 686_ | Franz Schubert

Franz Peter Schubert was an early romantic Austrian composer famous for his songs, chamber music, symphonies, masses, and piano works. He contributed over 600 Lieder to the vocal repertoire using lyric poetry as the text. Similar to Schubert’s other Lieder, the poetry of “Frühlingsglaube” speaks of nature and of hope. The lyric poem, by Johann Ludwig Uhland, is directed at a friend explaining not to worry about the past because every day is new and more beautiful, and everything must change.

_Wie Melodien zieht es mir_ | Johannes Brahms

Johannes Brahms composed over 200 lieder songs, symphonies, chamber pieces, piano, and vocal works. Brahms is generally grouped with Johann Sebastian Bach and Ludwig van Beethoven as one of the “Three B’s” of the nineteenth-century. As one of the most popular composers of the Romantic era, elements of romanticism are very common in all of his works. In _Wie Melodien zieht es mir_, moments of chromaticism as well as the text express the romantic style. The text translates to discuss the beauty of melodies and words and how their power can capture pictures and memories. Brahms generally chose text that could not be expressed by words alone – text that was open to interpretation with music. He builds on the text of _Wie Melodien zieht es mir_ with the major tonality and the use of applied chromaticism at the ends of phrases.
**Liebst du um Schönheit | Clara Schumann**

Clara Schumann was a German pianist and composer who studied music from an early age. Despite objections from her father, she married Robert Schumann in 1840, another German pianist and composer. The daring new concept of the Romantic era that men and women should treat each other as equals was very prevalent in this marriage. The two wrote a song collection which included three loves songs by Clara: “Er ist gekommen in Sturm und Regen,” “Liebst du um Shönheit,” and “Warum willst du and’re fragen.” The poetry Schumann used in “Liebst du um Shönheit” encompasses her unconditional love for her husband and how she expects the same in return.

**Ridente la calma, KV 152 | Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

Austrian composer, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, is recognized as one of the greatest composers in the history of Western music due to his success in every facet of music. He began his performance career at the age of four and by the time he was eight, he had already composed his first symphonies. Mozart is probably the only composer of the Classical era to have written every type of musical work (from symphonies to solo vocal). His song “Ridente la calma” is a canzonetta that was written for educational purposes. In the song, the singer hopes for a calmness inside her as she waits for her lover.

**O mio babbino caro | Giacomo Puccini**

from *Gianni Schicchi*

Italian composer Giacomo Puccini began the operatic trend toward realism with his popular works *La Bohème* and *Madame Butterfly*. He is believed to be the most important composer of Italian opera after Verdi. He studied contemporary composers Debussy, Strauss, Schoenberg and Stravinsky, and this new idea of realism emerged into three one-act operas, one being *Gianni Schicchi*. *Gianni Schicchi* is Puccini’s only comic opera and includes the well-known soprano aria “O mio babbino caro.” In the aria, Lauretta is pleading to her father to allow her to be with Rinuccio, the man she loves. Puccini uses the melodic line to convey Lauretta’s desperation.
**Se Florindo e Fedele** | Alessandro Scarlatti
from *La donna ancora è fedele*

Italian composer Alessandro Scarlatti was the founder of the Neapolitan school of opera and helped establish the use of the da capo aria form (ABA). He is noted for his thematic development and chromatic harmony which can be heard in his playful aria “Se Florindo è fedele” from the opera *La donna ancora è fedele*. The singer has just heard Florindo profess his love, and now she must prepare herself for falling for him.

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**Sure on this shining night** | Samuel Barber

Samuel Barber was an American composer celebrated for his orchestral, opera, choral, and piano music. He attended the Curtis Institute at age 14 where he studied voice, piano, conducting and composition. After graduation, he devoted himself entirely to composition. Written in 1938, “Sure on this shining night” went to become one of his most famous art songs. The text was by American poet James Agee, and the poetry creates a sense of wonder and awe in the world.

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**i carry your heart** | John Duke

John Duke was an American composer that believed that lyrics should be assimilated with the music, and he composed for the voice, as well as the piano accompaniment, accordingly. He generally used the texts of American poets such as Frost, Teasdale, cummings, Van Doren, Millay, and E. A. Robinson. Duke interprets e. e. cummings’ poem “i carry your heart” as a declarative love ballad, and this can be heard in the back and forth motion from the voice and the piano.

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**I Feel Pretty** | Leonard Bernstein
from *West Side Story*

Leonard Bernstein was a notable American conductor, composer and pianist. During his time, he was widely known for his conducting style and work with several orchestras, but his legacy continues today through his compositions and musicals. *West Side Story* is a musical adapted from Shakespeare’s tragedy, *Romeo and Juliet*. The story follows young lovers, Tony and Maria, and the problems they face because of their opposing backgrounds. Maria, sings “I Feel Pretty” with her friends as she thinks about how wonderful it feels to be loved.
Maria Phillips is a senior instrumental music education major at Kennesaw State University. Alongside her concentration in flute and band, Ms. Phillips has been studying Voice with Leah Partridge since Fall 2014. She has performed with the KSU Wind Symphony, Concert Band, Marching Band, and Women’s Choir, and she has served as a student assistant for the Bailey Performance Center and for several ensembles. Ms. Phillips is an active member of the Collegiate National Association for Music Education and of Tau Beta Sigma. She also served as the founding Drum Major for "The Marching Owls" and is a recipient of The Youth Bands of Atlanta scholarship and internship.
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Stephen W. Plate, DMA
Director
KSU School of Music

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