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Alumni Homecoming Concert

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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Alumni HOMECOMING CONCERT

Saturday, November 12, 1988, 7:00 PM
Cannon Memorial Chapel

Department of Music
University of Richmond, Virginia 23173 • (804) 289-8277
PROGRAM

Fugue
from Organ Sonata no. 3 in G major, op. 88
Bruce Stevens (1969), organ

Ah! Je veux vivre,
from Roméo et Juliette
Kathy Kessler-Price (1977), soprano
Michael Simpson (1975), piano

Fa una canzone

O Primavera

Ecce quod natura

Laudate Dominum
from Vesperae Solemnes de Confessore
Kathy Kessler-Price
Schola Cantorum

Chiome d’oro

Joseph Rheinberger
(1839-1901)

Charles Gounod
(1818-1893)

Orazio Vecchi
(1550-1605)

Claudio Monteverdi
(1567-1643)

Anonymous
(15th Century)

W. A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

C. Monteverdi

John McKay (1975), tenor
Gerry Robinson (1973), tenor
Julie Ferrigno (1989), flute
Sarah Towner (1990), violin
Michael Simpson, piano
Where’er you walk
from *Semele*

From far, from eve and morning
from *On Wenlock Edge*

Every night when the sun goes in

John McKay
Michael Simpson

En fermant les yeux
from *Manon*

Oh, never sing to me again

Gerry Robinson
Michael Simpson

The Blue Bird

Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852-1924)

Shenandoah

American folk song,
arr. by James Erb

Ride the Chariot

Spiritual,
arr. by W. H. Smith

University of Richmond Homecoming Choir
James Erb, conductor
Ah! Je veux vivre

Ah! I want to live
In the dream that transports me
This day still.
Sweet flame, I keep you in my soul
Like a treasure.
This drunkenness
Of youth lasts, alas, but a day.
Then comes the hour
When one weeps,
The heart yields to love
And happiness escapes without return.
I want to live...
Far from that sullen winter,
Let me linger and rest
And breathe the rose
Before stripping it of its leaves.
Sweet flame, stay in my soul
Like a precious treasure,
A long while still.

Fa una canzone

Make a song without black notes,
If you ever longed for my good will:
Make it a tone that invites to slumber
Sweetly, sweetly shaping the ending.

Don't spread harshness there,
That my ear likes not;
Make it of a tone that invites to slumber
Sweetly, sweetly shaping the ending.
O Primavera

O Spring, the youth of the year!
Fair mother of the flowers,
Of new foliage and of new loves,
Thou returnest indeed, alas,
But without the dear days
Of my hopes.
Thou art indeed she
Who only now wert so comely and beautiful;
But not I, who once on a time was
So dear to the eyes of others.

Ecce quod natura

Refrain: Behold, Nature changes her laws;
A pure virgin gives birth to the Son of God.

1. Behold, a new joy, behold a new wonder:
   A virgin who knew not man bears a Son.
   As a pear-tree a pear,
   As the meadow a sapphire, the rose a lily.
(Refrain)

2. God, seeing the sorry world in ruin,
   Brought from the thorn a delectable flower,
   Brought forth her who is virgin queen,
   A healing to the world, a salvation to the people.
(Refrain)

3. Divinity could be no humbler
   Nor our weakness more exalted
   Than to be set in the sky
   Equal with God through this union.
(Refrain)
Laudate Dominum

Psalm 117:
O Praise the Lord all ye nations; praise him, all ye peoples.
For his merciful kindness is ever more and more toward us,
And the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;
World without end. Amen.

Chiome d’oro

1. Curls of gold
   Fair treasure,
   You bind me a thousand ways,
   Whether braided, whether loose.

2. Bright
   Choice pearls,
   If the roses you cover
   Are revealed,
   You wound me.

3. Living stars
   That so fair
   And bright sparkle,
   If you smile
   You torment me.

4. Precious
   Amorous
   Beloved coral lips,
   If you speak
   You bless me.

5. O fair knot
   In which I delight,
   O gentle way out of life,
   O blessed
   My wounds!
En fermant les yeux

Closing my eyes, I see yonder
A humble retreat,
A small house, all white,
Deep in the woods!
In its tranquil shade
The fresh, cheerful brooklets
Where the leaves are mirrored
Sing with the birds!
It is paradise! Oh no!

Oh, never sing to me again

Oh never sing to me again
The songs of Georgia, fair maiden;
Their tones recall to me in vain
Far distant shores with sorrow laden.

Alas! those songs remembrance stir;
Full many mem’ries round me gather,
The steppes at night, in vision clear
The form and features of another!

This image, fatal yet so true,
At sight of thee will surely vanish
But at thy voice to rise anew,
That all my striving fails to banish.

Oh never sing to me again
The songs of Georgia, fair maiden;
Their tones recall to me in vain
Far distant shores with sorrow laden.
Bruce B. Stevens (1969) pursued graduate studies at the University of Illinois and the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna, Austria, with further studies in Denmark, England, Italy, Holland and Switzerland. In addition to having concertized extensively in Europe and the United States, he has recorded several discs of organ music for Raven Records and is now engaged in recording a series of discs on historic American organs. He is also organist/choirmaster at St. James Episcopal Church, Richmond.

Kathy Kessler-Price (1977) is a singer and voice teacher in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. After graduate studies in voice at the University of Maryland, she has appeared in lead roles with the Washington Savoyards and the Victorian Lyric Opera. As a guest soloist, Ms. Kessler-Price has sung with the Alexandria Symphony, the Northern Virginia Symphony and the Maryland Clarinet Quartet. She has been on the voice faculty of the Northern Virginia Community College for the past eight years and currently also serves on the faculty of the Catholic University of America.

Michael Simpson (1975), a native of Richmond, majored in music at the University. Since his graduation he has been organist-choirmaster at Ginter Park Baptist Church. Much sought after in Richmond as an organ recitalist and accompanist, he is also a member of the Richmond Renaissance Singers and is active as a countertenor soloist.

John H. McKay (1975) has extensive experience as a singer and choral director in Kentucky and Virginia. Currently completing a doctorate in historical musicology at Catholic University, he is choirmaster at St. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Richmond and writes feature articles and music criticism for the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Gerry Robinson (1973) graduated from the University with a B.A. degree in Music and Religion. From 1971-83 he served as Music Director in various churches in Richmond and in North Carolina, and between 1973 and 1980 was a manager with Allis-Chalmers Corp. in Richmond and Atlanta. In 1983 he received a Master of Divinity with Church Music degree from Southeastern Baptist Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina, and was ordained the same year. Since then he has served as Minister of Music and Education at Starling Avenue Baptist Church in Martinsville.

Next: Richmond Sinfonia, George Manahan Conductor
John Kuzma, Organ
Sponsored by Richmond Chapter, AGO
and the Richmond Symphony Orchestra
November 18, 1988, 8:00 PM
Cannon Memorial Chapel

(Fee will be charged for this concert)