

The University Musical Society

of The University of Michigan



Presents

George Shirley

Tenor

GEORGE POSELL, *pianist*

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 11, 1973, AT 2:30

HILL AUDITORIUM, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

P R O G R A M

Recitative and Aria from the opera *Orphée* GLUCK
"J'ai perdu mon Eurydice . . ."

Songs of Travel and the Sea

Les Berceaux FAURÉ
De Grève DEBUSSY
L'Invitation au voyage DUPARC
L'Ile inconnue (from "Les Nuits d'été") BERLIOZ

Songs of Flowers and Love

Fleur des blés DEBUSSY
Manteau de fleurs RAVEL
Crépuscule MASSENET
Le Spectre de la rose (from "Les Nuits d'été") BERLIOZ
Fleur jetée FAURÉ

INTERMISSION

The Pleasure and Pain of Love

Would You Gain the Tender Creature, from *Acis and Galatea* HANDEL
There's not a Swain of the Plain PURCELL
The Faithless Shepherdess PERKINSON
Jimmie's Got a Goil BLITZSTEIN
In the Silence of Night RACHMANINOFF

Nostalgia

My Lovely Celia MUNRO
Morning SPEAKS
Duna MCGILL
The Green Hills of Ireland DEL RIEGO
Open My Eyes to Beauty KLEMM

PROGRAM NOTES

Recitative and Aria from the opera *Orphée* GLUCK

The Greek minstrel Orphée, in mourning for his beloved wife Eurydice, has moved the gods to pity. The god of love Amor, grants Orphée the right to descend into the Underworld to rescue Eurydice with his singing, with the condition that Orphée not look at his wife while he leads her back to earth and life.

Eurydice, stung by Orphée's seeming indifference toward her, implores him to grant her but a single look. Unable to resist her sorrowful pleas, Orphée defies the gods and turns to Eurydice, embracing her. She dies in his arms, and he, grief-stricken, laments the loss of his beloved.

"Unhappy one, what have I done
Over what precipice have I thrown
my unfortunate beloved- . . . 'Tis I
who have taken life from her . . .

Only death remains for me . . .
I have lost my Eurydice; nothing
equals my sorrow . . ."

Les Berceaux (The Cradles) FAURÉ

"Along the quays, the large ships,
rocked silently by the surge,
take no heed of the cradles
rocked by the hands of women . . .

On the day of farewells, when
the men leave to dare the horizons
that lure them, the large ships
will feel their bulk held back
by the soul of the far-away cradles."

De Grève (The Shore) DEBUSSY

"Over the ocean the twilight falls,
white unravelled silk.
The waves, like small wild creatures,
chatter, small girls leaving school;
amid the rustling of their dresses,
green iridescent silk!
The clouds, grave travelers, gather
on the coming storm. . . .
The little waves no longer know where
to put themselves. . . .

Rustling of billowing skirts,
green silk, bewitched.
But the compassionate moon comes to
quiet this gray conflict . . .
His little friends offer themselves as
lover's lips to his warm and white kiss.
Then, nothing but the tardy bells of
floating churches!
Angelus of the waves,
White smooth silk!"

L'Invitation au voyage (The Invitation to the Voyage) DUPARC

"My child, my sister, think on the sweetness
to go there, to live together, to love and die in the land that resembles you . . .
There, all is but order and luxury, calm and sensual pleasure.
See the ships asleep on these canals;
It is in order to gratify your least desire that they come from the ends of the world . . .
The setting suns re-clothe the fields, the canals, the entire village in
hyacinth and gold; the world falls asleep in a warm light.
There, all is but order and luxury, calm and sensual pleasure."

L'Ile inconnue (The Unknown Island) BERLIOZ

"Tell me, young beauty, where do you wish
to go? The sail swells its wing, the
wind will blow! The oar is of ivory, the
flag of silk, the rudder of pure gold . . .
Where do you wish to go? To the Baltic
Sea? The Pacific Ocean?
'Lead me,' says the fair one, 'to the
faithful shore where one loves forever!
This shore, my lovely one, is unknown in the land of loves!"

Fleur des blés (Flowers of the Grainfield) DEBUSSY

<p>“Beside the grainfield I found a good opportunity to gather a bouquet for you. Put it quickly on your bodice, it is made in your likeness and at the same time, made for you . . .</p>	<p>A little bird, I wager, has already whispered to you the reason: this golden grain is the wave of your blonde hair . . . this swaying poppy, your blood-red lips . . . these cornflowers are your eyes, so blue that one would say they are two lightning flashes descended from the sky.”</p>
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Manteau de fleurs (Mantle of Flowers) RAVEL

“All the flowers of my garden are roses;
the rose suits her beauty.
The cowslips are the first open, then
come the tulips, the hyacinth roses, the pretty carnations. . . .
All my peonies are roses, roses also
my gladiolas, my geraniums. . . .
And when she passes ‘midst the flowers, pearly with tear-like dew drops,
in the intoxicating perfume of the roses and under the caress of things,
all grace, love, purity,
The flowers make her a rosy mantle
with which she adorns her beauty.”

Crépuscule (Twilight) MASSENET

<p>“Like a curtain under the whiteness of their petals drawn together, the lilies have closed their heart, the ladybirds are abed. . . .</p>	<p>The lilies sleep but for a moment; would you not that, heads inclined, we chat lovingly? The ladybirds are abed”</p>
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Le Spectre de la rose (The Specter of the Rose) BERLIOZ

“Open your closed eyelid
gently touched by a virginal dream!
I am the specter of the rose
that you wore last night to the ball
O, you who were the cause of my death.
my rose-coloured ghost will come
every night to dance at your bedside.
But have no fear at all
For on your breast I have my tomb,
and on the alabaster where I repose,
a poet wrote with a kiss:
‘Here lies a rose which all kings might envy.’”

Fleur jetée (Discarded Flower) FAURÉ

“Carry away my folly at the will
of the wind,
flower gathered with a song and
thrown away while dreaming
Love perishes like a cut flower;
the hand that has touched you
shuns my hand forever
Let the wind that withers you,
O poor flower, wither my heart.”

The next program in this series is Claudio Arrau, pianist, on Friday, February 23.

RCA, Decca, Angel, Columbia, and Philips Records

COMING EVENTS

LADO, Yugoslav Folk Ensemble	Monday, February 12 (8:00, Power Center)
MARCEL MARCEAU, <i>Pantomimist</i>	Saturday and Sunday, February 17 and 18* (Power Center)
CLAUDIO ARRAU, <i>Pianist</i>	Friday, February 23 (8:30, Hill Auditorium)
BEETHOVEN: Sonata in E-flat, Op. 27, No. 1; LISZT: Sonata in B minor; SCHUMANN: Carnaval, Op. 9	
PHILIDOR TRIO	Sunday, February 25 (2:30, Rackham Auditorium)
SAEKO ICHINOHE DANCE COMPANY from Japan	Monday, February 26 (8:30, Rackham Auditorium)
MOZARTEUM ORCHESTRA OF SALZBURG	Saturday, March 17 (8:30, Hill Auditorium)
LEOPOLD HAGER, <i>Conductor</i>	
<i>Soloists:</i> RITA STREICH, ROSEMARY RUSSELL, JOHN MCCOLLUM, RALPH HERBERT; Festival Chorus of the Choral Union, DONALD BRYANT, <i>Conducting</i>	
All-Mozart program: Symphony No. 40, K. 550; Arias from "Il Re Pastore" and "Le Nozze di Figaro"; "Coronation" Mass	
ANGELICUM ORCHESTRA OF MILAN	Wednesday, March 21 (8:00, Power Center)
BRUNO MARTINOTTI, <i>Conductor</i>	
BACH: The Art of the Fugue (Nos. 1, 16, 8), and Suite No. 1 in C major; Mercadante: Concerto for Horn and Orchestra; Boccherini: Sinfonia in D minor	
AEOLIAN CHAMBER PLAYERS	Saturday, March 24 (8:30, Rackham Auditorium)
TOPENG DANCE THEATER OF BALI	Tuesday, March 27 (8:30, Rackham Auditorium)
NATIONAL BALLET, "Sleeping Beauty"	Saturday, March 31* Sunday, April 1* (Power Center)
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	Friday, April 6 (8:30, Hill Auditorium)
ANDRÉ PREVIN, <i>Conductor</i>	

*Sold out

80TH MAY FESTIVAL PROGRAMS AND ARTISTS

Four Concerts — May 2, 3, 4, and 5, 1973

THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA at all concerts,

EUGENE ORMANDY, *Conductor*

THE UNIVERSITY CHORAL UNION — THOR JOHNSON, *Guest Conductor*

Soloists: RUDOLF SERKIN, JESSYE NORMAN, VAN CLIBURN, ISAAC STERN

PROGRAMS:

- May 2: ALL-BEETHOVEN—Overture to "Leonore" No. 3; Concerto No. 4 for Piano and Orchestra, Mr. Serkin, soloist; Symphony No. 3 ("Eroica").
- May 3: Brahms: Symphony No. 4 in E minor; Strauss: "Ein Heldenleben."
- May 4: Verdi: "Stabat Mater" and "Te Deum," University Choral Union; La Montaine: Songs of the Rose of Sharon; Wagner: "Du bist der Lenz" from *Die Walküre*, and "Dich teure Halle" from *Tannhäuser*, Miss Norman, soprano soloist; Rachmaninoff: Concerto No. 2 for Piano and Orchestra, Mr. Cliburn, soloist.
- May 5: Wagner: Prelude to *Parsifal*; Beethoven: Romance No. 1 for Violin and Orchestra; Mozart: Concerto No. 1, K. 207, for Violin and Orchestra, Mr. Stern, soloist; Tchaikovsky, Symphony No. 4, in F minor.

Series ticket orders now being accepted.

UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

Burton Memorial Tower, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Phone 665-3717