

UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

CHARLES A. SINK, PRESIDENT

EARL V. MOORE, MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Fifth Concert

1939-1940

Complete Series 2703

Sixty-First Annual
Choral Union Concert Series

JUSSI BJOERLING, *Tenor*

HARRY EBERT, *Accompanist*

MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 4, 1939, AT 8:30
HILL AUDITORIUM, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

PROGRAM

Adelaide BEETHOVEN

Beethoven wrote "Adelaide" in 1795, when he was but twenty-five, in the same year that he made his first public performance in Vienna. It was published in 1797, and in the following year he discovered he was growing deaf. The song, paying tribute to the beauties of Austria in spring-time, repeats the name "Adelaide" several times in classic form.

Who is Sylvia SCHUBERT

This setting for Shakespeare's poem from "Two Gentlemen of Verona," was composed in 1815, the same year Schubert wrote his famous "Erlkönig" and "Heideröslein." The first verse asks, "Who is Sylvia? What is she that all our swains commend her?" The remaining lines sing her praises.

Die böse Farbe SCHUBERT

In 1823, Schubert composed his famous cycle of twenty settings for poems of Wilhelm Müller, entitled "The Maid of the Mill." This song, "The Hated Color," describes the feelings of the melting snow of Spring: telling how it would like to linger to blot out all green, how it would like to lie before the door of its beloved and be touched by her hand before the parting.

Morgen RICHARD STRAUSS

Strauss has written prolifically for piano and voice, but less than a score of his works in this genre are kept before the public. The quiet felicity of "Morning" tells of the lover's joy at the prospect of being united with his beloved on the morrow. From Opus 27, written in 1893-94, also comes "Cäcilie" and two others of Strauss's best songs.

Cäcilie RICHARD STRAUSS

If you but knew that 'tis to dream of burning kisses,
Of wandering and resting with the loved one,
Fondly gazing, whispering and caressing;
If you but knew, your heart would assent.

"O Paradiso," from "L'Africana" MEYERBEER

"L'Africana" is the most purely lyrical of Meyerbeer's operas. He was a slow and laborious workman, when one knows that he received the libretto in 1838 but the opera was not finished until his death in 1864. It was first produced in Paris on April 28, 1865. In Act IV, the captured Vasco da Gama sings this aria in praise of his native land—a land of plenty, a paradise on earth.

INTERMISSION

The piano used is a Steinway

*The Steinway piano and the Skinner organ are the official concert
instruments of the University Musical Society*

A R S L O N G A V I T A B R E V I S

