

The University Musical Society

of

The University of Michigan



Presents

The ANN ARBOR *May Festival*

THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA
THE UNIVERSITY CHORAL UNION
DONALD BRYANT, *Director*
THOR JOHNSON, *Conductor*

SOLOISTS

MARALIN NISKA, *Soprano*
DONALD BELL, *Bass-Baritone*
BARBARA NISSMAN, *Pianist*

FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 30, 1971, AT 8:30
HILL AUDITORIUM, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

P R O G R A M

"A Sea Symphony," for Soprano, Baritone,
Chorus, and Orchestra VAUGHAN WILLIAMS
A Song for All Seas, All Ships
On the Beach at Night, Alone
Scherzo (The Waves)
The Explorers

UNIVERSITY CHORAL UNION, MARALIN NISKA, and DONALD BELL
MARY McCALL STUBBINS, *Organist*

INTERMISSION

Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, for
Piano and Orchestra, Op. 43 RACHMANINOFF
BARBARA NISSMAN

Steinway Piano

May Festival Program Books on sale in the main lobby.

MARALIN NISKA, a Californian, first received recognition in the two seasonal tours of the Metropolitan National Opera Company. Summers with the San Antonio and Santa Fe Opera companies preceded her roles with the New York City Opera, where this season she was “sensational” in the première of Janáček’s *Makropoulos Affair*. Next season *Tosca* is being revived especially for her. Tonight marks her first appearance in Ann Arbor.

DONALD BELL, Canadian by birth, is now leading bass-baritone of the Basle Opera and the Düsseldorf Opera. He concertizes extensively throughout Europe, including performances with major festivals and opera houses under the most prominent conductors. He appeared in Ann Arbor in *Messiah* in 1960 and in *Creation* at the May Festival of 1963.

BARBARA NISSMAN calls Philadelphia her “hometown”—and appropriately makes her American professional debut with this orchestra on Alumni Night of her alma mater. She was a student of Gyorgy Sandor here at the University of Michigan, and received her doctor’s degree (D.Mus.A.) in 1969. This season she has been actively concertizing in Europe, giving many recitals in London, the Hague, Germany, Italy, and Yugoslavia. She has just returned from Holland where she performed with the Residente Orchestra. Next season she will perform four times with the Philadelphia Orchestra under Mr. Ormandy.

THOR JOHNSON, also a Michigan alumnus and former conductor and professor of music at the University of Michigan, has returned for thirty May Festivals as guest conductor. He has served as conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (1940–51), and has been on the faculty of Northwestern University and Interlochen Arts Academy. Since 1968 he has been Musical Director of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra.