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Spring 4-21-2023

Senior Vocal Recital: Benjamin Petropoulos (2023)

St. Norbert College Music Department

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Tell Me on a Sunday	Andrew Lloyd Weber (b. 1948)	
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Falcon in the Dive	Frank Wildhorn (b. 1958)	
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Dance a Cachucha	Sir Arthur Sullivan	

Benjamin Petropoulos, Colton Lemanski, Isabella Puchalla, Hannah Dornfeld Barb Hinnendael, piano

(1842-1900)

from The Gondoliers

~ PROGRAM NOTES ~

If Music Be the Food of Love

This song was composed by Henry Purcell in the early 1690s. Combining text from the first line of William Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night* with text by Col. Henry Heveningham, Purcell composed three different settings of the song. The version used in this program is the first setting. The second setting has some minor rhythmic changes—such as the omission of some 16th note passages—while the third setting has quite a few 16th note (and even some 32nd note) runs.

Intorno all'idol mio

Antonio Cesti composed this aria in 1656 for the opera "Orontea." This piece was originally sung by a soprano. At this point in the opera, the eponymous Orontea—the fictitious queen of Egypt—prays sweet dreams for the lowly painter Alidoro, whom she considers her idol. Since the young man is not of noble birth, he is forbidden to her. In the premiere cast, Antonio Cesti himself played the role of Alidoro.

Intorno all'idol mio

Intorno all'idol mio spirate pur, spirate,

Aure, aure soavi e grate, E nelle guancie elette Baciatelo per me,

Cortesi, cortesi aurette!

Al mio ben che riposa su l'ali della

quiete,

Grati, grati sogni assistete E il mio racchiuso ardore Svelate gli per me, O larve, o larve d'amor!

Text: Giacinto Andrea Cicognini

Around my idol

Around my idol breathe, simply

breathe.

Sweet and gracious winds, And on the favored cheeks

Kiss them for me,

Courteous breezes!

In my love who rests on wings of

реасе,

Pleasant dreams provoke And my hidden ardor Reveal to them for me,

O specters, o specters of love!

Translation: Katherine McGuire

Voi, che sapete che cosa è amor

This aria comes from Mozart's 1786 opera *Le nozze di Figaro*. It is the second aria in Act II, and the 11th song in the opera. At this point in the story, Cherubino—the adolescent page to Count Almaviva—is urged by Susanna to sing before the Countess. He has an obvious crush on all women, but especially with the Countess. At the end of Act I, Cherubino was told that he would be dispatched for service in the army by order of the Count. In most performances of the opera, the role of Cherubino is referred to as a breeches role, wherein a female singer plays the role of a male character.

Voi, che sapete che cosa è amor

Voi che sapete che cosa è amor, Donne, vedete s'io l'ho nel cor. Quello ch'io provo vi ridirò, È per me nuovo, capir nol so.

Sento un affetto pien di desir, Ch'ora è diletto, ch'ora è martir.

Gelo e poi sento l'alma avvampar, E in un momento torno a gelar.

Ricerco un bene fuori di me, Non so chi'l tiene, non so cos'è.

Sospiro e gemo senza voler, Palpito e tremo senza saper,

Non trovo pace notte né dì, Ma pur mi piace languir così.

Text: Lorenzo Da Ponte

You who know what love is

You who know what love is, Ladies, see if I have it in my heart. I'll tell you what I'm feeling, It's new for me, and I understand nothing.

I have a feeling, full of desire, Which is by turns delightful and miserable.

I freeze and then I feel my soul go up in flames

Then in a moment I turn to ice.

I'm searching for affection outside of myself,

I don't know how to hold it, nor even what it is.

I sigh and lament without wanting to, I twitter and tremble without knowing why,

I find peace neither night nor day, But still I rather enjoy languishing this way.

Translation: Naomi Gurt Lind

Come to the Fair

This song was composed in 1917 as a part of the collection *Three More Songs of the Fair*. Easthope Martin set Helen Taylor's poem of the same name to this song. It is the first song in the collection, followed up by "An Interlude" and "Hatfield Bells." The collection had two different publishers. In the United States and Canada, the company Boosey & Co., Ltd. (as it was known back then) published Martin's work. But in Paris, it was Enoch & Co. that published the collection.

Cinq mélodies populaires grecques

Maurice Ravel composed songs for this collection between 1904-1906. The songs used traditional Greek texts which were translated into French by Michel-Dimitri Calvocoressi. Ravel was particularly fond of including folk motifs in his music. Examples of this in his other works include *Deux mélodies hébraïques* (translation: "Two Hebrew Melodies") and *Chants populaires* (translation: "Folk Songs"). He had composed five other songs based on Greek folk texts, but most of them were either destroyed or lost to the sands of time. The only one of these other Greek songs that survived is «Τρίπατος.»

Ξυπνήστε, ξυπνήστε πετροπέρδικα

Συπνήστε, ζυπνήστε πετροπέρδικα, Τίναζε τα φτερά σου, Τρεις ελιές και μια βαμμένη, Την καρδιά μου έχεις καμένη. Χρυσή κορδέλα σού φερα, Να πλέζεις τα μαλλιά σου. Βρ'έλα να γινόμαστε ταίρια, Και γονιοί μας συμπεθέρια.

Text: Greek traditional

Κάτω σε Άγιο Σίδερο

Κάτω σε Άγιο Σίδερο, Σε Άγιο, Παναγιά μου, Σε Άγιο Κωνσταντίνος, Μαζεύονται, σωριάζονται, Του κόσμου για τους άνδρες.

Text: Greek traditional

Ποιος άσκηση σαν κ'εμένα

Ποιος άσκηση σαν κ'εμένα, σε παζάρι περπατά... καπετάνιος Βασιλική; Μέ πιστόλια δυό στη μέση και μέ καμπύλος σπαθί... Για σ'αγάπη μου χρυσή.

Text: Greek traditional

Wake up, wake up rock partridge

Wake up, wake up rock partridge, Shake your wings, Three beauty marks, one painted, You have burned my heart. I brought you a golden ribbon To braid your hair. Let us be matched, And our parents be in-laws.

Translation: Benjamin Petropoulos

Down to the church of St. Sidero

Down to the church of St. Sidero, To the holy Virgin Mary, To St. Constantine, Gather, kneel, For the world of man.

Translation: Benjamin Petropoulos

Who compares to me

Who compares to me,
Walking into the bazaar...
Captain Vasiliki?
With two pistols at the waist
And with a curved sword...
For my golden love.

Translation: Benjamin Petropoulos

Ω άγγελος είσαι μάτια μου

Ω άγγελος είσαι μάτια μου, Ω αγγελικά χορεύεις, Ε αγγελικά πατάς στη γη, Η κι ολους τους νέος μαραίνεις.

Text: Greek traditional

Γιαρούμπι, έχεις γάμπες

Γιαρούμπι, έχεις γάμπες, τικ' ε τικ' χορεύεις, τα ποτήρια σπάνε, βάι βάναμε.

Text: Greek traditional

O, you are an angel to my eyes

O, you are an angel to my eyes,
O, you dance angelically,
You tread the earth like an angel,
And you make everything young to
wilt.

Translation: Benjamin Petropoulos

Yarubi, you have legs

Yarubi, you have legs, Tick eh tick you dance, All the cups we put break.

Translation: Benjamin Petropoulos

Santa Fe

"Santa Fe" is a popular song from *Newsies*. This song exists in both the movie and stage adaptations. Interestingly, the movie was released before the musical. The movie was released in April 1992, while the stage adaptation first premiered in September 2011. The version used in this program is from the movie version. At this point in the story, Jack Kelly—the informal leader of the Manhattan newsboys—is invited to dinner with David and Les' family. After being offered to stay the night, Jack Kelly declines and proceeds to reflect on his solitude. This song serves as the primary "I Want" song that reveals Jack Kelly's deepest desires.

Duetto buffo di due gatti

This song dates back to 1825 and is most often sung by two sopranos. Despite being a comedic piece, the history behind it is unorthodox. It wasn't composed in the traditional sense; it was compiled from three pieces of music. They were "Katte-Cavatine" by Christoph Ernst Friedrich Weyse, and a part of Otello and Jago's duet in Act II of Gioachino Rossini's 1816 opera *Otello*, and a part of "Ah, come mai non senti," which also comes from *Otello*. Although Rossini is commonly credited as the composer of this piece, the identity of the true composer is still a mystery. The lyrics of this song are just "meow," which leaves lots of room to interpret the dynamic between the two cats.

Il mare eterno nella mia anima

"Il mare eterno nella mia anima" comes from the 2013 animated adaptation of *JoJo's Bizarre Adventure*. It is used in Part 2—also known as *Battle Tendency*—as the theme of a major character. This song is more widely known for its use after the death of that character. Interestingly, the main melody of this piece sounds similar to "Nessun dorma," a well-known tenor aria from the third act of Giacomo Puccini's 1926 opera *Turandot*. It was the last opera he worked on. In fact, Puccini had died before completing the final act.

Il mare eterno nella mia anima

Soffia dolcemente un venticello

Spirate nel mio cor Mia dea Fortuna! Sulla volta celeste

C'è il mare eterno nella mia anima.

Con un sol fulmine Capirai tal leggenda.

Quando pensi a me, sempre

Bisbiglierò.

Sulla volta celeste

C'è il mare eterno nella mia anima.

Ovunque tu vada Ovunque io vada

C'è il mio amor nella tua vita C'è l'amor nella tua giornata.

Basta un tuo sorriso Un tuo sol sorriso

Non morirà l'alma mia. È immortal!

Non serve versar lacrime.

Text: Kano Kaori

The eternal sea within my soul

A gentle breeze blows Breathe into my heart My goddess Fortune! On the celestial vault

There is the eternal sea within my soul.

With one lightning bolt

You will understand such a legend. When you think of me, I will always

Whisper.

On the celestial vault

There is the eternal sea within my soul.

Everywhere you go Everywhere I go

My love is there in your life There is love in your day. A smile of yours is enough

Just one smile

My spirit will not die. It is immortal!

It is no use shedding tears.

Translation: Benjamin Petropoulos

Die Nebensonnen

"Die Nebensonnen" is the 23rd song in Franz Schubert's *Winterreise* song cycle. The song cycle, written in 1827, was one of his last few works before dying of typhoid fever. *Winterreise* is described as melancholic and harrowing, seen in its dark imagery and somber text courtesy of Wilhelm Müller. The only song Schubert liked in this cycle was "Der Lindenbaum," the fifth song. "Die Nebensonnen" shows the narrator witnessing a parhelion, a meteorological phenomenon where it looks like two smaller suns are flanking the real sun. In response to this, the narrator sorrowfully wishes that all suns set and that he'd be better left in darkness.

Die Nebensonnen

Drei Sonnen sah ich am Himmel steh'n,

Hab' lang' und fest sie angeseh'n; Und sie auch standen da so stier, Als wollten sie nicht weg von mir. Ach, meinen Sonnen seid ihr nicht! Schaut Andern doch in's Angesicht! Ja, neulich hatt' ich auch wohl drei: Nun sind hinab die besten zwei. Ging' nur die dritt' erst hinterdrein, Im Dunkeln wird mir wohler sein.

Text: Wilhelm Müller

The Parhelion

I saw three suns in the sky, I gazed at them long and intently.

And they, too, stood there so fixedly,
As if unwilling to leave me.
Ah, you are not my suns!
Gaze into other people's faces!
Yes, not long ago, I too had three suns:
Now the best two have set.
If only the third were to follow,
I should feel happier in the dark.

Translation: Richard Wigmore

Erlkönig

In 1821, Franz Schubert set Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's poem of the same name to music. It is one of Schubert's most well-known compositions. In the song, there are four voices; the narrator (middle range), the father (lower range), the son (higher range), and the Erlkönig (middle range with lyrical flow). The poem tells of a father riding on horseback with his small son, who claims to see the encroaching Erlking. While the literal translation of Erlkönig is "alder-king," the word itself likely comes from the Danish *ellekonge* which means "king of the elves." Elves are seen as a force of death in Germanic folklore, which foreshadows the untimely fate of the child.

Erlkönig

Wer reitet so spät durch Nacht und Wind? Es ist der Vater mit seinem Kind; Er hat den Knaben wohl in dem Arm, Er faßt ihn sicher, er hält ihn warm.

"Mein Sohn, was birgst du so bang dein Gesicht?"

"Siehst, Vater, du den Erlkönig nicht? Den Erlenkönig mit Kron' und Schweif?" "Mein Sohn, es ist ein Nebelstreif."

"Du liebes Kind, komm, geh mit mir! Gar schöne Spiele spiel' ich mit dir; Manch' bunte Blumen sind an dem Strand, Meine Mutter hat manch gülden Gewand."

Erlking

Who rides, so late, through night and wind? It is a father with his child. He has the boy well in his arm, He holds him safely; he keeps him warm.

"My son, why do you hide your face in fear?"

"Father, do you not see the Erlking?"
The Erlking with crown and train?"
"My son, it is a streak of fog."

"You dear child, come, go with me! I'll play very lovely games with you. Some colorful flowers are on the beach, My mother has some golden robes." "Mein Vater, mein Vater, und hörest du nicht, Was Erlenkönig mir leise verspricht?" "Sei ruhig, bleibe ruhig, mein Kind; In dürren Blättern säuselt der Wind."

"Willst, feiner Knabe, du mit mir gehn? Meine Töchter sollen dich warten schön; Meine Töchter führen den nächtlichen Reihn, Und wiegen und tanzen und singen dich ein, Sie wiegen und tanzen und singen dich ein."

"Mein Vater, mein Vater, und siehst du nicht dort Erlkönigs Töchter am düstern Ort?" "Mein Sohn, mein Sohn, ich seh' es genau: Es scheinen die alten Weiden so grau."

"Ich liebe dich, mich reizt deine schöne Gestalt; Und bist du nicht willig, so brauch' ich Gewalt." "Mein Vater, mein Vater, jetzt faßt er mich an! Erlkönig hat mir ein Leids getan!"

Dem Vater grauset's, er reitet geschwind, Er hält in Armen das ächzende Kind, Erreicht den Hof mit Müh' und Not; In seinen Armen das Kind war tot.

Text: Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

"My father, my father, and do you not hear What Erlking quietly promises me?" "Be calm, stay calm, my child. The wind is rustling through dry leaves."

"Do you, fine boy, want to go with me?
My daughters shall wait on you finely;
My daughters lead the nightly dance,
And rock and dance and sing you to sleep,
They rock and dance and sing you to sleep."

"My father, my father, and don't you see there Erlking's daughters in the gloomy place?" "My son, my son, I see it clearly. There shimmer the old willows so grey."

"I love you; your beautiful form excites me; And if you're not willing, then I will use force." "My father, my father, he's touching me now! Erlking has done me harm!"

It horrifies the father, he swiftly rides on, He holds the groaning child in his arms, Reaches the farm with great difficulty; In his arms, the child was dead.

Translation: Hyde Flippo

Batti, batti, o bel Masetto

This song comes from Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's 1787 opera *Don Giovanni*. It appears near the end of Act I. Here, Zerlina is trying to calm Masetto. Earlier in the story, Zerlina and Masetto were getting married, but Don Giovanni made advances toward Zerlina to drive Masetto away. At the opera's 1788 Vienna premiere, it went by the title *Il dissoluto punito, ossia il Don Giovanni*, which is literally translated as "The Rake Punished, or Don Giovanni." In storytelling, the rake (shortened from rakehell) is a character archetype that is defined by their debauchery and self-aggrandizing behavior

Batti, batti, o bel Masetto

Batti, batti, o bel Masetto, la tua povera Zerlina: starò qui come agnellina le tue bòtte ad aspettar. Lascerò straziarmi il crine, lascerò cavarmi gli occhi; e le tue care manine lieta poi saprò baciar.

Beat me, beat me, o dear Masetto

Beat me, beat me, o dear Masetto, Beat your poor Zerlina. I'll stand here as meek as a lamb And bear the blows you lay on me. You can tear out my hair, Gouge out my eyes, Yet your dear hands Gladly I'll kiss. Ah, lo vedo, non hai core! Pace, pace, o vita mia! In contento ed allegria notte e dì vogliam passar. Ah, I see you've no mind to: Let's make peace, my dearest love! Into happiness and joy Let's pass our days and nights.

Text: Lorenzo Da Ponte

Translation: Camila Argolo Freitas Batista

Tell Me on a Sunday

"Tell Me on a Sunday" is a song composed by Andrew Lloyd Weber. It comes from the musical of the same name which made its debut in 1979. One thing to note about the musical was that it calls for only one person in the cast. In 1982, Weber debuted *Song and Dance* in West End, which used this very song. Here it was the first of two acts and was followed up by a ballet that was choreographed to *Variations*, a 1978 classical and rock fusion album composed by Andrew Lloyd Weber himself.

Empty Chairs at Empty Tables

"Empty Chairs at Empty Tables" is the 44th musical number of *Les Misérables*. The musical itself originally debuted in French in 1980, while the English version debuted only five years later. The most common belief about *Les Misérables* is that it takes place during the French Revolution, but this is not true. Its true setting is the June Rebellion of 1832. At this point in the story, Marius is still healing from his injuries at the barricade. He mourns the loss of his allies, the Friends of ABC, in the wake of the failed revolution

Falcon in the Dive

"Falcon in the Dive" is the 7th musical number of *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. It debuted on Broadway in 1997. The musical was based on the book of the same name, written in 1905. It takes place during the Reign of Terror, which lasted from May 1793 to July 1794 in France. At this point in the story, Chauvelin—the main antagonist—is entrusted by Robespierre to uncover the identity of the eponymous Scarlet Pimpernel, a mysterious figure who's been saving people from execution via guillotine. Ultimately, this song is Chauvelin's vow to see the task to completion

Dance a Cachucha

"Dance a Cachucha" is a song from the 1889 operetta *The Gondoliers; or, The King of Barataria*. It is the 15th song in the operetta. At this point in the story, couples are reunited after a long voyage from Venice, to which they party with a grand banquet, dancing, and drinking. Cachucha itself is a type of dance which is attributed to the Andalusian region of Spain, though it was first created in Cuba. The song mentions other Spanish dances, such as the fandango (a lively partner dance with octosyllabic verses) and the bolero (a dance style in triple meter that was succeeded by flamenco).