

UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

CHARLES A. SINK, PRESIDENT

THOR JOHNSON, CONDUCTOR*

HARDIN VAN DEURSEN, ACTING CONDUCTOR

Eighth Concert

1943-1944

Complete Series 2880

Sixty-Fifth Annual
Choral Union Concert Series

MARJORIE LAWRENCE, *Soprano*

GORDON MANLEY *at the Piano*

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 30, AT 3:00
HILL AUDITORIUM, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

PROGRAM

Recitative and Aria of Nitocris, from "Belshazzar" HANDEL

Rhapsodie, Op. 79, No. 2 BRAHMS

Gavotte in F-sharp minor PROKOFIEFF

GORDON MANLEY

Der Erlkönig }
Der Lindenbaum } SCHUBERT
Ungeduld }

INTERMISSION

Malurous Qu'ò uno Fenno CANTELOUBE

La Flute enchantée RAVEL

El Vito JOAQUIN NIN

This Day is Mine HARRIET WARE

Two Preludes SHOSTAKOVICH

Etude in D-sharp minor SCRIABIN

Mr. MANLEY

Brünhilde's Final Scene from "Götterdämmerung" WAGNER

NOTE: Marjorie Lawrence has been heard in the Choral Union and May Festival Series on one previous occasion as follows: May 14, 1938.

The Steinway piano, furnished through the courtesy of Grinnell Brothers, is the official concert instrument of the University Musical Society

* In service.

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

PROGRAM NOTES

Recitative and Aria of Nitocris, from "Belshazzar" HANDEL

Vain, fluctuating state of human empire! First, small and weak, it scarcely rears its head, scarce stretching out its helpless infant arms, implores protection of its neighbor states, who nurse it to their hurt.

Anon, it strives for pow'r and wealth, and spurns at opposition. Arrived to full maturity, it grasps at all within its reach, o'erleaps all bounds, robs, ravages, and wastes the frightened world. At length, grown old and swell'd to bulk enormous, the monster in its proper bowels feeds pride, luxury, corruption, perfidy, contention, fell diseases of a state, that prey upon her vitals.

Of her weakness some other rising pow'r advantage takes (unequal match!) plies with repeated strokes her infirm aged trunk: she nods—she totters—she falls! alas! never to rise again.

The victor states, upon her ruins rais'd, runs the same shadowy round of fancied greatness, meets the same certain end.

Thou, God most high, and Thou alone, unchanged forever dost remain; through boundless space, extends Thy throne, through all eternity Thy reign.

As nothing in Thy sight the reptile man appears, howe'er imagined great; who can impair Thy might? in heav'n or earth, who dares dispute Thy pow'r? Thy will is fate.

Der Erlkönig SCHUBERT

A father rides in the night with his sick child. The child sees a vision, the Erl King, and is afraid. He becomes delirious and tells his father the Erl King has touched and harmed him. The father shudders and rides furiously, just reaching the courtyard as the child lies dead in his arms.

Der Lindenbaum SCHUBERT

By the well before the doorway,
There stood a linden tree,
How oft beneath its shadow,
Sweet dreams have come to me:
Upon its bark when musing
Fond words of love I made,
And joy alike and sorrow
Still drew me to its shade.

Today I now must wander
And thru the deepest night,
I passed it in the darkness
I screened it from my sight.
The branches rustled gently

As if they spoke to me—
"Come here, beloved companion,
Here peace shall smile on thee."

The cruel winds were blowing
So coldly in my face.
My hat was borne behind me,
I sped with quickened pace.

Now many leagues I'm far
From the dear old linden tree,
I ever hear it murmur—
"Peace—that wouldst find with me."

Ungeduld SCHUBERT

I'd carve it on the bark of every tree,
On every stone it should engraven be:
I fain would sow it in each garden green,
In early cress it should be quickly seen,
On every page should be inscribed forever,
"Thine is my heart, and shall be thine forever."

I'd train a young and tender starling dear,
And he should speak those words in tones so clear,
As if my lips had said that tender word,
Whose echo in my ardent heart is heard,
And he should sing it at thy window ever,
"Thine is my heart, and shall be thine forever."

Malurous Qu'ò uno Fenno CANTELOUBE

Unhappy he who has a wife,
Unhappy he who has not.
Who hasn't one, wants one;
Who has one, wants none.
Tra-de-ra, la-de-ri, de-re-ro!
La-de-ra, la-de-ri, de-ra!

Happy the wife who has the right man,
But happier yet she who has none.
Tra-de-ra, la-de-ri, de-re-ro,
La-de-ra, la-de-ri, de-ra!

La Flute enchantée RAVEL

Cool the shade and deep my master's sleep,
Wearing his soft silken conical cap,
His long yellow nose in his snow-white beard.
But I who patiently vigil keep,
I can hear far away,
Sweet music of a flute which creates in turn
The yearning to laugh and to weep,
A tune now of languoring charm, now quite gay,
Which my own beloved doth play,
And when I draw near to the casement high
Then each note, as 'twould seem, doth hither fly
From the flute to touch my face
In mysterious sweet embrace.

El Vito JOAQUIN NIN

A bright Spanish song quite impossible to translate: "I love to dance El Vito. I am very poor and cannot afford a great deal, so I must be content with the maid—don't tease me or I will blush"

Brünhilde's Final Scene from "Götterdämmerung" WAGNER

Siegfried has penetrated the flames, awakened Brünhilde, and wed her with the ring taken from the Rhinemaidens. Leaving her he goes down into the world and marries Gutrune, and then brings Brünhilde to become the wife of Gunther. On a hunting expedition Siegfried is killed by Hagen, son of the dwarf Alberich. When the curtain goes up on the last scene, the body of Siegfried is brought into the castle. Brünhilde now comes forward, she reveals to Gutrune that she was Siegfried's wife first, then standing looking at Siegfried's body she commands the vassals:

Mighty logs I bid you now pile on high by the river shore!
Bright and fierce kindle a fire; let the noblest hero's corpse in its flames be consumed.

His steed bring to me here, that with me his lord he may follow: for my body burneth with holiest longing my hero's honour to share.

(The funeral pyre is built and again Brünhilde looks at Siegfried):

Like rays of sunshine streameth his light, the purest was he who hath betrayed!
In wedlock traitor, true in friendship, from his heart's own true love only beloved one, barred by his sword.

Truer than his were oaths never spoken; faithful as he, none ever held promise purer than his, love ne'er was plighted;
Yet oaths hath he scorned, bonds hath he broken, the faithfullest love, none so hath he betrayed!

Know ye why that was? O ye, of vows the heavenly guardians!
Turn now your eyes on my grievous distress; behold your eternal disgrace!
To my plaint give ear thou mighty God!

Through his most valiant deed by thee so dearly desired, didst thou condemn him to endure the doom that on thee had fallen, he truest of all, must betray me, that wise a woman might grow!

(taking a fire brand from one of the vassals, Brünhilde bids the ravens fly to Loge, God of Fire, and bid him kindle Valhalla. Then she flings the brand on the logs, which break into the bright flame. Mounting Grane, she rides into the burning funeral pyre).

Fifty-first Annual MAY FESTIVAL

Six Concerts—May 4, 5, 6, 7, 1944
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday

BIDU SAYAO, Soprano

ROSE BAMPTON, Soprano

THELMA VON EISENHAUER, Soprano

KERSTIN THORBORG, Contralto

CHARLES KULLMAN, Tenor

LANSING HATFIELD, Baritone

SALVATORE BACCALONI, Bass

NATHAN MILSTEIN, Violinist

GREGOR PIATIGORSKY, Violoncellist

PIERRE LUBOSHUTZ, Pianist

GENIA NEMENOFF, Pianist

THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA

EUGENE ORMANDY, Conductor

SAUL CASTON, Associate Conductor

THE CHORAL UNION

HARDIN VAN DEURSEN, Conductor

FESTIVAL YOUTH CHORUS

MARGUERITE HOOD, Conductor

Tickets (10% tax included): \$8.80—\$7.70—\$6.60, may be ordered
by mail or in person at the offices of the University Musical Society,
Charles A. Sink, President, Burton Memorial Tower.

NOTE.—Prices subject to any additional tax effective before purchase of tickets.