

# 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

“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 . . .

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.”

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

“Like a curtain under the whiteness  
of their petals drawn together,  
the lilies have closed their heart,  
the ladybirds are abed. . . .

The lilies sleep but for a moment;  
would you not that, heads inclined,  
we chat lovingly?  
The ladybirds are abed . . . .”

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