

# CROSS CURRENTS

EAST EUROPE & AMERICA

A FESTIVAL OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

## THE FESTIVAL CHORUS OF THE UNIVERSITY CHORAL UNION

DONALD BRYANT, *conductor*

Carolyn Leyh, *soprano*

David Parks, *tenor*

Sally Carpenter, *contralto*

Theodore Rulff, *bass*

Nancy Hodge, *pianist*

Sunday afternoon, May 10, 1981, at 3:30  
Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor, Michigan

### P R O G R A M

Gebet . . . . . Schubert

Nachthelle . . . . . Schubert

*Soloist:* David Parks

Czech Song (Jan Jindřich Marek) . . . . . Smetana

Three Pieces from "Six Children's Choruses" (1942) . . . Bartók

Breadbaking

Only Tell Me

Teasing Song

Three Songs (world première) . . . . . Donald Bryant

On Angels (Czeslaw Milosz)

An Hour (Czeslaw Milosz)

Antithin (Sandor Weores)

*Trumpets:* Richard Chasin, William Lucas, Patrick Reynolds

*Trombones:* Scott McElroy, Daniel Saylor, Peter Van Eenam

Te Deum (1937) . . . . . Kodály

*The songs by Donald Bryant, set to the poetry of Hungarian Weores and Polish Nobel Laureate Milosz, were commissioned by the Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Michigan for this concluding event of the "Cross Currents" festival.*

*The Festival, which began in January 1981, was made possible, in part, with funds from the Michigan Council for the Humanities.*

## TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

### Two Songs by Franz Schubert

*Gebet (Prayer)*--Thou source of all goodness, Thou source of all power, for Thou is prepared everywhere a temple and a feast. The candle of home flickers softly. Glorious death shouts boldly. I am prepared to die in battle for those things our ancestors held dear. The love which I have for wife and child are Thine. If it can happen peacefully, then, Lord, let it be. Let peace continue. If not, then give us light in storm's night. Thine eternal, love and strength; Thy will be done. I am ready to go wherever you want me to; into love and also into battle; to do Thy will in battle and also in the quiet of home. I will soon rest in Heaven.

*Nachthelle (Clear Night)*--The night is clear and bright. The houses stand in enchantment. I am suffused with a brightness, it reigns within me free and clear, without sorrow or plaint. My heart cannot contain it. The light within me strains to be free; the last barrier breaks.

### *Czech Song* by Bedřich Smetana

A Czech song is sublime when heard in the church, and lofts the spirit to the heavens. A Czech song has a glorious sound, when people sing "Holy," "Holy."

A Czech song stirs the heart smoothly first, then with force. It softly soothes and next in woe we're wrapped, or jokes us into fun. But it sounds most warmly when it kindles love of country.

### Three Pieces by Béla Bartók

*Breadbaking*--Down below my garden yonder three black crows are reaping; cricket garners and mosquito binds it, binds the sheaves together. Flea he fidgets and flea he heaves the sheaves, he throws them on the cart. To the mill the cart now clatters, three pied cats are driving, one, two, three cats driving! This one cleans it, that one screens it, and the third one grinds it, that one turns the millstone. Donkey brings the water now, brings a keg of water. Pours the water in the trough, pours nine kegs of water. Grey goose kneads it, and grey goose puts it in the oven. Bear is waiting, has the loaf done baking? Hen is pecking at the loaf now. Hey, Ant is picking at the crumbs!

*Only Tell Me*--Only tell me, dear one, by which road you leave me. Tell me and I'll plough it with a golden plough share; I shall sow it also with fine pearls and that road I'll harrow with my sad tears falling.

*Teasing Song*--Lasses cost a fortune; cost a hundred gulden! But lads come cheaper; just a pint of fodder. It's not oats, that fodder; it's just bran, that fodder.

### Three Songs by Donald Bryant

*On Angels*--All was taken away from you, white dresses, wings, even existence, yet I believe you, messengers. There, where the world is turned inside out, a heavy fabric embroidered with stars and beasts, you stroll inspecting the trustworthy seams. Short is your stay here, now and then at a matinal hour if the sky is clear in a melody repeated by a bird or in the smell of apples at the close of day when the light makes the orchard magic. They say someone has invented you, but to me this does not sound convincing, for humans invented themselves as well. The voice, no doubt it is a valid proof as it can belong only to radiant creatures, weightless and winged (after all, why not?), girdled with the lightning. I have heard that voice many a time when asleep and, what is strange, I understood, more or less, an order or an appeal in an un-earthly tongue: day draws near, another one, do what you can...

*An Hour*--Leaves glowing in the sun, zealous hum of bumblebees. From afar, from somewhere beyond the river echos of lingering voices, and the unhurried sounds of a hammer gave joy not only to me. Before the five senses were opened and earlier than any beginning. They waited, ready for all those who would call themselves mortals so that they might praise, as I do, life, that is, happiness.

*Antithin*--At last it has leaked out! Thin men are the cause of everything. They wait in ambush on street corners, and if an old woman comes by they don't even greet her. They are more concerned with exchanging their straw hats for lottery tickets and with naturalizing crocodiles in the waters of Europe so that everywhere, there would be no safety. They always begin their fishy deals in their beds at dawn, and afterwards go to the street, some work in offices, others ostensibly are waiters or locksmiths. They all disguise themselves, but their true trade is thinness. At last it has leaked out, thin men, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera...

### *Te Deum* by Zoltán Kodály

We praise Thee, O God: we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord...  
Thee, the glorious choir of the Apostles...  
Thou, O Christ, art the King of Glory...  
Save Thy people, O Lord, and bless Thine interitance...  
Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

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OF THE UNIVERSITY CHORAL UNION

Donald Bryant, *Conductor*

Nancy Hodge, *Accompanist*      Stephen Bates, *Manager*

*Sopranos*

Kimberly Jo Buechner  
Letitia Byrd  
Elaine Cox  
Doris Datsko  
Phyllis Denner  
Gladys Hanson  
Alice Horning  
Sylvia Jenkins  
June Krebs  
Caroline Leyh  
Mary Loewen  
Doris Luecke  
Marilyn McCallum  
Loretta Meissner  
Karen Myhre  
Barbara Nordman  
Carolyn Richards  
Karwyn Rigan  
Suzanne Schluederberg  
Alice Schneider  
Mary Ann Sincock  
Theresa Smith  
Patricia Tompkins  
Margie Warrick  
Christine Wendt  
Joanne Westman  
Kathleen Young

*Altos*

Martha Ause  
Marjorie Baird  
Kathlyn Marie Boyer  
Ella Brown  
Marion Brown  
Lael Cappaert  
Sally Carpenter  
Mary Haab  
Georgia Hartman  
Dana Hull  
Carol Hurwitz  
Gretchen Jackson  
Dawn Kalis  
Nancy Karp  
Katherine Klykylo  
Geraldine Koupal  
Elsie Lovelace  
Cheryl Melby  
Lois Nelson  
Susan Nisbett  
Sue Ribaud  
Beverly Roeger  
Kathi Rosenzweig  
Joan Roth  
Carol Spencer  
Kathryn Stebbins  
Margaret Thompson  
Helen Thornton  
Helen Welford  
Charlotte Wolfe

*Tenors*

William Bronson  
Hugh Brown  
Bruce Carter  
John Alan Comfort  
Albert Girod  
Donald Haworth  
Robert MacGregor  
Dennis Rigan  
Carl Smith  
David Woods

*Basses*

Richard Bachmann  
Bruce Dicey  
Thomas Hagerty  
Klair Kissel  
Lawrence Lohr  
John MacKrell  
Sol Metz  
Alfred Meyer  
Raymond Shankin  
Terril Tompkins  
John Van Bolt  
David Varner