

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO School of Music Senior Recital

Jake Michael, tenor

with John Cozza, piano

"Ecco ridente in cielo" from *Il barbiere di Siviglia*

Der Musikant Verborgenheit

Morgen, Op. 27/4 Zueignung, Op. 10/1

Chanson triste Extase Sérénade

INTERMISSION

Selections from To Julia

I. The Bracelet

II. The Maiden Blush

- III. To Daisies
- VI. Cherry Ripe

"I accept their verdict" from Billy Budd

Breath of A Rose Far, far away Early in the morning Alleluia Roger Quilter (1877-1953)

Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Hugo Wolf (1860-1903)

Richard Strauss (1864-1949)

Henri Duparc (1848-1933)

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

William Grant Still (1895-1978) Ned Rorem (b. 1928)

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Music in Voice. Jake Michael is a student of Julie Anne Miller.



TUESDAY, 7:00 P.M. March 29, 2022 Capistrano Concert Hall

Jake Michael, tenor Texts & Translations

"Ecco ridente in cielo" from Il barbiere di Siviglia

A group of professional musicians is gathered under the direction of Fiorello to provide the accompaniment for Count Almaviva's serenade of the lovely Rosina, ward of Don Bartolo. The Count, disguised as a student, sings that soon the dawn will drive away the gloom of night, and so too then Rosina must appear to bring joy to his life.

Almaviva Ecco, ridente in cielo spunta la bella aurora, e tu non sorgi ancora e puoi dormir così? Sorgi, mia dolce speme, vieni, bell'idol mio; rendi men crudo, oh Dio, lo stral che mi ferì. Oh sorte! già veggo quel caro sembiante; quest'anima amante ottenne pietà. Oh istante d'amore! Oh dolce contento! Felice momento che eguale non ha!

Der Musikant

Wandern lieb' ich für mein Leben, lebe eben wie ich kann, wollt ich mir auch Mühe geben, passt es mir doch gar nicht an.

Schöne alte Lieder Weiss ich; in der Kälte ohne Schuh, draussen in die Saiten reiss ich, weiss nicht, wo ich abends ruh'.

Manche Schöne macht wohl Augen, meinet, ich gefiel ihr sehr, wenn ich nur was wollte taugen, so ein armer Lump nicht wär.

Mag dir Gott ein'n Mann bescheren, wohl mit Haus und Hof versehn! wenn wir zwei zusammen wären, möcht mein Singen mir vergehn.

Almaviva Here, smiling in the sky, appears the beautiful dawn: and vou don't arise vet. and can sleep like that? Arise, my sweet hope. Come, my beautiful idol. Make less painful, oh God, the arrow that wounded me. Oh fortune! Already I see that dear face; this loving soul has won pity! Oh instant of love! Happy moment! Oh sweet contentment which has no equal, no!

The Minstrel

I simply love to wander, and live as best I can, and were I to exert myself, it wouldn't suit at all.

Beautiful old songs I know, barefoot out in the cold I pluck my strings, not knowing where I'll rest at night.

Many a beauty gives me looks, says she'd fancy me, if I'd make something of myself, were not such a beggar wretch.

May God give you a husband, well provided with house and hime! If we two were together, my singing might fade away.

Verborgenheit

Lass, o Welt, o lass mich sein! locket nicht mit Liebesgaben, lasst dies Herz alleine haben seine Wonne, seine Pein!

Was ich traure, weiss ich nicht, es ist unbekanntes Wehe; immerdar durch Tränen sehe ich der Sonne liebes Licht.

Oft bin ich mir kaum bewusst, und die helle Freude zücket durch die Schwere, so mich drücket Wonniglich in meiner Brust.

Lass, o Welt, o lass mich sein! locket nicht mit Liebesgaben, lasst dies Herz alleine haben seine Wonne, seine Pein!

Morgen!

Und morgen wird die Sonne wieder scheinen und auf dem Wege, den ich gehen werde, wird uns, die Glücklichen, sie wieder einen inmitten dieser sonnenatmenden Erde...

Und zu dem Strand, dem weiten, wogenblauen, werden wir still und langsam niedersteigen, stumm werden wir uns in die Augen schauen, und auf uns sinkt des Glückes stummes Schweigen...

Zueignung

Ja, du weißt es, teure Seele, daß ich fern von dir mich quale, Liebe macht die Herzen krank, habe Dank.

> Einst hielt ich, der Freiheit Zecher, hoch den Amethysten-Becher, und du segnetest den Trank, habe Dank.

Und beschworst darin die Bösen, bis ich, was ich nie gewesen, heilig, heilig an's Herz dir sank, habe Dank!

Seclusion

Let, O world, O let me be! Do not tempt with gifts of love, let this heart keep to itself its rapture, its pain!

I do not know why I grieve, it is unknown sorrow; always through a veil of tears I see the sun's beloved light.

Often, I am lost in thought, and bright joy flashes through the oppressive gloom, bringing rapture to my breast.

Let, O World, O let me be! Do not tempt with gifts of love, let this heart keep to itself its rapture, its pain!

Tomorrow!

And tomorrow the sun will shine again and on the path that I shall take, it will unite us, happy ones, again, amid this same sun-breathing earth...

And to the shore, broad, blue-waved, we shall quietly and slowly descend, speechless we shall gaze into each other's eyes, and the speechless silence of bliss shall fall on us...

Dedication

Yes, dear soul, you know that I'm in torment far from you, love makes hearts sick – be thanked.

Once, revelling in freedom, I held the amethyst cup aloft and you blessed that draught – be thanked.

And you banished the evil spirits, till I, as never before, holy, sank holy upon your heart – be thanked!

Chanson triste

Dans ton cœur dort un clair de lune, un doux clair de lune d'été, et pour fuir la vie importune, je me noierai dans ta clarté.

J'oublierai les douleurs passées, mon amour, quand tu berceras mon triste cœur et mes pensées dans le calme aimant de tes bras.

Tu prendras ma tête malade, Oh! quelquefois sur tes genoux, et lui diras une ballade qui semblera parler de nous;

Et dans tes yeux pleins de tristesses, dans tes yeux alors je boirai tant de baisers et de tendresses que peut-être je guérirai.

Extase

Sur un lys pâle mon cœur dort d'un sommeil doux comme la mort... mort exquise, mort parfumée du souffle de la bien-aimée... sur ton sein pâle mon cœur dort d'un sommeil doux comme la mort...

Sérénade

Si j'étais, ô mon amoureuse la brise au souffle parfumé, pour frôler ta bouche rieuse, je viendrais craintif et charmé.

Si j'étais l'abeille qui vole, ou le papillon séducteur, tu ne me verrais pas, frivole, te quitter pour une autre fleur.

Si j'étais la rose charmante que ta main place sur ton cœur si près de toi toute tremblante je me fanerais de bonheur.

Mais en vain je cherche à te plaire, j'ai beau gémir et soupirer. Je suis homme, et que puis-je faire? ... T'aimer ... Te le dire ... Et pleurer!

Song of Sadness

Moonlight slumbers in your heart, a gentle summer moonlight, and to escape the cares of life I shall drown myself in your light.

I shall forget past sorrows, my sweet, when you cradle my sad heart and my thoughts in the loving calm of your arms.

You will rest my poor head, Ah! sometimes on your lap, and recite to it a ballad that will seem to speak of us;

And from your eyes full of sorrow, from your eyes I shall then drink so many kisses and so much love that perhaps I shall be healed.

Ecstasy

On a pale lily my heart sleeps in a sleep as sweet as death... Exquisite death, death scented with the breath of the beloved... On your pale breast my heart sleeps in a sleep as sweet as death...

Serenade

If, my beloved, I were the scented breeze, I would come, timid and rapt, to brush your laughing lips.

If I were a bee in flight, or a beguiling butterfly, you would not see me skittishly leave you for another flower.

If I were the charming rose your hand placed on your heart, I would, quivering so close to you, wither with happiness.

But I seek in vain to please you, in vain I moan and sigh. I am a man, and what can I do? Love you... Confess my love... And cry!

II. The Bracelet

Why I tie about thy wrist, Julia, this my silken twist, for what other reason is't, but to shew thee how, in part, thou my pretty captive art? But thy bondslave is my heart;

'Tis but silk that bindeth thee, knap the thread and thou art free: but 'tis otherwise with me; I am bound, and fast bound, so that from thee I cannot go; if I could, I would not so.

IV. To Daisies

Shut not so soon; the dull-eyed night has not as yet begun to make a seizure on the light, or to seal up the sun.

No marigolds yet closed are; no shadows great appear; nor doth the early shepherds' star shine like a spangle here.

Stay but till my Julia close her life-begetting eye, and let the whole world then dispose itself to live or die.

"I accept their verdict" from Billy Budd

The opera is preceded by a prologue in which the retired Captain Vere, an old man, ponders the significance of events that took place long ago. The main action is set on board the British naval vessel HMS *Indomitable* in 1797. The crew goes about its tasks driven by the brutality of the ship's Master-at-arms, John Claggart, who rules by physical and mental domination. Three new sailors, press-ganged from a passing merchant ship, are brought on board. Two of them are reluctant and unpromising specimens, but the third, Billy Budd, is eager, young, strong and handsome. His goodness wins the hearts of all except Claggart, whose dark world is turned upside down by Billy's beauty and grace, and who determines to destroy him. To this end, Claggart manipulates Squeak to rifle amongst Billy's belongings, and when the young sailor catches him the old sea dog Dansker warns Billy that Claggart has it in for him. Claggard then has the Novice—cowed into submission by an earlier beating—try to bribe Billy into supporting mutiny, but to no avail. Nevertheless, Claggart takes the unsubstantiated complaint to Vere, though is interrupted in his accusation by a brief skirmish with a French frigate that ends with the enemy escaping. Claggart then accuses Billy, who is called in by Vere to defend himself. Billy's shock and stammer silences him. In anger at the outrageous, trumped-up charge, the innocent Billy knocks Claggart

III. The Maiden Blush

So look the mornings when the sun paints them with fresh vermillion. So cherries blush, and Kathern pears, and apricocks in youthful years; so corals look more lovely red, and rubies lately polished.

So purest diaper doth shine, stain'd by the beams of claret wine. As Julia looks when she doth dress her either cheek with bashfulness.

VIII. Cherry Ripe

Cherry-ripe, ripe, ripe, I cry, full and fair ones; come and buy. If so be you ask me where they do grow, I answer: there, where my Julia's lips do smile; there's the land, or cherry-isle, whose plantations fully show all the year where cherries grow. down with a single blow that strikes him dead. The law of the sea dictates that striking an officer requires death as punishment. The conflicted Vere decides he cannot save Billy, who is condemned. He goes to his death a loyal seaman, saying from the plank, "Starry Vere, God bless you!" In the Epilogue, we return to the aged Vere, who again ruminates over the moral conflict in his role in these events.

The Breath of a Rose

Love is like dew On lilacs at dawn: Comes the swift sun And the dew is gone.

Love is like star-light In the sky at morn: Star-light that dies When day is born.

Love is like perfume In the heart of a rose: The flower withers, The perfume goes.

Love is no more Than the breath of a rose, No more Than the breath of a rose. *-Langston Hughes*

Far-Far-Away

What sight so lured him thro' the fields he knew as where earth's green stole into heaven's own hue, Far-far-away?

What sound was dearest in his native dells? the mellow lin-lan-lone of evening bells Far-far-away.

What vague world-whisper, mystic pain or joy, thro' those three words would haunt him when a boy, Far-far-away?

A whisper from his dawn of life? a breath from some fair dawn beyond the doors of death Far-far-away?

Far, far, how far? from o'er the gates of birth, the faint horizons, all the bounds of earth, Far-far-away?

What charm in words, a charm no words could give? O dying words, can Music make you live Far-far-away? -Alfred Lord Tennyson

Early in the morning

Early in the morning Of a lovely summer day, As they lowered the bright awning At the outdoor café,

I was breakfasting on croissants And café au lait Under greenery like scenery, Rue François Premier.

They were hosing the hot pavement With a dash of flashing spray And a smell of summer showers When the dust is drenched away, Under greenery like scenery, Rue François Premier. I was twenty and a lover And in Paradise to stay, Very early in the morning Of a lovely summer day. *-Robert Hillyer*