

HOUGHTON COLLEGE

GREATBATCH SCHOOL OF MUSIC

presents

Daniel S. K. Bussey

Baritone

in

Junior Voice Recital

Assisted by

Hannah Hawes, Piano

Recital Hall

Center for the Arts

Monday, April 15, 2019

6:30 p.m.

Program

Dichterliebe, Op. 48

1. Im wunderschönen Monat Mai
2. Aus meinen Tränen spriessen
3. Die Rose, die Lilie, die Taube
4. Wenn ich in deine Augen seh'
5. Ich will Seele tauchen
6. Im Rhein, im heiligen Strome
7. Ich grolle nicht

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

Poème d'un jour
Recontre
Toujours
Adieu

Gabriel Fauré
(1845-1924)

Hai già vinta la causa...Vedrò mentr'io sospiro
from *Le Nozze di Figaro*

Wolfgang A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

Earth and Air and Rain
Rollicum-Rorum

Gerald Finzi
(1901-1956)

Intermission

Something's Coming
Maria
from *West Side Story*

Leonard Bernstein
(1918-1990)

If I Sing
from *Closer Than Ever*

David Shire
(b. 1937)

Santa Fe
from *Newsies*

Alan Menken
(b. 1949)

Smile
from *Modern Times*

Charles Chaplin
(1889-1977)

Make Someone Happy
from *Do Re Mi*

Jule Styne
(1905-1994)

Program Notes

Robert Schumann was born in Zwickau, in the Kingdom of Saxony, and is widely regarded as one of the greatest composers of his time. *Dichterliebe* is the most famous of his song-cycles. Written in 1840, the texts of the songs are taken from Heinrich Heine's *Lyrisches Intermezzo*, which consisted of a Prologue and 65 poems. The Prologue tells the story of a knight who sits glumly in a tower and is visited by his fairy bride at night but then must return to the dullness of his tower by day - the poems that follow are his thoughts and emotions as he contemplates his love. Schumann selected 16 of these poems and set them to music, of which these are the first seven.¹

Gabriel Fauré was a French composer of the late 19th century, often regarded as a bridge between the Romantic and Impressionist periods. Born in France, Fauré studied under Camille Saint-Saëns and through him met some of the other prolific composers of his day. He was enlisted in the army during his early adult years and developed a hearing condition that gradually grew worse and worse. However, he was still known as the master of the French art-song, and Fauré demonstrates his abilities in the three pieces that make up this song cycle.² As the titles demonstrate, this song cycle follows the journey of a person who meets someone and falls in love, is hurt, and then says goodbye. Who doesn't love a classic romantic tragedy?

Wolfgang A. Mozart was a child prodigy, performing across Europe at the age of 13 and writing impressive pieces of music not long after. The opera *Le Nozze di Figaro* was written in 1785 and premiered in Vienna a year later.³ This aria is sung by the Count, a rather shady character. Having just found out that his servant's fiancée, whom he is trying to seduce, has been lying to him about her affections, the Count contemplates his options and determines to give his servant a taste of his own medicine.

Gerald Finzi was an English composer who resided in the English countryside for most of his life. He was a strong patriot and his love of England comes through in his music. This piece comes from his song cycle, *Earth and Air and Rain*, which is settings of some of the poems of Thomas Hardy. "Rollicum Rorum," also known as "The Sergeant's Song," is a rather sarcastic song about how Napoleon Bonaparte will never be able to conquer England.⁴

Leonard Bernstein was an American composer, one of the first to really receive world-wide fame. Born in Massachusetts, Bernstein was a prolific composer and a talented conductor. When he wrote *West Side Story*, it was

¹ Jolly, James. "Inside Schumann's *Dichterliebe*." Gramophone [accessed 1 April 2019]. <https://www.gramophone.co.uk/feature/inside-schumann-dichterliebe>.

² "Gabriel Fauré - Biography." Last.fm [accessed 28 March 2019]. <https://www.last.fm/music/Gabriel+Faur%C3%A9/+wiki>.

³ "Wolfgang Mozart Biography." The Biography.com website [accessed 1 April 2019]. <https://www.biography.com/people/wolfgang-mozart-9417115>.

⁴ McCluskey, Eric. "Rollicum-Rorum." The Songs of Gerald Finzi [accessed 29 March 2019]. http://finzison.com/rollicum_rorum.html.

instantly loved by the public and turned into a movie, and continues to delight audiences to this day. The show is a modern retelling of Romeo and Juliet, following the lives of Maria and Tony as they struggle against the many obstacles that challenge their love.⁵ Both pieces in tonight's program are sung by Tony – "Something's Coming" occurs before he meets Maria, and "Maria" is the song he sings after they fall in love.

Closer Than Ever is a musical revue in two acts, in which there is no dialogue. Written by David Shire and Richard Maltby, Jr, and taking the stage in 1989, the show is an exploration of everyday struggles, with each story sung by a different character.⁶ "If I Sing" is the touching story of a man who is dealing with his father's death and is remembering the love of music his father had.

Modern Times was one of Charlie Chaplin's last full-length silent films, made in 1936. In the film, Chaplin plays the role of the Tramp, who deals with the Great Depression and the many problems of that time. The music of "Smile" is used in the last scene of the movie, as the Tramp comforts his love on the side of the road.⁷ John Turner and Geoffery Parsons added lyrics and a title to the theme song, and thus "Smile" was created. It is a beautiful, heart-warming piece with a nostalgic air to it - and a message that is relevant to every college student.

Do Re Mi opened in 1960 and was performed 400 times. This musical by Jules Styne, Betty Comden and Adolph Green follows the story of Hubie Cram, a questionable man who is trying to straighten himself out by entering the jukebox business. They soon have 300 jukeboxes that they are trying to sell to one John Henry Wheeler. Hubie comes across a talented, but naïve young singer by the name of Tilda Mullen, whom Wheeler proceeds to fall in love with. "Make Someone Happy" is the song that Wheeler sings to Tilda as he shares his wisdom with her.⁸

We would like to thank the Houghton College administration for its faithful support of the Greatbatch School of Music.

Shirley A. Mullen, President
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Daniel Bussey, a student of Professor Amanda Cox, is performing this recital in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance.

⁵ "Leonard Bernstein Biography." The Biography.com website [accessed 2 April 2019]. <https://www.biography.com/people/leonard-bernstein-9210269>.

⁶ "Maltby and Shire's Closer Than Ever." Musical Theater International [accessed 1 April 2019]. <https://www.mtishows.com/maltby-and-shires-closer-than-ever>.

⁷ "Modern Times." Filmsite Movie Review [accessed 30 March 2019]. <https://www.filmsite.org/modr.html>.

⁸ "Do Re Mi." The Broadway League Inc. [accessed 29 March 2019]. <https://www.ibdb.com/broadway-production/do-re-mi-2282>.