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Program notes and translations for a graduate voice recital

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PROGRAM NOTES AND TRANSLATIONS
FOR
A GRADUATE VOICE RECITAL

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
MASTER OF MUSIC
by
Sara Arias Ruiz

2004
To: Dean R. Bruce Dunlap  
College of Arts and Sciences

This thesis, written by Sara Arias Ruiz, and entitled Program Notes and Translations for a Graduate Voice Recital, having been approved in respect to style and intellectual content, is referred to you for judgment.

We have read this thesis and recommend that it be approved.

Linda M. Considine

Nancy Rao

Robert B. Dundas, Major Professor

Date of Defense: June 4, 2004

The thesis of Sara Arias Ruiz is approved.

Dean R. Bruce Dunlap  
College of Arts and Sciences

Dean Douglas Wartzok  
University Graduate School

Florida International University, 2004
ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

PROGRAM NOTES AND TRANSLATIONS FOR A GRADUATE VOICE RECITAL

by

Sara Arias Ruiz

Florida International University, 2004

Miami, Florida

Professor Robert B. Dundas, Major Professor

"Già il sole dal Gange" 
Alessandro Scarlatti 
(1660-1725)

"O cessate di piagarmi"

"Spesso vibra per suo gioco"

"Must the winter come so soon"?
Samuel Barber 
(1910-1981)

from Vanessa

Two Songs from Mirabai Songs
John Harbison 
(b.1938)

"It's True I Went to the Market"

"Don't Go, Don't Go"

"El amor brujo"
Manuel de Falla 
(1876-1946)

"Canción del amor dolido"

"Canción del fuego fatuo"

"Danza del juego del amor"

"Las campanas del amanecer"

INTERMISSION

"Standchen" from Leise flehen meine Lieder 
Franz Schubert 
(1797-1828)

"Du bist die Ruh" D776

"Gretchen am Spinnrade" D257

"Una voce poco fa"
Gioachino Rossini 
(1792-1868)

from Il barbiere di Siviglia

La Regata Veneziana - Three songs in Venetian dialect

"Anzoleta avanti la regata"

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INTRODUCTION

The repertoire chosen for this recital consist of literature for mezzo-soprano voice in Italian, German, Spanish and English, and it represents the Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Contemporary periods. The following program notes and translations are intended to provide an audience with background for enhanced appreciation of the text and music for each section. A list of references used for this document is provided at the conclusion.

The performance of this recital was given in the Recital Hall of Wertheim Performing Arts Center on June 4, 2004. All members of the recital committee were in attendance. Georgi Danchev was the collaborative pianist.
SECTION II

*Già il sole dal Gange*

*O cessate di piagarmi*

*Spesso vivra per suo gioco*

**Alessandro Scarlatti** (1660-1725) is considered the founder of the Neapolitan school of opera. His works form the most important link between the tentative “new music” of the 17th century and the classical school of the 18th century. He composed mainly for the stage. The comic scenes in his nearly eighty-five operas feature realistic dialogue and local dialect. Scarlatti's operas consist primarily of recitatives and arias, typical of the *opera seria* style. Recitatives are used to carry on conversations and move the story along. Arias are vehicles to express deeper, more personal emotions. The typical Baroque aria is in *da capo* form and it features repetitive text, motivic development, challenging vocalization and tonal unity.\(^1\) For this reason, arias became the most important element in Neapolitan operas. The popularity of the new Neapolitan style of opera spread rapidly through Europe.

The “canzonetta” *Già il sole dal Gange* (The Sun on the Ganges) is from the opera *L’Honestà negli amori*, (Honesty in Love Affairs) written in 1680. The singer is a page boy, Saldino. *Già il sole dal Gange* is one of the composer’s best-known and most often performed arias. The poem is by Felice Parnasso and the words refer to the rising sung, sparkling on the river Ganges.\(^2\)

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O cessate di piagarmi is from Scarlatti’s opera *Pompeo* written in 1683, the plot is based on ancient Roman history. The singer is Sesto, son of the Roman general, Pompey the Great. Sesto sings of his love for Issicratea, Queen of Pontus, living under house arrest in Rome. "O cease to Wound Me" is a two strophe lament set against a persistent bass line. The tempo marking is *andante con moto*; the second strophe is to be sung at a slower tempo than the first. The word *lasciatemi* (let me) and the word *sorde* (deaf) are highlighted through the melody. The unyielding 6/8 rhythm of the accompaniment helps to sustain the mood of despair.³

*Spesso vivra per suo gioco* is a *canzonetta* about Cupid (God of love) and how he makes people fall in love regardless of the victims desire to experience this pleasure. The melody and the accompaniment are made up of triplet figures and dotted quarter notes. The tempo (allegro) together with the rhythm help to portray Cupid’s excitement when throwing love’s darts.

---

La Regata Veneziana - three songs in Venetian dialect:

Anzoleta avanti la regata

Anzoleta co passa la regata

Anzoleta dopo la regata

Una voce poco fa from Il Barbiere di Siviglia

Rossini (1792-1868) was born in Pesaro, Italy, to musician parents. The composer began his operatic writing at age 18. Rossini was very prolific, composing at one point up to 7 operas in the span of 16 months. He wrote a total of 39 operas. His operas, both buffa and seria, showed his mastery of the bel canto school of composition. With florid lines, vocal embellishments, incredible speed and spontaneity, Rossini created some of the most unforgettable music in the operatic repertoire. By 1825 Rossini had conquered all the major opera theaters of Europe. However, just a few years later, and due to poor health, he decided to retire from opera. In 1857 he moved to Paris with his wife Olympe Pélissier.

In 1858 Rossini purchased land for a villa in the Paris suburbs of Passy. He was soon asked by friends and publishers to provide new songs for the musical soirées which took place at his villa. In December of that year Rossini held the first of their famous soirées, the Samedi soirs, for which invitations were much in demand. Every Saturday Rossini's salon became a meeting place for composers, artists and friends. The evening would have a pre-arranged musical program, mostly of Rossini's own compositions and with the composer at the piano. Many young singers made their debuts at these Saturday's gatherings. The evening would also include a magnificent meal. Rossini was a very famous gourmet, and he took great pride in his table and underground store.
He loved fine wines, and exchanged recipes with the famous chefs of the Paris. His humor was legendary, and his witty remarks were circulated around Paris for all to enjoy.

Honored and courted, Rossini grew old serenely, composing whenever inspiration came to him. In these years he wrote Le Chant des Titans (1859), the Petite Messe solennelle (1863), the Hymne à Napoléon III (1867), and various pieces of chamber music including the Péchés de vieillesse (Sins of old age.) The famous soirées would continue for the next ten years. The last occurred September 26, 1868. The composer's chronic ill health finally overcame him and he died two months later.

La Regata Veneziana belongs to the Album Italiano (Italian Album,) part of Péchés de vieillesse (Sins of Old Age.) The three songs were written in 1858 and describe the famous Venetian regatta from the viewpoint of a young woman, Anzoleta. She watches her boyfriend Momolo prepare for the regatta, win the race, and present her with the red flag of victory. These songs, although written during a more mature and elaborate phase of Rossini's development, maintain a folk-like simplicity of spirit and line. The piano accompaniment consists for the most part of broken-chord variations used to portray the water's movements, as well as the excitement of the crowd.

Anzoleta avanti la regata (Anzoleta before the race.) The first song provides the listener with valuable information about the regatta's heroine, Anzoleta. She is a young, smart, and ambitious girl. She truly loves Momolo and she is convinced that he can win the race. From the text we learn that this young man (although very talented in the art of rowing) is a bit hesitant to participate in the boat race. The piano introduction illustrates Anzoleta's excitement when she sees the waving pennants. The harbor is full with people and the music portrays everyone's hopes and expectations.
Anzoleta co passa la regata (Anzoleta during the race.) The introduction to this song reminds us of Rossini's ingenious gift for music. The piano not only clearly portrays the fast water movement and the racing boat, but also Anzoleta's racing heart. The nervousness, madness and anxiety felt by the heroine is expressed by the insistent rhythm in the accompaniment. Despite her fear, Anzoleta loudly urges Momolo to keep on rowing.

Anzoleta dopo la regata (Anzoleta after the race.) The last of the three songs begins with a glorious Napoleonic-style triumphal march. Momolo is the winner. All Venice is talking about him. Anzoleta is filled with pride and joy. In return for his winning the race, Anzoleta showers Momolo with kisses.

Il Barbiere di Siviglia was written in 1816. The libretto is by Cesare Sterbini after Le Barbier de Séville (1775), a comedy by Pierre Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais. The opera was first performed at the Teatro Argentina in Rome on February 20, 1816. The aria Una voce poco fa is from Act I, scene 2. It introduces the character of Rosina, the young ward of old Dr. Bartolo, who wants to marry her. Rosina is in her room thinking of her love, Lindoro (the Count Almaviva in disguise.) He has been serenading her and they have exchanged notes. During this aria she swears to trick Dr. Bartolo and succeed in following her romantic yearnings.

Una voce poco fa opens with a 13 measure orchestral introduction, leading to a recititative-like section followed by a faster, more song-like section. The melody contains clearly defined repeated motives and phrases. The instrumentation is sparse, typical of Rossini's style, and does not interfere with the voice part. The colorful sound within the
vocal part is achieved through the use of accidentals, dotted rhythms, repeated motives and phrases.
The Austrian composer **Franz Schubert (1797-1828)** wrote symphonies, operas, masses, piano music, and over 600 Lieder (songs) during his brief 31 years of life. He produced the first significant song cycles, the most famous of which are *Die schöne Müllerin* and *Winterreise*. Each is remarkable for its quality, character and popularity. Schubert's songs have classical form and expressive melodies and harmonies. They were composed in a variety of formal structures: strophic, strophic with variations, declamatory and through-composed. The accompaniment always plays a very important role in Schubert's music, either as a commentator on the text or setting the mood to the entire piece. Schubert set the texts of about ninety poets, among them Goethe, Müller, Schiller, Heine and Rückert, choosing poetic themes of life, death, happiness or misery. He was a great innovator, exerting a huge influence over his contemporaries as well as later generations of composers. Brahms wrote: “There is not a song of Schubert's from which one cannot learn something.” The three songs chosen for this recital demonstrate Schubert's genius for dramatic characterization, youthful enthusiasm and his expression of ecstatic love.

**Ständchen** is song number 4 of the 14 songs that make up *Schwanengesang*, D. 957. This collection of lieder was composed in 1828 and published as a cycle shortly after Schubert's death. It is one of the composer's most beloved works and **Ständchen** is one of its more popular songs. The text by Ludwig Rellstab (1799-1860) is about love and youthful enthusiasm. Being a serenade, the piano holds a conversation with the
melody of the singer. The piano responds to what the voice is saying with a very light guitar-like plucking sound. The rhythm remains constant throughout the song suggesting the sincere determination of the singer. The poet chooses an a-b-a-b pattern for the text, typical of the popular "folk" poetry of the time. This adds a simple rustic quality to the song.

*Du bist die Ruh* D.776 is a slow, fervent ode to an ideal love. The poem is by Friedrich Rückert (1788-1866) and expresses a deep sense of agreement and contentment among the lovers. Schubert uses the piano introduction to set the mood and tone of the song. The slow ¾ meter has the soothing quality of a lullaby. The piano maintains this background throughout the song, changing ingeniously from minor to major keys in support of the text. Schubert was also a master of "word painting" technique. An excellent example can be found in the forth stanza when he uses the words "the heart is full." Here the notes and the voice swell on the word "full." The song's form is ABABC.

*Gretchen am Spinnrade* was composed in 1814 and is considered Schubert's first masterpiece. The text was adapted from Goethe's epic play *Faust*. The scene depicts Gretchen's desperate feelings towards her beloved Faust. She is alone, sitting at the spinning wheel remembering how he made love to her. The work's texture is homophonic but the voice and the accompaniment work independently. The piano portrays the spinning wheel and, depending on Gretchen's emotional state, conveys her feelings and emotions through dramatic and agitated effects. The successive 16th note figures in the piano are set against a lyric vocal line that consists mainly of half steps and closely related notes. Similar phrases are repeated, sometimes with variations.
Gretchen's heightened emotions are shown through expressive harmonic progressions and modulations related closely to the text.
Manuel Maria de Falla y Matheu (1876-1946) received his early musical education in Cadiz and Madrid. He lived in Paris from 1907 to 1914, where he was influenced by such French composers as Debussy, Ravel, Dukas, Fauré. He also became acquainted with the Spanish composers like Albeniz, Turina and the pianist Ricardo Viñes all of whom encouraged De Falla to develop his powerful, individual nationalistic style. Indeed, his music reflects the passionate intense and flamboyant personality and culture of Spain.

Among his most significant works is the one act ballet El amor brujo (Love the Magician) composed from 1914-1915. It refers to a gypsy ghost story. The heroine Candela is possessed by the ghost of her late husband José. The ghost is jealous of the attentions being paid by her to his successor, Carmelo, who has been in love with Candela since childhood. José’s ghost attempts to interrupt the new romance. At the same time another gypsy girl, Lucía, eternally lusts after José. She flirts with him (his ghost) with the intention of distracting him so that Candela and Carmelo can be together and, as a consequence, she can have him for herself.

The text of the ballet’s four songs is by Gregorio Martinez Sierra (1881-1947) The composer uses the music of the Spanish flamenco and cante-jondo, a generic term encompassing the purest and oldest strata of songs of the flamenco tradition, which
originated in the provinces of Andalusia in southern Spain. While *cante hondo* (or, in its aspirated, Andalusian form, *jondo*) refers, more appropriately "to a particular vocal timbre. The term has been used erroneously to designate a form. *Hondo* connotes a deep or profound feeling with which the singer expresses his or her innermost thoughts, emphasizing the tragic side of life."4

*Canción del amor dolido* (Song of the aching love.) The action takes place in Cádiz at night time. The gypsies throw the cards to discover their fates. Candela, sad for love, sings that she doesn’t know what she feels, neither does she know what is happening to her without her lover.

*Canción del fuego fatuo* (Song of the Saint Elmo’s fire.) This song takes place after the intermission. The setting is a mysterious witches cave. Candela enters and sings. She says that love is like Saint-Elmo’s fire. If you try to run away from it, it will follow you; if you call it, it will run away!

*Danza del juego del amor* (Dance of love’s game.) Candela casts a spell. Her lover arrives and Candela sings and dances. She sings to her former husband José. Candela refers to him as that bad gypsy that she once loved. The love she gave to him, he did not deserve it.

*Las campanas del amanecer* (The bells at sunrise.) The bells announce the beginning of a new day as well as the lovers Candela and Carmelo’s reconciliation.

---

Two songs from *Mirabai Songs*

*It's true I went to the Market*

*Don't Go, Don't Go*

**John Harbison** is a composer, conductor, teacher, poet, and a gifted commentator on the art and craft of contemporary composition. He was born in Orange, New Jersey on 20 December 1938 to a family of musicians. He is one of America's most prominent living composers. His music is performed all over the world by most of the leading ensembles and it is distinguished by its exceptional resourcefulness and expressive range. He has written for every conceivable type of ensemble and genre.

Harbison did his undergraduate studies at Harvard University and earned an MFA from Princeton University. He is the winner of multiples prizes and awards (among them a Pulitzer Prize, the Kennedy Center Friedheim First Prize, the Heinz Award for the Arts and Humanities (1998), Distinguished Composer award from the American Composer's Orchestra (2002), the Harvard Arts Medal (2000), the American Music Center's Letter of Distinction (2000), and a MacArthur Fellowship (1989.) He also holds four honorary doctorates.

One of Harbison's prime interests is furthering the work of younger composers. He serves on the board of directors of the Copland Fund (as president) and the Koussevitzky Foundation. His music is published exclusively by Associated Music Publishers. The *Mirabai Songs* were written by John Harbison in 1982.

Because of her late dates and her higher social status, more is known about Mirabai than about any other Indian women poets. She was born in Rajasthan to a Rajput
noble family, and was married in about 1516 to the heir-apparent of the ruler of Mewar.\(^5\) Her husband died before he could attain the throne and he left no heir. Mirabai refused to die on her husband's funeral pyre, as was the custom of the time. Instead, she left her family compound, wrote her poems to Krishna, the Dark One, and sang and danced them in the streets.\(^6\) The poems of Mirabai, selected and set to music by Harbison, were translated into English by Robert Bly.

*It's true I went to the Market* is song number one of the six that embody the cycle. The composer dedicated this song to the American mezzo-soprano, Janice Felty. From this song we learn how Mirabai chose to live by and for Krishna. According to Hindu mythology Krishna is the eighth incarnation of lord Vishnu and was born in the Dvarpara Yuga as the "dark one." Krishna is the embodiment of love and divine joy that destroys all pain and sin. He is the protector of sacred utterances and cows. He is also a trickster and lover, and instigator of all forms of knowledge, born to establish the religion of love.

*Don't Go, Don't Go* is the last of the six songs. The composer chooses a very slow tempo and the piano accompaniment, made up mainly of quarter and eighth notes, moves in a very cantabile, legato motion that supports the very sad melodic line. Harbison makes use of accidentals to support the ascending and descending chromatic lines. The composer dedicated this song to American soprano Susan Quittmeyer.

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\(^5\) Other women's voices online (accessed [12 January 04]) <http://home.inflonline.net/~ddisse/mirabi.html>

Must the winter come so soon?

Samuel Barber (1910-1981) was, along with Aaron Copland and Giancarlo Menotti, the most frequently performed American composer of his generation. From 1941 until the end of his life, he lived to see almost all of his music recorded. Barber composed three operas Antony and Cleopatra, Vanessa, and A Hand of Bridge. All them are masterfully crafted and built on romantic structures and sensibilities. They are at once lyrical, rhythmically complex, and harmonically rich.

Barber wrote his first composition at age 7 and attempted his first opera at age 10. At the age of 14 he entered the Curtis Institute, where he studied voice, piano, and composition. Later, he studied conducting with Fritz Reiner. At Curtis, Barber met Gian Carlo Menotti with whom he would form a lifelong personal and professional relationship. Menotti supplied libretti for all of Barber’s operas. The composer’s music was championed by a remarkable range of renowned contemporary artists, musicians, and conductors including Vladimir Horowitz, John Browning, Martha Graham, Arturo Toscanini, Dmitri Mitropoulos, Jennie Tourel, and Eleanor Steber. Barber was the recipient of numerous awards and prizes including the American Prix de Rome, two Pulitzer prizes and election to the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Vanessa was written 1957. The first performance was at the Metropolitan Opera in New York on the 15th of January, 1958. The aria Must the winter come so soon? belongs to Act I, scene 1 of the opera. The singer is Erika, Vanessa's niece. It is night time in early winter and Vanessa, heralded by a letter, waits for her lover Anatol who abandoned her twenty years before. Erika wonders if the visitor will be able to make it through the woods and the snowy storm. The musical language is diatonic, with melodic
writing that is well suited to the voice, a reminder of the composer's background as a singer himself.
LIST OF REFERENCES


Other women's voices online (accessed [12 January 04])
<http://home.infionline.net/~ddisse/mirabai.html>
APPENDICES

RECITAL PROGRAM

Già il sole dal Gange
O cessate di piagarmi
Spesso vibra per suo gioco

Alessandro Scarlatti
(1660-1725)

Must the winter come so soon?
From Vanessa

Samuel Barber
(1910-1981)

Two Songs from Mirabai Songs
It's True I Went to the Market
Don't Go, Don't Go

John Harbison
(b.1938)

El amor brujo
Canción del amor dolido
Canción del fuego fatuo
Danza del juego del amor
Las campanas del amanecer

Manuel de Falla
(1876-1946)

INTERMISSION

Ständchen from Leise flehen meine Lieder
Du bist die Ruh  D776
Gretchen am Spinnrade D257

Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

Una voce poco fa
From Il barbiere di Siviglia

Gioachino Rossini
(1792-1868)

La Regata Veneziana - Three songs in Venetian dialect

Anzoleta avanti la regata
Anzoleta co pasa la regata
Anzoleta dopo la regata
ALESSANDRO SCARLATTI

**Già il sole dal Gange**

Già il sole dal Gange
Più chiaro sfavilla,
E terge ogni stilla
Dell'alba che piange.

Col raggio dorato
Ingemma ogni stello,
E gli astri del cielo
Dipinge nel prato.

---

**The Sun on the Ganges**

Already, from over the Ganges
The sun sparkles more brightly
And dries every drop
Of the dawn, which weeps.

With the gilded ray
It adorns each blade of grass;
And the stars of the sky
It pains in the field.

**O cessate di piagarmi**

O cessate di piagarmi,
o lasciatemi morir!
Luci ingrate, dispietate,
Più del gelo e più de' marmi
fredde e sorde a' miei martir.

---

**Oh Stop Wounding Me**

Oh stop wounding me,
O leave me to die!
Eyes so ungrateful, merciless,
More than ice and more than marble
Cold and deaf to my sufferings!

**Spesso vivra per suo gioco**

Spesso vibra per suo gioco
il bendato pargioletto
strali d'oro in umil petto,
stral di ferro in nobil core.

Poi languendo in mezzo al foco
del diverso acceso strale per oggetto
non eguale questo manca
e quel vien meno.

---

**Often the Blindfolded Boy**

Often for his amusement
The blindfolded boy pierces
A humble breast with golden darts,
A noble heart with iron arrows.

Then, amid the flames of the
Burning dart, languishing in vain,
One victim passes away while
Another falls faint.
Spesso vibra per suo gioco
Il bendato pargoletto
Strali d’oro in umil petto,
Stral di ferro in nobil seno.

Often for his amusement
The blindfolded boy
Pierces a humble breast with golden
darts, a noble heart with iron arrows.

Text by Anonymous
Translated to English by Kenneth Chalmers

SAMUEL BARBER

Must the winter come so soon?

Must the winter come so soon?
Night after night I hear the hungry deer
wander weeping in the woods, and from
his
house of brittle bark hoots the frozen
owl.

Must the winter come so soon?
Here in this forest neither dawn nor
sunset
marks the passing of the days.
It is a long winter here. Must the winter
come so soon?

JOHN HARBISON

It’s true I went to the Market

My friend, I went to the market and
bought the Dark One.
You claim by night, I claim by day.
Actually I was beating a drum all the
time I was buying him.
You say I gave too much; I say too little.
Actually I put him on the scale before I
bought him.
What I paid was my social body, my
town body, my family body, and all my
inherited jewels.
Mirabai says: The Dark One is my husband now. 
Be with me when I lie down; be with me, be with me when I lie down; 
You promised me this in an earlier life.

Translated to English by Robert Bly

**Don't Go, Don't Go**

Don't go, don't go. I touch your soles, 
I'm sold to you. 
Show me where to find the *bhakti* path, 
show me where to go. 
I would like my body to turn into a heap of incense and sandalwood and you set a torch to it. 
When I've fallen down to grey ashes, 
Smear me on your shoulders and chest. 
Mira says: You who lift the mountains, 
I have some light, 
I want to mingle it with yours.

Translated to English by Robert Bly

**MANUEL DE FALLA**

*Canción del amor dolido*

Ay! Yo no sé qué siento, ni sé qué me pasa cuando éste mardito gitano me farta. Candela que ardes, más arde el infierno que toita mi sangre abrasa de celos!

Ay! Cuando el rio suena qué querrá decir? Ay! Por querer a otra se orví de mí! Ay! Cuando el fuego abrasa, Cuando el rio suena,
si el agua no mata el fuego
A mi el penar me condena!
A mi el querer me envenena!
A mí me matan las penas! Ay!

Text by Gregorio Martínez Sierra

Canción del fuego fatuo

Lo mismo que er fuego fátuo,
Lo mismo es er queré.
Le juyes y te persigue
Le yamas y echa a corré.
Lo mismo que er fuego fátuo,
Lo mismo es er queré.

Malhayá los ojos negros
que le alcanzaron a ver!
Malhayá er corazón triste
que en su llama quiso arder!
Lo mismo que er fuego fátuo,
se desvanece er queré.

Text by Gregorio Martínez Sierra

Danza del juego del amor

Tú eres aquel mal gitano
que una gitana quería;
el queré que ella te daba,
tú no te lo mercías!

Quién lo había decí
que con otra la vendías!

Soy la voz de tu destino!
Soy er fuego en que te abrasas!
Soy er viento en que suspiras!
Soy el mar en que naufragas!

Text by Gregorio Martínez Sierra

if water doesn’t kill fire
I am condemned by sorrow!
Loving him is poisoning me!
Sorrow is killing me! Ah!

Translated to English by Sara Arias Ruiz

Song of the Saint-Elmo’s Fire

Love is the same thing, the exact same thing as Saint-Elmo’s fire.
You try to run away from it and it follows you, if you call it runs away.
Love is the same thing, the exact same thing as Saint-Elmo’s fire.

Shame to the black eyes
that discovered this love!
Shame to the sad heart
that in its flame wanted to burn!
The same as Saint-Elmo’s fire,
love fades away.

Translated to English by Sara Arias Ruiz

Dance of love’s game

You are that ad gypsy
that a gypsy girl used to love;
the love she was giving to you,
you did not deserve it!

Who could guess?
That you were unfaithful!

I am the voice of your destiny!
I am the fire in which you are burning!
I am the air in which you sigh!
I am the sea in which you are lost!

Translated to English by Sara Arias Ruiz
Las campanas del amanecer

Ya está despuntando el día!
Cantad, campanas, cantad!
Que vuelve la gloria mia!

Text by Gregorio Martínez Sierra

The Sunrise's bells

The day is already beginning!
Sing, bells, sing!
That my glory returns!

Translated to English by Sara Arias Ruiz

FRANZ SCHUBERT

Ständchen

Leise flehen meine Lieder
Durch die Nacht zu dir;
In den stillen Hain hernieder,
Liebchen, komm zu mir!

Flüsternd schlanke Wipfel rauschen
In des Mondes Licht;
Des Verrät ers feindlich Lauschen
Fürchte, Holde, nicht.

Hörst die Nachtigallen schlagen?
Ach! sie flehen dich,
Mit der Töne süßen Klagen
Flehen sie für mich.

Sie verstehn des Busens Sehnen,
Kennen Liebesschmerz,
Rühren mit den Silbertönen
Jedes weiche Herz.

Laß auch dir die Brust bewegen,
Liebchen, höre mich!
Bebend harr' ich dir entgegen!
Komm, beglücke mich!

Text by Ludwig Rellstab

Serenade

My songs beckon softly
through the night to you;
below in the quiet grove,
come to me beloved!

The rustle of slender leaf tips whispers
in the moonlight;
do not fear the evil spying
of the betrayer, my dear.

Do you hear the nightingales call?
Ah! They beckon to you,
with the sweet sound of their singing
they beckon to you for me.

They understand the heart’s longing,
know the pain of love,
they calm each tender heart
with their silver tones.

Let them also stir within your breast,
beloved, hear me!
Trembling I wait for you,
come, please me!

Translated to English by Michel P. Rosewall
Gretchen am Spinnrade

Meine Ruh' ist hin, 
Mein Herz ist schwer, 
Ich finde sie nimmer 
Und nimmermehr.

Wo ich ihn nicht hab 
Ist mir das Grab, 
Ist mir vergällt.

Mein armer Kopf 
Ist mir verrückt, 
Mein armer Sinn 
Ist mir zerstückt.

Nach ihm nur schau ich 
Zum Fenster hinaus, 
Nach ihm nur geh ich 
Aus dem Haus.

Sein hoher Gang, 
Sein' edle Gestalt, 
Seine Mundes Lächeln, 
Seiner Augen Gewalt,

Und seiner Rede 
Zauberfluß, 
Sein Händedruck, 
Und ach, sein Kuß!

Mein Busen drängt sich 
Nach ihm hin. 
Ach dürft ich fassen 
Und halten ihn,

Und küssen ihn, 
So wie ich wollt, 
An seinen Küssen 
Vergehen sollt!

Text by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Gretchen at the Spinning Wheel

My peace is gone, 
my heart is heavy, 
I will find it never 
and never more.

Where I do not have him, 
that is the grave, 
the whole world 
is bitter to me.

My poor head 
is crazy to me, 
my poor mind 
is torn apart.

For him only, I look 
out of the window, 
only for him do I go 
out of the house.

His tall walk, 
his noble figure, 
his mouth’s smile, 
his eye’s power,

and his mouth’s 
magic flow, 
his handclasp, 
and ah! His kiss!

My bosom urges itself 
towards him. 
Ah, might I grasp 
and hold him,

and kiss him, 
as I would wish, 
at his kisses 
I should die!

Translated to English by Lynn Thompson
Du bist die Ruh
You are peace

Du bist die Ruh,
You are peace,
Der Friede mild,
the mild peace,
Die Sehnsucht du
you are longing
Und was sie stillt.
and what stills it.

Ich weihe dir
I consecrate to you,
Voll Lust und Schmerz
full of pleasure and pain,
Zur Wohnung hier
as a dwelling here
Mein Aug und Herz.
my eyes and heart.

Kehr ein bei mir,
Come live with me,
Und schließe du
and close
Still hinter dir
quietly behind you
Die Pforten zu.
the gates.

Treib andern Schmerz
Drive other pain
Aus dieser Brust!
out of this breast!
Voll sei dies Herz
May my heart be full
Von deiner Lust.
with your pleasure.

Dies Augenzelt
The tabernacle of my eyes
Von deinem Glanz
by your radiance
Allein erhellt,
alone is illumined,
O füll es ganz!
o fill it completely!

Text by Friedrich Rükert
Translated to English by Lynn Thompson

GIOACCINO ROSSINI

From Il Barbiere di Siviglia

Una voce poco fa
A Voice a Little While Ago

Una voce poco fa
A voice a little while ago,
qui nel cor mi risuonò;
echoed here in my heart;
il mio cor ferito è già,
my heart is wounded now,
e Lindor fu che il piagò.
Lindoro was who covered it with
Si, Lindoro mio sarà;
y wounds. Yes, Lindoro will be mine;
Io giurai, la vincerò.
I’ve sworn, I shall win.
Il tutor ricuserà,
My guardian will object,
Io l’ingegno aguzzerò.
I, quick-witted, will be sharp.
Alla fin s'accheterà
e contenta io resterò.
Si, Lindoro mio sarà;
lo giurai, la vincérò.
Io sono docile, son rispettosa,
sono obbediente, dolce, amorosa;
mi lascio reggere, mi fo guidar.
Ma se mi toccano
dov'e il mio debole
sarà una vipera
e cento trappole prima di
cedere farò giocar.

Text by Cesare Sterbini

La Regata Veneziana

Anzoleta avanti la regata

Là su la machina xe la bandiera,
varda, la vedistu, vala a ciapar.
Co que la tornime in qua sta sera,
o pur a sconderte ti pol andar.

In pope, Momolo, no te incantar.
Va voga d'anema la gondoleta,
né el primo premio te pol mancar.

Va là, recordite la to Anzoleta
che da sto pergolo te sta a vardar.
In pope, Momolo, no te incantar.
In pope, Momolo, cori a svolar.

Text by Anonymous

Anzoleta co passa la regata

I xe qua, i xe qua, vardeli, vardeli,
povereti i gehe da drento,
ah contrario tira el vento,
i gha l'acqua in so favor.

In the end he will acquiesce
and I will be content.
Yes, Lindoro will be mine;
I've sworn, I shall win.
I am submissive, I am respectful,
I am obedient, sweet, affectionate;
I allow myself to be governed.
But if they touch me
where my sensitive spot is,
I will be a viper
and I will cause a hundred tricks
to be played before giving in.

Translated to English by Martha Gerhart

The Venetian regatta

Anzoleta Before the Race

Over there by the machine is the flag,
you can see it, now go and get it.
Bring it back to me this evening,
or run away and hide.

Once in the boat, Momolo, don't hesitate
Row the gondola with heart and soul,
and then you cannot help being first.

Go on; think of your Anoleta watching
from the harbor. Once in the boat,
Momolo don't hesitate. Once in the boat,
Momolo go with the wind.

Translated to English by Tonio Balsemin

Anzoleta During the Race

They're coming, they're coming, look at
them, look at them, the poor things,
they're nearly all in; the wind is against
them, but the tide is running their way.
El mio Momolo dov’elo?
Ah lo vedo, el xe secondo.
Ah! che smania! me confondo,
a tremar me sento el cor.

Su, coraggio, voga, voga,
prima d’esser al paletto
se ti voghi, gehe scometo,
tutti indrio lassarà.

Caro, par che el svolà,
el li magna tuti quanti
meza barca l’è andà avanti,
ah capisso, el m’a vardà.

Text by Anonymous

Anzoleta dopo la regata

Ciapa un baso, un altro ancora,
caro Momolo, de cuor;
quà destrachite che xe ora
de sugarte sto sudor.

Ah t’o visto co passando
su mi l’ocio ti a butà
e go dito respirando:
un bel premio el ciapàr,
sì, un bel premio in sta bandiera,
che xe rossa de color;
gha parlà Venezia intiera,
la t’a dito vincitor.

Ciapa un baso, benedeto,
a vogar nissun te pol,
de casada de tragheto
ti xe el megio barcarol.

Text by Francesco Maria Piave

My Momolo, where is he?
Ah, I see him, in second place.
Ah! What a rage! I’m confused,
ah, I feel my heart trembling.

Come on, keep it up, row, row,
you will be first to the finish line,
if you keep on rowing,
I bet you will leave all others behind.

Dear boy, seems like you’re flying,
he is beating all the others,
he is half a length ahead,
ah now I understand, he’s seen me.

Translated to English by Tonio Balsemin
Sara Arias Ruiz’s Recital
From the studio of Robert Dundas
Georgi Danchev, Piano

1. “Gia Sole dal Gange”
   “O cessate di piagarmi”
   “Spesso vibra per suo gioco”
   ALESSANDRO SCARLATTI

2. Must the winter come so soon (from: Vanessa)
   SAMUEL BARBER

3. “It’s true I went to the Market”, “Don’t Go”
   (from: Mirabal Songs)
   JOHN HARBISON

4. Four songs from:
   “El Amor Brujo”
   MANUEL DE FALLA

5. “Staendchen”
   “Gretchen am Spinnenrade”
   “Du bist die Ruh”
   FRANZ SCHUBERT

6. “Una voce poco fa”
   (from: II Barbiere di Siviglia)
   GIOACHINO ROSSINI

7. La Regata Veneziana
   GIOACHINO ROSSINI

FIU School of Music
Fredrick Kaufman, Director