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### Junior Recital:Mary E. di Leo, Soprano

Mary E. Di Leo Soprano  
*Illinois State University*

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Illinois State University

School of Music

Junior Recital

Mary E. di Leo, Soprano

Anika Johnson, Piano

from *Così fan tutte* (1790) Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
Una donna a quindici anni (1756-1791)

from *Camelot* (1960) Frederick Loewe  
Before I Gaze At You Again (1904-1988)

from *Brigadoon* (1947) Frederick Loewe  
My Mother's Weddin' Day

from *Gigi* (1958) Frederick Loewe  
The Earth and Other Minor Things

From *Showboat* (1927) Jerome Kern  
Life Upon the Wicked Stage (1885-1945)

-Intermission-

from *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* (1881) Jacques Offenbach  
Belle Nuit (1819-1880)

from *The Scarlet Pimpernel* (1997) Frank Wildhorn  
You Are My Home (born 1959)

from *The Civil War* (1998) Frank Wildhorn  
I Never Knew His Name

from *Gentlemen Prefer Blonds* (1949) Jule Styne  
Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend (1905-1994)

from *The Barber of Seville* (1782) Gioacchino Rossini  
When Old Men Wish To Be Married (1792-1868)

Kemp Recital Hall  
Saturday Evening  
November 23, 2002

7:30 p.m.

## *Aria Translations and Notes*

Guglielmo and Ferrando have been persuaded to disguise themselves as foreign suitors to test their sweethearts' fidelity. The sweethearts, Dorabella and Fiordiligi, are tempted by the strangers, and cannot decide whether or not to flirt with them despite their vows to Guglielmo and Ferrando. Their guileful maid Despina sings them the following aria explaining that there is no harm in flirting and instructing them on how women should handle men.

### *"Una donna a quindici anni"*

A woman of 15 years

Must know all the good methods,

Where the devil keeps his tail,

What's good and what's bad.

She must know the little malices

That enamour lovers:

To feign laughter, to feign tears,

And invent good reasons.

She must pay attention to a hundred at a time

Speak through her eyes with a thousand

Give hope to all, be they handsome or ugly,

Know how to obfuscate without getting confused

And know how to lie without blushing.

And this queen from her high throne

Can make them obey with, "I can," and "I want."

(It seems they like this doctrine,

Long live Despina, who knows how to serve!)

["Serve" is meant with a double meaning:

Literally, Despina is a servant; plus, she is

dishing up some salty advice.]

Text by Lorenzo da Ponte

Translation by Naomi Gurt Lind

Hoffman's tales are filled with love affairs as he springs from one lady to the next. In act III, his latest love has just died of a weak heart, and Hoffman enters a Venetian palace on the Grand Canal where the courtesan Giulietta joins Hoffman's friend Nicklausse in a languid barcarole. They are interrupted by Hoffman, who sings disparagingly of the pleasures of the flesh. It is shortly after "*Belle Nuit*" that Giulietta seduces Hoffman and he falls passionately in love with her.

### *"Belle Nuit"*

Beautiful night, oh night of love,

Smile on our drunkenness!

Night sweeter than the day,

Oh night of love!

The time flies and sweeps away

Our tender feelings

Far from this happy place in time

The flying away of time!

Warm western wind,

Will you caress us?

West wind, embrace us,

Give us your kisses!

Pour your kisses upon us.

Ah!

Text by Jules Barbier

Translation by Marybeth di Leo