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Concert: Ithaca College Women's Chorale

Ithaca College Women's Chorale

Janet Galvan

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"It is my plan to build a school of music second to none."

—William Grant Egbert (1867–1928) Founder, Ithaca Conservatory of Music

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

ITHACA

ITHACA COLLEGE WOMEN'S CHORALE Janet Galván, conductor

Herbstlied

Felix Mendelssohn

Chinese Mountain Songs

Chen Yi

- 1. When Will the Scholartree Blossom?
- 2. A Ma Lei A Ho
- 3. Gathering in the Naked Oats
- 4. Mt. Wuzhi
- 5. Ga Da Mei Lin

Alleluia

Randall Thompson

from Place of the Blest

Angels are Everywhere

from Angels are Everywhere

Daniel Pinkham

Mirth

David H. Sargent

PAUSE

Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda

Gustav Holst

To the Dawn To the Waters To Vena The Travellers

> Ford Hall Thursday, February 6, 2003 8:15 p.m.

Translations and Program Notes

Herbstlied

Translation:

Ah, why so soon cease dancing? Why so soon does spring turn to winter? Ah, why so soon in sorrow is there silence where once there was merriment?

Soon the last sound will be dying, Soon the last singer will depart. They are drawn homeward. Soon the last green leaf will fall.

Were you a dream, sweet as the spring?

One thing will never change. It is my yearning that will never leave.

Chinese Mountain Songs

When Will the Scholartree Blossom?

This song is a Sichuan Folk song, from the Han. In this piece, the sopranos represent the voice of the girl, and the altos are the questioning mother.

Translation:

In the high mountain, there is a scholartree, The girl leaning against the fence is looking for her boyfriend. Her mother asks: "What are you looking into?"

I look forward to the blossom of the scholartree."

1. A Ma Lei A Ho

Tibetan Folk song, from the Zang

In this musical setting only nonsense syllables are sung. The translation of the traditional folk song words are:

There are many stars in the sky, Only the Plough is the brightest. There are many friends and relatives, Only the parents are the dearest.

2. Gathering in the Naked Oats

Shanxi Folk Song, from the Han

The description of this piece is that the man (represented by sopranos) is gathering oats on top of the hill. His girlfriend (represented by altos) is digging in a ditch below the mountain. They are calling to one another. "Si lou" is the sound of cutting the naked oats with a sickle. "Ge beng" is the sound of digging the taro with a shovel.

3. Mt. Wuzhi

Hainan Island Folk Song, from the Li Hainan is the name of a provir in the south where Mt. Wuzhi is located. In this musical setting or nonsense syllables are sung.

4. Ga Da Mei Lin

Inner Mongolian Folk Song, from the Mongolian/Meng. This is a song about a hero who fought against the feudal authorities.

Translation:

The wild geese from the Yangtze River are flying in the sky. Ga Da meil Lin fought against the feudal authorities for his people and their land.

Mirth

firth was commissioned by the Utah ACDA Treble Festival held March 24, 2001 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Janet Galván was the conductor of this premiere performance. Its joyous text by Christopher Smart has a sacred character. Some of the compositional concepts employed in *Mirth* include changing meters, mixtures of church modes, carefully placed polychords, and a challenging piano accompaniment which creates the impression of dancing.

David Sargent has been a faculty composer at Brigham Young University since 1976. He was the Composer-in-Residence at BYU from 1995 to 1998 and is currently the recipient of the Harold R. Laycock University Professorship of Music Composition.

Hymns to the Rig Veda

Gustav Holst was born in Cheltenham in 1874. Holst became a professional trombonist after leaving school. In 1903 he entered the teaching profession which he was involved in until his death. The ajor part of Holst's composition is related to vocal music. Even his most famous work, *The Planets*, includes an amazing conclusion with a wordless chorus of outstanding aural imagination. When setting words, Holst took great pains to find the most subtle rhythms to express the text. In 1906, Gustav Holst entered what is called the "Sanskrit" period. During the years from 1906 until around 1911, he was attracted to the Hindu epics and particularly the hymns of the Rig-Veda. He learned Sanskrit and prepared his own translations for these pieces. The settings demonstrate an elasticity of English prose accent and include irregular and asymmetrical meters

The Hindu Vedas are the oldest body of sacred texts in the world. They are divided into four groups of which the Rig Veda is one, consisting for the most part of simple hymns, ritual chants and invocations to fire, water, the sun and other aspects of the deity of the Hindu religion. There are four groups of Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda set by Holst he first group consists of Three Hymns for chorus and orchestra; the econd group of Three Hymns for female voices with orchestra or piano with violins. The third group, performed tonight, includes Four Hymns for female voices with harp. Group Four includes Four Hymns for male voices with accompaniment for piano or string orchestra with brass.

ITHACA COLLEGE WOMEN'S CHORALE

Janet Galván, conductor Anna Sagdeeva, graduate assistant Barbara Dechario, harp Rebecca Francis, Kristin Zaryski, Lisa Zuccaro, piano

Soprano I

Donata Cucinotta Whitney Guy Pamela Palmer Julianne Woods

Soprano I-II

Lauren Ash-Morgan Sara Barasch Christina Chirumbolo Denise Crawfort Tiffany Desmond Erika Eddy Carrie Erving Amberly Foulkrod Alison LaGarry Alexandra Loutsion Donna Mathis Sophia Miller April Rejman Amy Robbins Christine Rolin Lani Toyama Sarah Tree Catherine Webber Megan Young

Soprano II

Krista Donough Megan Hofmann Amy Pratt Kiera Smialek Jessica Stadt Barbara Vultaggio

*German coach

Soprano II-Alto I

Kimberly Duchinos Melanie Fishman Meghan Galloway Andrea Hayden Shannon Tobia

Alto I

Shana Alewine*
Christine Dunn
Mary Edwards-Ransom
Rebecca Francis
Allison Holst-Grubbe
Teri Kowiak
Elaine Loggi
Kelly McCarthy
Shana McCarty
Erin Schubmehl
Amanda Zawadzki

Alto I-II

Kimberly Buczek Matylda Bylinska Rebecca Kutz Lindsay Rondeau Kristin Zaryski Lisa Zuccaro

Alto II

Laura Betinis
Alison Blanchard
Laurel Carnes
Allison Dromgold
Jessica Gadani
Natasha Hinds
Kristine Jones
Caitlin Mathes
Julia Pfeiffer