

Thursday Musical Community Concert

Sunday, November 20, 2016 2:00 PM

Hastings Arts Center and Blessings Academy of Arts and Music
216 4th Street East
Hastings, Minnesota

Rondo in A Minor, K. 511 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Klavierstück (Impromptu) No. 1, D. 946 Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Czech Dances, Set 2 Bedřich Smetana (1824-1884)

No. 8 - Obkročák (Step Dance)

No. 7 - Hulán ("The Lancer")

No. 2 - Slepíčka ("Little Hen")

Max Radloff, piano

Four Songs Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Mai

Au bord de l'eau

Automne

Toujours

Two Arias from *La Perichole* Jacques Offenbach (1819-1880)

Couplets des Aveux

La Lettre de la Perichole

Three Songs Irving Berlin (1888-1989)

All Alone

It's a Lovely Day Tomorrow

Always

Mary Kirchner, mezzo-soprano

Jim Reilly, piano

Program Notes and Artist Information on back

Thursday Musical is one of the oldest performing arts organizations in the Twin Cities. Founded in 1892, its mission is to celebrate our area's wealth of artistic musical talent by featuring local classical musicians in concert. Thursday Musical presents three concert series: the Thursday Morning Artist Series, the Home Concert Series and the Community Concert Series. The Thursday Morning Artist Series presents concerts twice a month in beautiful Antonello Hall at MacPhail Center for Music. The Home Concert Series presents intimate concerts in the homes of Thursday Musical members. In the Community Concert Series, we have partnered with local churches, community centers and retirement communities to bring our artists all across the metropolitan area. To learn more about Thursday Musical programs, please visit our webpage: thursdaymusical.org, or call **612-333-0313**.

**This program serves as a complimentary ticket to any Thursday Morning Artist Series Concert.
We welcome you to join us!**

Program Notes

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart composed the Rondo in A Minor in March of 1787. It is one of his finest works, containing a variety of moods, yet achieving unity by having all the themes share rhythmic and melodic motives. Among **Franz Schubert's** most popular pieces are two sets of impromptus from 1827, each containing four pieces. In 1828, he wrote three more pieces in the same style, apparently intending to add one more to make a third set. This last piece was not written before he died and the three were published in 1868 with the title, *Drei Klavierstücke* (3 Piano Pieces) under the supervision of Johannes Brahms. Like Beethoven, **Bedřich Smetana** suffered deafness, spending the last decade of his life without hearing. This caused him great distress, but because he could no longer conduct and concertize he was able to concentrate on composition and much of his best music dates from this time. Among these are two sets of Czech Dances for the piano. Some, like Nos. 2 and 7, quote Czech folk songs, while others like No. 8 are original melodies in the style and character of traditional dances.

Artist Information

Max Radloff majored in piano performance at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, where he studied with Robert Below and has a MFA and DMA in piano performance from the University of Minnesota where he was a student of Paul Freed. He teaches piano at his home studio and at Minnesota Valley Conservatory of Music in Burnsville. At various times he has taught at Concordia University and St. Catherine University in St. Paul and at Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota. He is active as recitalist, lecture-recitalist, chamber musician, and adjudicator. He performs with the Nokomis Piano Quartet and is organist at Bethel Lutheran Church in St. Paul and is former program annotator for the Minneapolis Chamber Symphony.

Mary Kirchner mezzo-soprano, last sang in Hastings for the Hastings Prescott Arts Council in 2014. She has been a performing member of Thursday Musical for thirty-five years. Her wide range of repertoire includes both the classical and pop/Broadway genres.

Jim Reilly is a Thursday Musical artist as both a pianist and a tenor, and he is also a composer. Recently finished works are *Three Walking Songs* for tenor and piano (text by the composer), *ecclesiastes fantasy* for tenor and piano, and *Six Small Pieces for Piano*, all of which will receive their first performance in March with the composer singing and Beatrice Giere, pianist.

Song Translations

Mai (Victor Hugo)

As in May, all in flowers, calls us to the meadows,
Come, do not cease to bring close to your heart
The countryside, the woods, the charming shades,
The vast reflection of the moon over the shores of sleepy
rivers,
The path that ends where the road begins,
And the air, the Spring and the immense horizon
The horizon, modest and cheerful, which the world places
As a lip at the bottom of the gown of the skies.
Come and let the gaze of the chaste stars,
Falling on earth through so many veils,
The tree imbued with perfumes and songs,
The warm wind of the South in the fields,
And the shadow, and the Sun, and the tide and the greenery,
Let them brighten, like a twofold flower,
The beauty of your face and the love in your heart!

Au bord de l'eau (Sully Prudhomme)

To sit together on the bank of the stream that passes,
To see it pass;
Together, when a cloud floats in space,
To see it float;
When a cottage chimney is smoking on the horizon,
To see it smoke;
If a nearby flower spreads its fragrance,
To absorb the scent;
To hear at the foot of the willow, where water murmurs,
The water murmurs;
Not to notice, while this dream lasts,
The passage of time,
But to feel deep passion
Only to adore each other;
Not to care at all about the world's quarrels,
To ignore them;
And alone together, facing all that grows weary,
Not to grow weary;
To be in love while all passes away,
Never to change!

Automne (Armand Silvestre)

Autumn of misty skies, of heart-rending horizons,
Of hazy sunsets, of pale dawns,
I see flowing like the waters of a torrent,
Your days filled with melancholy,
My thoughts, carried away on wings of regret,
As if our lifetime would be reborn,
Roam dreaming through the enchanted hills
Where, in days gone by, my youth delighted!
I feel in the bright sunlight of triumphant recollections,
The scattered roses blooming again in a bouquet,
And I feel tears rising to my eyes; which in my heart
My twenty years had forgotten!

Toujours (Charles Grandmougin)

You ask me to be silent,
To flee from you forever,
And depart in solitude
Without remembering the one I loved!
Rather ask the stars to fall into the infinite,
The night to lose its veils,
The day to lose its brightness!
Ask the boundless ocean
To drain its vast waves,
And when the winds rage in madness,
To still their mournful cries!
But do not believe that my soul
Will free itself from its bitter sorrows,
And cast off its fire
As spring casts off its flowers.

“Couplets des aveux” (Jacques Offenbach)

You aren't handsome, you aren't rich, you aren't bright at all.
Your movements are clumsy like those of a clown whom
people laugh at. As for talent, that's another matter;
You have almost none of what it takes to please – and yet –
I adore you, you rogue;
I'm ashamed to confess it – I adore you and can't live
Without adoring you.

I'm no enemy of good food and there were real meals at the
viceroy's, While with you, you poor beggar, I was dying of
hunger. I was happy in his court; I was able to take all I
wanted. I had velvet, silk, gold jewels – and yet – I adore you.
(etc.)

“La Lettre de la Perichole” (Jacques Offenbach)

O my beloved, I swear to you that I love you with all my
heart, but to be honest, our poverty is too harsh and we've
been too unlucky. You ought to understand on your own that
we cannot go on this way and that it's better – oh, how I love
you! – for us to separate. Do you think it's possible to be
passionate when there is no bread? How ardent do you expect
love-making to be when you're dying of hunger? I am frail
because I am a woman, and some day I would have uttered my
last gasp, darling, thinking it was a sigh of love! These words
are cruel, I know, but what do you want? In all essentials you
can rely on my virtue. I adore you; If I am crazy, it's for you,
you can be sure! And I will sign myself: Perichole, who loves
you but cannot take it anymore!