

# music at convocation hall

Stéphane Lemelin, piano

Friday, November 21, 1997

7:15 pm *Pre-Concert Introduction*  
by Michael Roeder

Arts 141

8:00 pm *Concert*

Convocation Hall, Arts Building  
University of Alberta

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## Program

Six Short Piano Pieces, Op. 19 (1913)

Arnold Schoenberg  
(1874-1951)

- I. Leicht, zart
- II. Langsam
- III. Sehr langsame Viertel
- IV. Rasch, aber leicht
- V. Etwas rasch
- VI. Sehr langsam

Davidsbündlertänze, Op. 6 (1834-36)

Robert Schumann  
(1810-1856)

First book:

1. Lebhaft
2. Innig
3. Mit Humor
4. Ungeduldig
5. Einfach
6. Sehr rasch
7. Nicht schnell
8. Frisch
9. Lebhaft

Second book:

1. Balladenmässig. Sehr rasch
2. Einfach
3. Mit Humor
4. Wild und lustig
5. Zart und singend
6. Frisch
7. Mit gutem Humor
8. Wie aus der Ferne
9. Nicht schnell

Intermission

Je repondrais..... (1997)  
(World Première)

42:32

à Purcell: Fantazia upon One Note

à Schumann: Thumb-Piano 48:44

à Chopin: White Note Study in African mode 54:58

End of Je repondrais: 61:50

Gaspard de la Nuit (1908)

Ondine

Le Gibet

Scarbo

Malcolm Forsyth  
(b. 1936)

Maurice Ravel  
(1875-1937)

## Program Notes

### Gaspard de la Nuit

Three poems by Aloysius Bertrand

### Undine

... *I thought I heard a vague harmony enchanting my slumber and, near me, spreading a murmur like the interrupted songs of a sad, tender voice.*

C. BRUGNOT. -The Two Genii

"Listen! Listen! It is Undine brushing with these drops of water the resonant diamond-panes of your window illuminated by the dull moonbeams; and here, in a dress of moire, is the lady of the castle on her balcony gazing at the beautiful starry night and the beautiful slumbering lake.

"Each wave is a water sprite swimming in the current, each current is a path winding toward my palace, and my palace is of fluid construction, at the bottom of the lake, within the triangle formed by fire, earth and air.

"Listen! Listen! My father is beating the croaking water with a branch of green alder, and my sisters are caressing the cool islands of grasses, water lilies and gladioli with their arms of foam, or are laughing at the tottering, bearded willow that is angling."

After murmuring her song, she besought me to accept her ring on my finger, to be the husband of an undine, and to visit her palace with her, to be the king of the lakes.

And when I replied that I was in love with a mortal woman, she was sulky and vexed; she wept a few tears, burst out laughing and vanished in showers that formed white trickles down my blue windowpanes.

### The Gibbet

*What do I see moving around that gibbet*

FAUST.

Ah! Could what I hear be the cold night wind yelping, or the hanged man uttering a sigh on the gallows fork?

Could it be some cricket singing from its hiding place in the moss and sterile ivy with which the forest covers its floor out of pity?

Could it be some fly hunting for prey and blowing its horn all around those ears deaf to the fanfare of the mort?



Tonight's performance by Stéphane Lemelin will be shared with the rest of Canada and Alberta during future broadcast on **Radio Two in Performance, Take Five** and **Our Music** all on CBC Radio Two.

Could it be some cockchafer plucking a bloody hair from his bald scalp in its uneven flight?

Or could it be some spider embroidering a half-ell of muslin as a tie for that strangled neck?

It is the bell ringing by the walls of a city below the horizon, and the carcass of a hanged man reddened by the setting sun.

### Scarbo

*He looked under the bed, in the fireplace, in the chest: nobody. He could not understand where he has entered or where he has escaped.*

HOFFMANN. -Nachtstuecke

Oh, how often I have heard and seen Scarbo when at midnight the moon shines in the sky like a silver shield on an azure banner semé of golden bees!

How often I have heard his laughter booming in the shadow of my alcove, and his nails grating on the silk of my bed curtains!

How often I have seen him come down from the ceiling, pirouette on one foot and roll around the room like the spindle that has fallen from a witch's distaff!

Did I at such times think he had vanished? Then the dwarf would grow bigger between the moon and me like the bell of a Gothic cathedral, a round golden bell shaking on his pointed cap!

But soon his body would become blue, diaphanous as the wax of a taper; his face would become pale as the wax of a candle end - and suddenly he would be extinguished.

Translations by Stanley Appelbaum  
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Pianist **Stéphane Lemelin** tours regularly in Canada and the United States and has given numerous performances in Europe. A frequent participant in summer festivals including the Lanaudière International Festival, Domaine Forget, Ottawa, and Vancouver Chamber Music Festivals, he has collaborated with artists such as Donna Brown, Boris Berman, Jacques Israelievitch, David Shifrin, Walter Trampler, and the St. Lawrence and Muir String Quartets. He has also appeared as soloist with most of Canada's major orchestras including the Montreal Symphony under Charles Dutoit. Stéphane Lemelin has made several compact disk recordings as a soloist and chamber musician. His debut CD, released by Scandinavian Records in 1992, contains works by Schumann and Schubert "recorded to exquisite effect" (The Washington Post). His recording of the complete Nocturnes of Gabriel Fauré for the CBC Musica Viva label has also received enthusiastic reviews. Two recordings (one of French and the other of American music for cello and piano) have resulted of his collaboration with cellist Tanya Prochazka. Mr Lemelin has also completed a recording of works for piano and orchestra by Saint-Saëns, Fauré and Roussel with the CBC Vancouver Orchestra under Mario Bernardi which will be released by CBC Records late in 1997. Mr Lemelin's concerts and recordings are frequently heard on CBC radio and have been broadcast on NPR affiliate stations. A pianist with a broad and eclectic repertoire that ranges from the Classical period to the twentieth century and from art song literature to the Romantic concerto, Mr Lemelin has received particular praise for his interpretations of Schubert, Schumann, Fauré and Ravel.

Stéphane Lemelin was born in Mont-Joli, Quebec, in 1960. After studying with Yvonne Hubert in Montreal, he worked with Karl-Ulrich Schnabel in New York, Leon Fleisher at the Peabody Conservatory, and Boris Berman and Claude Frank at Yale University where he earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree. Mr Lemelin is currently Associate Professor of Music at the University of Alberta. A laureate of the Casadesus International Competition in Cleveland, he is the recipient of several national and international awards, including grants from the Canada Council, the Alberta Foundation for the Arts and the Austrian Government.

## Upcoming Events:

**Saturday, November 22 at 8:00 pm**  
Convocation Hall, Arts Building  
Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

**Opera Scenes.** Alan Ord, director. *Operatic Duets.* Scenes from Operas by Donizetti, Gounod, Menotti, Mozart, and Verdi.

**Sunday, November 23 at 8:00 pm**  
Convocation Hall, Arts Building  
Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

**The University of Alberta Concert Choir Concert.** Joy Berg, director. Program will include Renaissance Madrigals, Psalm settings by Palestrina, Mozart, Stanford and Aguiar, and works by Lauridson, Vivaldi, Brooks, and Ray.

**Monday, November 24 at 12:00 pm**  
Convocation Hall, Arts Building  
Free admission

*Noon-Hour Organ Recital.* The recital presents a variety of organ repertoire played by students from the Department of Music.

**Friday, November 28 at 8:00 pm**  
Convocation Hall, Arts Building  
Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

**The University of Alberta Symphonic Wind Ensemble Concert.** Fordyce C Pier, director. Program will include works by Bennett, Copland, Hearschen, Persichetti, Sousa, and Ticheli.

**Sunday, November 30 at 3:00 pm**  
Convocation Hall, Arts Building  
Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

**The University of Alberta Concert Band Concert.** William H Street, director. Program will include works by Giovannini, Hanson, Jenkins, Milhaud, Persichetti, Bright, Erikson, and Gershwin.

**Sunday, November 30 at 8:00 pm**  
Convocation Hall, Arts Building  
Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

**The University of Alberta Symphony Orchestra Concert.** Malcolm Forsyth, conductor. Program includes works by Beethoven and Schubert. Commemorating the 200th anniversary of Schubert's birth.

**Monday, December 1 at 12:10 pm**  
Convocation Hall, Arts Building  
Free admission

**Music at Noon, Convocation Hall Student Recital Series** featuring students from the Department of Music.

**Mon., Dec. 1 at 5:00 & 6:45 pm**  
Convocation Hall  
Free admission

**Advent Services.** Lessons and Carols with the University of Alberta Mixed Chorus. Robert de Frece, director, and Marnie Giesbrecht, organist. For further information, call 492-7681.



**Please Note:** All concerts and events are subject to change without notice. Please call 492-0601 to confirm concerts (after office hours a recorded message will inform you of any changes to our schedule).



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