In Recital

Ardelle Ries, soprano

Candidate for the Master of Music degree in Voice

Saturday, April 12, 1997 at 8:00 pm

Convocation Hall, Arts Building



Department of Music University of Alberta

Program

Mein Herze schwimmt im Blut Kantate zum 11. Sonntag nach Trinitatis, BWV 199 (1714) Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Adrian Dyck, violin I Betsy Steed, violin II Jim Cockell, viola Anne Scott, cello Mike Malone, bass Roger Admiral, portative organ Alison Cassis, oboe William Kempster, conductor

Selections from Ten Blake Songs (1957)

The Piper The Shepherd The Lamb Infant Joy The Divine Image

Cruelty The Clod and the Pebble (recitation) Eternity The Angel (recitation) A Poison Tree

Intermission

Alison Cassis, oboe

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Pierrot Lunaire, Op. 21 (1912)

I Teil

- 1. Mondestrunken
- 2. Columbine
- 3. Der Dandy
- 4. Eine blasse Wäscherin
- 5. Valse de Chopin
- 6. Madonna
- 7. Der kranke Mond

II Teil

- 8. Die Nacht
- 9. Gebet an Pierrot
- 10. Raub
- 11. Rote Messe
- 12. Galgenlied
- 13. Enthauptung
- 14. Die Kreuze

III Teil

- 15. Heimweh
- 16. Gemeinheit
- 17. Parodie
- 18. Der Mondfleck
- 19. Serenade
- 20. Heimfahrt
- 21. O alter Duft

Roger Admiral, piano
Dorothy Speers, flute, piccolo
Don Ross, clarinet, bass-clarinet
Jim Cockell, violin, viola
Tanya Prochazka, cello
Malcolm Forsyth, conductor

This recital is presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Master of Music degree for Ms Ries.

Ms Ries is a recipient of the Beryl Barns Memorial Awards (Graduate) and the William Rea Scholarship.

You are cordially invited to a reception at 10740 - 84 Avenue, telephone: 439-4474, following the recital.

Arnold Schoenberg (1874-1951)

Translations

Mein Herze schwimmt im Blut

1. Recitative. My heart is bathed in blood. For now my sins' great brood Within God's holy vision A monster makes of me. And now my conscience feels the pain: For me my sins can nought But hell's own hangmen be. O hated night of sin! Thou, thou alone Hast brought me into such distress; And thou, thou wicked seed of Adam, Dost rob my soul of all its peace And shuts to it the heavn'ly gate! Ah! What unheard-of pain! My dried and wasted heart Will after this no comfort moisten. And I must hide myself before him

Before whom very angels must conceal their faces.

2. Aria

Silent sighing, quiet mourning, Ye may all my pains be telling, For my mouth is tightly closed. And ye humid springs of weeping Could a certain witness offer To my sinful heart's remorse.

My heart is now a well of tears, My eyes are heated sources. Ah God! Who will give thee then satisfaction?

3. Recitative

But God to me shall gracious be,
For I my head with ashes,
My countenance with tears am bathing,
My heart in grief and pain am beating
And filled with sadness say now:
God be this sinner gracious!
Ah yes! His heart shall break
And my own soul shall say:

4. Aria

Deeply bowed and filled with sorrow I lie, dearest God, 'for thee. I acknowledge all my guilt, But have patience still with me, Have thou patience still with me!

5. Recitative

Amidst these pains of grief
To me comes now this hopeful word:

6. Chorale

I, thy sore-troubled child, Cast ev'ry sin of mine, All ye which hide within me And me so fiercely frighten, Into thine own deep wounds now, Where I've e'er found salvation.

7. Recitative

I lay myself into these wounds now As though upon a very crag; They shall be now my resting place. Upon them will I firm in faith be soaring, In them content and happy singing:

8. Aria

How joyful is my heart, For God is reconciled And for my grief and pain No more shall me from bliss Nor from his heart exclude.

(Text translation: Z. Philip Ambrose)

Pierrot Lunaire

Part One

1. Mondestrunken - Moondrunk

The wine that through the eyes is drunk, at night the moon pours down in torrents, until a spring-flood overflows the silent far horizon. Desires, shuddering and sweet, are swimming through the flood unnumbered! The wine that through the eyes is drunk at night the moon pours down in torrents. The poet, whom devotion drives, grows tipsy on the sacred liquor, to heaven turning his enraptured gaze and reeling, sucks and slurps up the wine that through the eyes is drunk.

2. Columbine - Columbine

The moonlight's pallid blossoms, the white and wondrous roses, bloom in July's nights-oh, could I pluck but one! My heavy load to lighten, in darkling streams I search for the moonlight's pallid blossoms, the white and wondrous roses. Then stilled were all my yearning, could I, as in a fable, so tenderly—but scatter upon your brown tresses the moonlight's pallid blossoms!

3. Der Dandy - The Dandy

And with a fantastical light-beam
the moon sheds a light on the crystalline flask
on the ebony, highly sacred washstand
of the taciturn dandy from Bergamo.
In sonorous, bronzen basin
laughs brightly the fountain's metallical cry.
And with a fantastical light-beam
the moon sheds a light on the crystalline flask.
Pierrot with waxen complexion
stands musing and thinks: what makeup for today?
Rejecting the red and the orient green
he bedizens his face in a high noble style
with a fantastical moonbeam.

4. Eine blasse Wäscherin - A Pallid Laundrymaid

See a pallid laundrymaid
washing nightly faded linen;
naked, silver-whitish arms
stretching downward in the flood.
Through the clearing gentle breezes
lightly ruffle up the stream.
See a pallid laundrymaid
washing nightly faded linen.
And the tender maid of heaven,
by the branches softly fondled,
lays out on the darkling meadows
all her linen woven of the moonbeams—
see a pallid laundrymaid.

5. Valse de Chopin - Chopin Waltz

As a pallid drop of blood stains the lips of a consumptive, so there lurks within this music morbid soul-destructive charm. Wild accords of passion breaking desperation's icy dream as a pallid drop of blood stains the lips of a consumptive. Fierce, triumphant, sweet and yearning, melancholy sombre waltzing, you will never leave my senses, cling to each thought as I think it, as a pallid drop of blood!

6. Madonna

Rise, O Mother of all Sorrows, on the altar of my verses!
Blood pours forth from withered bosom where the cruel sword has pierced it.
And thine ever-bleeding wounds seem like eyes, red and open.
Rise, O Mother of all Sorrows on the altar of my verses!
In thy torn and wasted hands holding thy Son's holy body, thou revealst Him to all mankind-but the eyes of men are turned away,
O Mother of all Sorrows!

7. Der kranke Mond - The Sick Moon

O sombre deathly-stricken moon lying on heaven's dusky pillow your stare, so wide-eyed, feverish, charms me, like far-off melody. Of unappeasable pain of love you die, of yearning, choked to death. O sombre deathly-stricken moon lying on heaven's dusky pillow. The lover, with his heart aflame, who heedless goes to meet his love, rejoices in your play of light, your pallid, pain-begotten blood, O sombre deathly-stricken moon!

Part Two

8. Die Nacht - Night (Passacaglia)
Black gigantic butterflies
have blotted out the shining sun.
Like a sorcerer's sealed book,
the horizon sleeps in silence.
From the murky depths forgotten
vapours rise, to murder memory!
Black gigantic butterflies
have blotted out the shining sun.
And from heaven toward the earth,
sinking down on heavy pinions,
all unseen descend the monsters
to the hearts of men below here...
Black gigantic butterflies

9. Gebet an Pierrot - Prayer to Pierrot Pierrot! my laughter have I unlearned!
The dream of radiance dispersed, dispersed!
Black waves the banner upon the mast.
Pierrot! My laughter have I unlearned!
O now return to me, soul's veterinarian, Your Lunar Highness,

10. Raub - Theft

Pierrot!-my laughter!

Redly gleaming princely rubies, bleeding drops of ancient glory slumber in the dead men's coffins, buried in the vaults below us.

Nights, alone with his companions, Pierrot descends, to plunder redly gleaming princely rubies, bleeding drops of ancient glory.

Then suddenly they're rooted, scared to death, hair standing straight up: through the darkness, like eyes staring from the dead men's coffins—redly gleaming princely rubies.

11. Rote Messe - Red Mass

To gruesome grim communion, by blinding golden glitter, by flickering shine of candles, comes to the altar--Pierrot!
His hand, to God devoted tears wide the the priestly vestment,
At gruesome grim communion, by blinding golden glitter.
He makes the sign of the cross blessing the trembling, trembling people, with trickling crimson wafer: his heart in bloody fingers, at gruesome grim communion.

12. Galgenlied - Gallows Song

The haggard harlot whose neck is scrawny will be the last of his mistresses. And in his skull she'll stick like a needle, the haggard harlot whose neck is scrawny. Slim as a pine tree, she has a pigtail, gaily she'll bind it around his neck, the haggard harlot!

13. Enthauptung - Beheading

The moon, a shining Turkish sword upon a black and silken cushion, and spectral vast hangs like a threat in sorrow-darkened night!
Pierrot restlessly roams about and stares on high in deathly fear at the moon, a shining Turkish sword upon a black and silken cushion.
And shaking, quaking at the knees, oh, suddenly he faints, collapses, convinced that there comes whistling down upon his sinful guilty neck the moon, a shining Turkish sword.

14. Die Kreuze - The Crosses

Holy crosses are the verses whereon poets bleed in silence, blinded by a flock of vultures fluttering round in spectral swarms. In their bodies swords have feasted, glorying in their robes of scarlet! Holy crosses are the verses whereon poets bleed in silence. Dead, the head-matted tresses-far and faint the noisy people. Slowly sinks the sun in splendour, like a crimson kingly crown. Holy crosses are the verses.

Part Three

15. Heimweh - Nostalgia

Sweet lamenting, like a crystal sighing, rises from the old Italian comedy, sadly asking: why's Pierrot so wooden, in the sentimental modern manner? And it echoes through his heart's desert echoes mutedly through all his sensessweet lamenting, like a crystal sighing rising from the old Italian comedy. Then Pierrot forgets his tragic manner! Through the silver fiery glow of moonlight, through a flood of radiance swells his yearning, boldly soars on high to skies of homeland-sweet lamenting like a crystal sighing.

16. Gemeinheit - Mean Trick!

In the gleaming skull of Cassander, as he shrieks and cries blue murder, bores Pierrot with hypocritic kindness-and a cranium-borer. And then presses with his finger very genuine Turkish tobacco in the gleaming skull of Cassander, As he shrieks and cries blue murder! Then screwing a cherry pipestem firmly in the polished surface, at his ease he puffs away, puffs on his genuine Turkish tobacco in the gleaming skull of Cassander!

17. Parodie - Parody

Knitting needles, brightly twinkling, stuck in her graying hair, sits the Duenna mumbling, wearing her short red dress. She's waiting in the arbor, she loves Pierrot with anguish. Knitting needles, brightly twinkling, stuck in her graying hair. But sudden--hark--a whisper! a wind-puff titters softly: the moon, that cruel mocker, is mimicking with moonbeams knitting needles twinkling bright.

18. Der Mondfleck - The Moonfleck

With a snowy fleck of shining moonlight on the back side of his smart new frockcoat, so sets forth Pierrot one balmy evening, in pursuit of fortune and adventure. Sudden-something's wrong with his appearance, he looks round and round and then he finds it-there's a snowy fleck of shining moonlight on the back side of his smart new frockcoat. Hang it! thinks he: a speckle of plaster! Wipes and wipes, but he can't make it vanish! On he goes, his pleasure has been poisoned, rubs and rubs until it's almost morning at a snowy fleck of shining moonlight.

19. Serenade

With a bow grotesquely monstrous scrapes Pierrot on his viola. Like a stork on one leg standing sadly plucks a pizzicato. Sudden! here's Cassander, raging at the night-time virtuoso. With a bow grotesquely monstrous scrapes Pierrot on his viola. Then he throws aside the viola: with a delicate use of the left hand seizes Cassander by the collar-dreaming plays upon his bald head with a bow grotesquely monstrous.

20. Heimfahrt - Journey Homeward (Barcarolle)

A moonbeam is the rudder, waterlily serves as boat, and so Pierrot goes southward with friendly following wind.

The stream hums scales beneath him and rocks the fragile craft.

A moonbeam is the rudder, waterlily serves as boat.

To Bergamo, his homeland, at last Pierrot returns; soft glimmers rise to eastward, the green of the horizon.

A moonbeam is the rudder.

21. O alter Duft - O Ancient Scent

O ancient scent from fabled times, once more you captivate my senses!

A merry troupe of roguish pranks pervades the gentle air.

With cheerful longing I return to pleasure I too long neglected.

O ancient scent from fabled times, once more you captivate me.

All of my gloom I've set aside: and from my sun-encircled window I gladly view the lovely world, and dreams go forth to greet the distance...

O ancient scent from fabled times!

(Text translation: Andrew Porter)