An English Songfest with Visiting Artist Kevin McMillan, baritone with Brian Finley, piano

Tuesday, November 3, 1998 at 8:00 pm

Convocation Hall, Arts Building University of Alberta

Program



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Department of Music University of Alberta

Program

Let the dreadful engines, from Don Quixote (1694)

From *The First Set of Canzonettas* (1794) Fidelity From *The Second Set of Canzonettas* (1795) She never told her love The Sailor's Song

From *The Arnold Book of Old Songs* (1947) Drink to me only Since first I saw your face Ca' the yowes Oh! 'tis sweet to think Over the mountains arr. Roger Quilter (1877-1953)

Intermission

My own country, from *Three Belioc Songs* (1926) Away to Twiver (1926) The Night, from *Three Belloc Songs* (1926) Roister Doister, from *Peterisms* (1922)

The Water mill, from Four Poems of Fredegond Shove (1922) Tired, from Four Last Songs (1956) Orpheus with his Lute, from Three Songs from Shakespeare (1925)

From Eight Folk Song Arrangements (1976) Lord! I married me a wife She's like the swallow David of the white rock Bird scarer's song Peter Warlock (1894-1930)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

> Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Joseph Haydn

(1732-1809)

Kevin McMillan has become one of the most respected lyric baritones of his generation. Critics continue to praise his "elegant voice" and "singularly remarkable interpretive skills" in appearances with virtually every major North American orchestra. In the past ten years, Mr McMillan has performed with conductors such as Kurt Masur, Roger Norrington, Herbert Blomstedt, Sergiu Commissiona, Raphael Frühbeck de Burgos, Jesus Lopes-Cobos, Andrew Davis, Neeme Järvi, Robert Shaw, Pierre Boulez and Charles Dutoit. His stature in Europe continues to grow, with recent appearances in the major concert halls of Berlin, Paris, Hamburg, Bamberg and Prague.

After preliminary schooling at the Universities of Guelph and Western Ontario, he studied at the Britten-Pears School in England, and attained a Master's degree at the Juilliard School in New York. His primary focus has always been the oratorio and orchestral repertoire, and his vocal flexibility and scholarly musicianship afford him a broad range of styles and periods, from the title role in Monteverdi's *Orfeo* to Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde*. He has also been an active part of the creative process, with more and more modern works being written expressly for him, including the title role in Peter Maxwell Davies' new oratorio, *Job*. Despite partial paraplegia as a result of injuries sustained in an accident years ago, he also enjoys forays into the operatic repertoire. In semi-staged presentations, he has played the roles of 'Schaunard' in *La Boheme*, 'Papageno' in *Die Zauberflöte*, 'Dr Falke' in *Die Fledermaus*, and 'Masetto' in *Don Giovanni*.

Mr McMillan's first love has always been the solo recital. He has been described as an "outstanding Schubertian" whose "young voice of glowing freshness and beauty is at the service of an intelligent, lively and distinctive personality." He is one of the busiest recital singers in Canada, heard regularly on CBC/SRC broadcasts, and he is a regular guest at summer festivals such as the Minnesota Orchestra's Viennese Sommerfest, Ravinia, and Tanglewood.

He has recorded for London/Decca, Chandos, Deutsche Harmonia Mundi and Pro Arte. His Canadian releases for Marquis, Dorian and CBC Records have been nominated for four JUNO awards. His London/Decca recording of Nielsen's Symphony #3 with Herbert Blomstedt and the San Francisco Symphony was named Best Symphonic Recording of the Year by Gramophone Magazine, and his *Carmina burana* with the same forces was awarded a GRAMMY.

Upcoming events:

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

Tuesday, November 17 at 8:00 pm Convocation Hall, Arts Building Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

Friday, November 20 at 8:00 pm Convocation Hall, Arts Building Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

Sunday, November 22 at 3:00 pm Convocation Hall, Arts Building Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

Sunday, November 22 at 7:00 pm Fine Arts Building 1-29 General admission: \$8 at the door

Sunday, November 22 at 8:00 pm Robertson-Wesley United Church 10209-123 Street Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior

Monday, November 23 at 12:00 pm Convocation Hall, Arts Building Free admission

Monday, November 23 at 8:00 pm Convocation Hall, Arts Building Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student/senior

Friday, November 27 at 8:00 pm All Saints'Anglican Cathedral Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student/senior The University of Alberta Academy Strings and The University of Alberta Madrigal Singers Concert. Tanya Prochazka and Leonard Ratzlaff, conductors. Program will include the Mozart Divertimento in F Major, KV 138, Finzi Dies Natalis, and the Bach Magnificat.

The University of Alberta Symphonic Wind Ensemble Concert with Ross Sheppard Composite High School Band. Fordyce Pier, director. Program to be announced.

Opera Scenes. Alan Ord, director Program to be announced.

The University of Alberta Concert Band Concert. Frank Dunnigan, director. Program to be announced.

Piano workshop with Boris Berman Co-sponsored by the Alberta Registered Music Teachers Association.

The University of Alberta Concert Choir Concert. Debra Cairns, conductor. Program will feature Vaughan Williams *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* and works by Schein, Gorecki, Kodály, Robinovitch and others.

Noon-Hour Organ Recital. A broad variety of solo and chamber music for organ and organ plus other instruments. Performed by students from the Department of Music and guests.

Visiting Artist Recital featuring **pianist Boris Berman**. Program with include Beethoven *Eroica Variations, Op. 35* and Debussy *Preludes Book 1*, and Prokofiev *Sonata No. 7, Op. 33*. Co-sponsored by the Alberta Registered Music Teachers Association

The University of Alberta Madrigal Singers Christmas Concert. Leonard Ratzlaff, conductor. Program will feature music from their CD, scheduled for release in November. Choir, directed by Debra Cairns.



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).