

Wolf Trap Opera presents

Salon Series: Wild Women Don't Have the Blues

Ann Toomey, soprano Joseph Li, piano

Joe Connell, *drums*Max Murray, *bass*

Featuring members of the Wolf Trap Opera Studio:

Brittany Logan, soprano
Fran Daniel Laucerica, tenor
Hayden Smith, tenor
Samuel Kidd, baritone

Hills

Frank La Forge (1879 - 1953) Text by Arthur Guiterman (1871 - 1943)

I want my hills! Hills!
The trail that scorns the hollows
So let me hold my way by nothing halted
Until at close of day I stand exalted!
High on my hills to dream
Dear hills that know me.
And then how fair will seem the lands below me.
How pure at vesper time the far bells chiming God!
Give me hills to climb!
Hills! Hills!
And strength for climbing.



Four Songs, op. 51

Amy Marcy Cheney Beach (1867 -1944)

1. Ich sage nicht

Text by Eduard Wissman (1824 - 1899)

Ich sagte nicht: "ich liebe Dich," Doch eine Rose brach ich scheu, Und bot sie Dir Zur Busenzier Und sah Dir in die Augen treu.

Du sagtest nicht: "ich liebe Dich," Doch lächelnd gabst Du mir die Hand; Und einen Kuss Zum Überfluss Als selig machendes Unterpfand!

Wir sagten nicht: "Ich liebe Dich," Doch uns're Herzen riefen's laut, Als lenzumlauscht Und duftberauscht Wir still und träumend uns angeschaut.

2. Wir drei

Text by Hans Eschelbach (1868 - 1948)

Wo tiefversteckt im Grunde Der Bach vorüber rauscht, Hat uns in stiller Stunde Der junge Lenz belauscht. Er fragte was mir machten, Und nickte hold uns zu; Wir sahn uns an und lachten; Der Lenz und ich und du!

An seiner Seite gingen Wir durch die weite Welt, Das gab ein Blühn und Singen, In Wiese, Wald und Feld. Auf allen unsern Wegen Rief ich dir jauchzend zu: "Wir zieh dem Glück entgegen, Der Lenz und ich und du!"

Die höchste Höhe leuchtet, Es glänzt das tiefste Tal, Dein Auge, glückgefeuchtet, Ist wie der Sonne Strahl! Die Lerche hebt die Schwingen Und strebt dem Himmel zu, Und Liebeslieder singen: Der Lenz und ich und du!

1. I do not say

I do not say: "I love you,"
But I shyly broke a rose
And offered it to you
To your bosom.
And looked faithfully into your eyes.

You do not say: "I love you,"
But smiling you gave me your hand;
And a kiss
To the abundance
As a saving pledge!

We do not say: "I love you,"
But our hearts called it out loud,
With spring eavesdropping
And intoxicating fragrances
We looked at each other quietly and dreamily.

2. The three of us

Where hidden far down in the valley
The brook rushes past,
In a quiet hour
The emergent Spring eavesdropped on us.
She asked what we were up to,
And nodding lovingly to us;
We looked at each other and laughed;
Spring and I and you!

At her side we wandered Through the wide world. There was a blooming and a singing In meadow, forest and field. Upon all our pathways I called to you exultingly: "We are travelling toward happiness, Spring and I and you!"

The highest height is glowing,
The deepest valley is shining,
Your eyes, bedewed by happiness,
Are like the beams of the sun,
The lark lifts its wings
And strives toward Heaven,
And love songs we are singing,
Spring and I and you!



3. Juni

Text by Erich Jansen (1897 - 1968)

O Junitage im Sonnenschein Im flutenden, wolkenlosen! Buntblumige Wiesen und blühender Wein! Und in der Gärten landaus, landein Herzkirschen und Rosen!

Herzkirschen und Rosen, und blühend am Hang Resedaduftende Reben! Die Nächte so weich und die Tage so lang! So heiter die Stirnen, so hell der Gesang! So wonnig das Leben!

Die Geißblattlauben voll heimlichem Schall, Voll leisem, flüsterndem Kosen. Und jeder Lufthauch ein Düfteschwall, Und überall Segen, und überall Herzkirschen und Rosen!

4. Je demande à l'oiseau

Text by Armand Silvestre (1837 - 1901)

Je demande à l'oiseau qui passe Sur les arbres, sans s'y poser, Qu'il t'apporte, à travers l'espace, La caresse de mon baiser.

Je demande à la brise pleine De l'âme mourante des fleurs, De prendre un peu de ton haleine Pour en venir sécher mes pleurs.

Ah! Je demande au soleil de flamme, Qui boit la sève et fait les vins, Qu'il aspire toute mon âme, Et la verse à tes pieds divins!

3. June

Oh days of June in the sunshine, In the flowing, cloudless Colorful flowering meadows and blooming vineyards, And in the gardens all over the land Heart cherries and roses!

Heart cherries and roses, and blooming upon the hillside Flowering grapevines scented like mignonette! The nights are so gentle, the days so long, So happy the faces, so bright the singing! So blissful is life!

The leafy arbours are full of secret sounds, Full of quiet, whispering caresses, And every breath of air is a wave of scent, And everywhere there are blessings and everywhere, Heart cherries and roses!

4. I ask the passing bird

I ask the passing bird On the trees, without landing on them, May he bring you, through space, The caress of my kiss.

I ask the full breeze Of the dying soul of flowers, To take some of your breath To come dry my tears.

Ah! I ask of the flaming sun, Who drinks the sap and makes the wines, The he sucks up all my soul, And pour it at your divine feet.



"Ain't it a pretty night!" from Susannah

Music and text by Carlisle Floyd (b. 1926)

Ain't it a pretty night!
The sky's so dark and velvet-like
And it's all lit up with stars
It's like a great big mirror
Reflectin' fireflies over a pond
Look at all them stars, Little Bat
The longer y'look the more y'see
The sky seems so heavy with stars
That it might fall right down out of heaven
And cover us all up in one big blanket of velvet
All stitched with diamon's

Ain't it a pretty night Just think, all those stars can all peep down An' see way beyond where we can: They can see way beyond them mountains To Nashville and Asheville and Knoxville I wonder what it's like out there Out there beyond them mountains Where the folks talk nice an' the folks dress nice Like y'see in the mail order catalogs I aim to leave this valley some day An' find out for myself: To see all the tall buildin's and all the street lights An' to be one o'them folks myself I wonder if I'd get lonesome fer the valley though Fer the sound of crickets an' the smell of pine straw Fer soft little rabbits an' bloomin' things An' the mountains turnin' gold in the fall But I could always come back I get homesick fer the valley So I'll leave it someday an' see fer myself Someday I'll leave an' then I'll come back When I've seen what's beyond them mountains

Ain't it a pretty night
The sky's so heavy with stars tonight
That it could fall right down out of heaven
An' cover us up, and cover us up
In one big blanket of velvet and diamon's



"Ain't Misbehavin'" from Ain't Misbehavin'

Thomas "Fats" Waller (1904 - 1943) Text by Andy Razaf (1895 - 1973)

No one to talk with All by myself No one to walk with But I'm happy On the shelf Ain't misbehavin' I'm savin' my love for you

I know for certain
The one I love
I'm through with flirtin'
It's you that I'm thinkin' of
Ain't misbehavin'
I'm savin' my love for you

Like Jack Horner
In the corner
Don't go nowhere
What do I care?
Your kisses
Are worth waitin' for
Believe me

I don't stay out late No place to go I'm home about eight Just me and my radio Ain't misbehavin' I'm savin' my love for you



"Embraceable You" from Girl Crazy

George Gershwin (1898 - 1937) Text by Ira Gershwin (1896 - 1983)

I had to lock my door Somehow I couldn't warm up To one before

What was it that controlled me What kept my love life lean My intuition told me You'd come on the scene

Darling listen to the rhythm of my heartbeat And you'll get just what I mean

Embrace me, my sweet embraceable you Embrace me, you irreplaceable you Just one look at you my heart grew tipsy in me You and you alone bring out the gypsy in me

I love all the many charms about you Above all I want my arms about Don't be a naughty baby Come to mama, come to mama do My sweet embraceable you



"They Say It's Wonderful" from Annie Get Your Gun

Music and text by Irving Berlin (1888 - 1989)

Rumors fly and you can't tell where they start 'Specially when it concerns a person's heart. I've heard tales that could set my heart a glow Wish I knew if the things I hear are so.

They say that falling in love is wonderful It's wonderful, so they say.
And with a moon up above it's wonderful It's wonderful, so they tell me.

I can't recall who said it
I know I never read it
I only know they tell me that falling in love is grand
And the thing that's known as romance
Is wonderful, wonderful
In every way
So they say...

You'll leave your house some mornings
And without any warning
You're stopping people shouting that love is grand
And to hold a man in your arms
Is wonderful, wonderful
In every way
So they say...



Wild Women Don't Have the Blues

Music and text by Ida Cox (1896 - 1967)

I hear these women ravin' 'bout their monkey men
About their trifling husbands and their no-good friends
These poor women sit around all day and moan
Wondering why their wandering papas don't come home
But wild women don't worry, wild women don't have no blues

Now when you got a man, don't never be on the square 'Cause if you do, he'll have a woman everywhere I never was known to treat no one man right I keep 'em working hard both day and night 'Cause wild women don't worry, wild women don't have the blues

I've got a disposition and a way of my own
When my man starts kicking, I let him find another home
I get full of good liquor, walk the streets all night
Go home and put my man out if he don't act right
Wild women don't worry, wild women don't have the blues

You never get nothing by being an angel child You'd better change your ways and get real wild I'm gonna tell you something, I wouldn't tell you a lie Wild women are the only kind that really get by 'Cause wild women don't worry, wild women don't have the blues

One Step Ahead

Music and text by Eddie Snyder (1919 - 2011) and Charles Singleton (1913 - 1985)

I'm only one step ahead of heartbreak One step ahead of misery One step is all I have to take Backwards, to be the same old fool for you I used to be I'm only one step ahead of your arms One kiss away from your sweet lips I know I can't afford to stop for one moment Cos I'm just out of reach of your fingertips Your warm breath on my shoulder Keeps reminding me That it's too soon to forget you It's too late to be free, can't you see? I'm only one step ahead of your love I try and yet I can't take two Seems like I'll have to take that one step backwards Cos one step ahead is a step too far away from you. Cos one step ahead is a step too far away from you. Just one step ahead is a step too far away from you.



Trouble is a Man

Music and text by Alec Wilder (1907 - 1980)

A woman gets all the blame For everything that happens under the sun But when it comes to being bad A woman's not the only one

Trouble is a man A man who loves me no more, no more Trouble is a man A man I'll always adore

Nothing good to say about him Still, I hate a day without him Why should he have to be The one, my only?

Trouble is a man
A man who's handsome and tall, so tall
Trouble is a man
Who's for himself and that's all

After all we've done, he didn't mean it Now I understand--I should have seen it Trouble is a man Trouble is a man I love.



Sweet Love

Music and text by Anita Baker (b.1958), Louis A. Johnson (1955 - 2011), and Gary Bias

With all my heart, I love you baby Stay with me and you will see my arms will hold you, baby Never leave, 'cause I believe I'm in love

Sweet love, hear me callin' out your name I feel no shame, I'm in love Sweet love, don't you ever go away It'll always be this way

Your heart has called me closer to you I will be all that you need Just trust in what we're feeling Never leave, 'cause baby, I believe In this love

Sweet love, hear me callin' out your name I feel no shame, I'm in love Sweet love, don't you ever go away It'll always be this way

There's no stronger love in this world Oh, baby, no You're my man, I'm your girl I'll never go, wait and see, can't be wrong Don't you know this is where you belong?

How sweet this dream, how lovely, baby Stay right here, never fear I will be all that you need Never leave, 'cause baby, I believe In this love

Sweet love, hear me callin' out your name I feel no shame, I'm in love Sweet love, don't you ever go away It'll always be this way