

A Little Lunchtime Lieder

Song Studio

Joanna Norman **Soprano**

Grace Durham **Mezzo-soprano**

David Horton **Tenor**

Christopher Nairne **Baritone**

Timothy Dean **Piano**

Marija Struckova **Piano**



HUGO WOLF (1860-1903)

Italienisches Liederbuch

Text by Paul Heyse (1830-1914)

Translations by Eric Sams



Mondays *at* One

Monday 15 February 2016

Timothy Dean studied music at Reading University, and then piano and conducting at the Royal College of Music. He then became Chorus Master and Head of Music for Kent Opera where he worked for ten years, conducting a wide repertoire on tour in the UK and abroad, including a cycle of the Britten Church Parables performed at a number of UK festivals in the 1990s. In 1987 he was appointed the first Music Director of British Youth Opera. After that he was instrumental in developing the company into a vital part of the national infrastructure for training young singers and musicians to an advanced level, as well as conducting over twenty productions and many concerts for the company. He was also conductor of the London Bach Society in the late 1980s, and was Music Director of The Opera Company from 1990 to 1994. In 1990 he spent a year as Assistant Music Director and Chorus Master with the New D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, conducting on tour in the UK and USA, after which he made company debuts for English National Opera and Scottish Opera.

In 1994 he was appointed Head of Opera at the RSAMD (now RCS), in charge of new postgraduate courses in opera training for singers and répétiteurs. Since moving to Scotland, he has also worked with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Orchestra of Scottish Opera, English Chamber Orchestra, Paragon Ensemble and Haddo House Opera, as well as giving concerts with the Symphony Orchestras of both the Junior and Senior Conservatoire, conducting over forty new opera productions in Glasgow and Edinburgh. From 2000 to 2006 he was Artistic Director of British Youth Opera, of which he is now a Vice-President. He was Director of the RSNO Chorus from 2006 to 2014 and is Artistic Director of the RCS Song Studio. He has also been involved in collaborative projects with the Conservatoire in Rostov-on-Don in Russia, conducting performances of Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos* and Britten's *Phaedra* in 2009, and Prokofiev's *War and Peace* in 2010, which received a Royal Philharmonic Society Award nomination. In 2013 he conducted *The Cunning Little Vixen* for the Hong Kong Academy of the Performing Arts and in February 2014 he was Artist in Residence at the Nuremberg Hochschule. He continues to be active as coach, accompanist, adjudicator and conductor and is now a Fellow of the RCS.

Grace Durham is in her final year of training at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Opera School under the tutelage of Patricia Hay. She obtained her Artist Masters at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama under Susan Waters, and also holds a first-class honours degree in French and Italian from Clare College, Cambridge. She is the winner of numerous prizes and scholarships both in the UK and abroad, including Second Prize at the Maureen Lehane Vocal Awards 2015, the Audience Prize and Prix Banque Chaix at the Opéra Grand Avignon *Jeunes Espoirs* competition, and an Independent Opera Voice Scholarship 2015.

Grace's operatic roles include, most recently, Dorabella *Così fan tutte* (RCS), as well as Cherubino *Le nozze di Figaro* (RCS), Rosina *The Barber of Seville* (Bloomsbury Opera), Owl *The Cunning Little Vixen* (Garsington Opera), Moppet *Paul Bunyan* (British Youth Opera) and Orlofsky *Die Fledermaus* (Cambridge University Opera). She is also an accomplished concert singer and recitalist, particularly in the French 20th-century repertoire, and in September 2015 was awarded the Grand Prix de l'Académie for her performance of Ravel's *Shéhérazade* at the Académie Internationale de Musique Maurice Ravel in St-Jean-de-Luz, France. Together with pianist Juliane Gallant, she also devised and performed *Sous le ciel de Paris*, a French chanson evening celebrating Francis Poulenc, Jean Cocteau and Edith Piaf, at the St James Studio in London. She is a regular soloist with Merton College, Oxford, where performances have included Mahler's *Resurrection Symphony*, Bach's *B Minor Mass* and *St Matthew Passion*, and Duruflé's *Requiem*. Future projects include representing the RCS in the Bruce Millar Gulliver Prize, Bach *St John Passion* directed by John Butt, and recitals at the Opéra Grand Avignon and *Les Journées Ravel* festival. In the summer of 2016, Grace will re-join the Glyndebourne Chorus for a second season, performing in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, *Le nozze di Figaro* and *Béatrice et Bénédict*. She is very grateful to the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Trust for their continued support of her studies.

David Horton is a tenor in his first year of the Alexander Gibson Opera School at the RCS studying under Scott Johnson. He has performed many times as part of Song Studio here at the Conservatoire and also in venues such as the Royal Overseas League, Edinburgh Arts Club, Haddo House Arts Festival, Gosford and House Arts Society.

David will also be performing in the premiere of *Ūhte*, a new opera by Henry McPherson, in conjunction with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra that will be filmed and screened at the 10th anniversary of Plug, the RCS new music festival, in May 2016.

Scottish baritone **Christopher Nairne** is the ABRSM scholar at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Opera School (RCS); he is in his second year studying with Scott Johnson. Last year Christopher sang the role of 'Il Conte' in *Le Nozze di Figaro* and looks forward to singing the role of Owen Wingrave in May.

During his time studying at the RCS, roles in opera scenes include Nick Shadow (*The Rake's Progress*), Demetrius (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) Pelléas (*Pelléas et Mélisande*), Don Giovanni (*Don Giovanni*), Dr Malatesta (*Don Pasquale*) and Onegin (*Eugene Onegin*). Christopher was the winner of the Frank Spedding Lieder Prize and runner up in the Jean Highgate competition. He has participated in masterclasses with Malcolm Martineau OBE, Sir Thomas Allen, Roderik Williams and Paul Kiesgen.

Professionally he has sung the role of Schaunard in Opera Bohemia's production of *La Bohème* across 17 different venues in the United Kingdom. Also with Opera Bohemia he has sung the role of Normanno in *Lucia di Lammermoor* and Betto in *Gianni Schicchi*. Other roles he has performed are; Marcello *La Bohème* and Silvio *Pagliacci*. Chorus work includes Othello, *La Bohème* and *Götterdämmerung* for Opera North and Jenůfa, *Der Fliegende Holländer* and H.M.S Pinafore with Scottish Opera.

Christopher has extensive experience on the concert platform, appearing in art-song and oratorio across the country. A particular highlight was when he performed for the BBC SSO as part of their Post-Concert Coda recitals singing George Butterworth's 'A Shropshire Lad'. He was also the Baritone Soloist for the 2009 Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

Alongside this, Christopher often works with Scottish Opera's Education Department as a soloist and vocal coach. Projects include the Leverhulme Composers 2013/14, Alzheimers 2013/14, AerialO 2013/14 and Connect 2014. In the summer of 2014, he sang the title role in *Misper* (music by John Lunn), and last autumn the role Puffy MacPuffer in Scottish Opera's childrens' opera 'Puffy MacPuffer and the Crabbit Canals'.

Joanna Norman is currently studying at the Alexander Gibson Opera School at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland with Wilma MacDougall. She recently finished postgraduate study at the Royal Northern College of Music, studying with Louise Winter. She holds a Bachelor of Music Performance with First Class Honours and Bachelor of Arts from the University of Western Australia. While studying at the University of Western Australia, she was awarded the Dr. V. H Cooper Memorial Prize and the Edith Cowan Prize in Music for musical excellence and was the recipient of the Prichard-Panizza Music Travel Scholarship and UWA Music Travel Scholarship. Roles performed include Belinda in the University of Western Australia's productions of *Dido and Aeneas*, *Eurydice*, *Orphée ed Eurydice*, and Miss Wordsworth, *Albert Herring*, Susanna, *Le nozze di Figaro*, The Messenger in Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* in opera scenes. Roles with WA Opera include Edith in Ken Muirden's *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, and 1st Bridesmaid in *Le nozze di Figaro*. At RNCM, Joanna has performed the role of Tytania, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Euridice, *Orfeo ed Euridice*, Adina, *L'elisir d'amore* and has performed Susanna, *Le nozze di Figaro* and Armida, *Rinaldo*, Gilda, *Rigoletto* and Norina, *Don Pasquale* in the opera scenes series. Joanna was winner of the Vocal Championship at the North Perth Music Festival, a finalist in the Fremantle Open Operatic Aria Competition and a Semi-Finalist in the Australian Singing Competition. Joanna also recently performed with Buxton Festival Opera in July 2014 and

2015, covering Euridice in Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice*, Lucia, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, and performing Camille and Le Petite Chiffoniere in Charpentier's *Louise*. This summer, she performed the roles of the Cockerel, the Jay and Mrs Paskova British Youth Opera's production of *The Cunning Little Vixen*. In January 2016, Joanna performed Despina in *Così fan tutte* at the RCS. Joanna is very grateful for the support of the RCS Trust.

In 2012 **Maria Struckova** received her Master's degree, graduating from the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre. Maria is a laureate of various International piano competitions in Lithuania. She has participated in many international festivals, masterclasses and charity events as a soloist, accompanist and member of chamber ensembles. As a soloist, she received an award for International excellence which was presented by the President of Lithuania. Before beginning her studies at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Maria worked in the National Opera and Ballet Theatre as well as with Vilnius City Opera and The Baltic Chamber Opera Theatre. During the summer of 2015, Maria was a pianist répétiteur for British Youth Opera's production of *The Cunning Little Vixen*.

Forthcoming Musical Events

Hilary Rosin Coffee Concerts

Sunday 21 February / Stevenson Hall / 11.30am

BEETHOVEN **'Kakadu' Variations, Op.121a**
Kanakano Ito *Violin*
Martin Storey *Cello*
Aaron Shorr *Piano*

BEETHOVEN **Schottische Lieder**
Hazel McBain *Soprano*
Kanakano Ito *Violin*
Martin Storey *Cello*
Aaron Shorr *Piano*

BEETHOVEN **String Quartet No.12 in E-flat, Op.127**
Maxwell Quartet

Mondays at One: Clarinet Concert

Monday 22 February / Ledger Recital Room / 1pm

MCCABE Three Folk Songs Op.19 (1963) for clarinet, soprano and piano
HARVEY Three Etudes on Themes of Gershwin
STRAVINSKY Elegy for J.F.K
POULENC Sonata for Clarinet & Piano: Romanze
BRYARS Three Elegies for Nine Clarinets
GRAINGER Molly on the Shore arranged by Kieran Young