son included singing the role of Figaro in Calgary Opera's *The Barber of Saville*, Dandini in *La Cenerentola* with l'Opéra de Montréal, and the role of the count in a Quebec Opera production of *Le nozze di Figaro*. Last summer he returned to the Savonlinna Festival to reprise his protrayal of Silvio in *I pagliacci*. His opera roles this season include his Lyric Opera of Chicago debut as Peter Niles in *Mourning Becomes Electra*, and Harlequin in Opéra de Nancy's presentation of *Ariadne auf Naxos*.

Also much in demand as an oratorio singer, Brett Polegato has sung Messiah with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the National Arts Centre Orchestra, and the Montreal Symphony under Nicholas McGegan; Bach's "Coffee" and "Peasant" Cantatas with Tafelmusik; and the Saint Matthew Passion under the baton of Seiji Ozawa. Renowned for his sensitivity in French mélodies and German Lieder, Polegato is constantly in great demand for recitals in the United States, Germany, France, and England. He made his London recital debut in the Celebrity Series at Saint John's, Smith Square, in March 1996. In Canada he was featured by the CBC, singing Brahms' Lieder, and in recital on the Saint Lawrence Centre's Music Toronto Series. He has recorded the Five Canticles of Benjamin Britten and Kalman's Die Herzogin von Chicago under the direction of Richard Bonynge. Brett Polegato appears at the National Gallery by arrangement with IMG Artists of New York.

Iain Burnside is one of Britain's most popular musical personalities, with a career that spans performing, broadcasting, and education. As a performer, he is best known for his commitment to song repertoire. He has worked with a wide range of singers, from established artists such as Dame Margaret Price, Elly Ameling, and Frederica von Stade to younger artists, including Susan Chilcott, Janice Watson, and William Dazeley. As a chamber musician, Burnside has played with the Britten-Pears Ensemble and the Brodsky, Delmé, and Vanbrugh String Quartets. He is the presenter of a weekly song program, "Voices," for the BBC, and has been artistic director of the International Song Recital Series at the Purcell Room in London's South Bank Centre.

-Progam notes by Elmer Booze

The Fifty-seventh Season of

### THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL and F. LAMMOT BELIN CONCERTS

#### National Gallery of Art



2292d Concert

## BRETT POLEGATO, baritone

# IAIN BURNSIDE, pianist

Sunday Evening, January 3, 1999 Seven O'clock West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free

# PROGRAM

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)

#### Andenken WoO 136

Sehnsucht Opus 83, No. 2

> Der Kuss Opus 128

#### Robert Schumann (1810–1856)

Fünf Lieder, Opus 40

Märzveilchen
 Muttertraum
 Der Soldat
 Der Spielmann
 Verratene Liebe

#### Yrjö Kilpinen (1892–1959)

Lieder um den Tod Opus 62

- 1. Vöglein Schwermut
  2. Auf einem verfallenen Kirchhof
- 3. Der Tod und der einsame Trinker
- 4. Winternacht
- 5. Der Sämann
- 6. Unverlierbare Gewähr

#### INTERMISSION

Gerald Finzi (1901–1956) Selected Songs

Summer Schemes 2. To Lizbie Brown
 Rollicum-Rorum 4. Channel Firing
 Proud Songsters

# Charles Ives (1874–1954)

1. In the Alley 3. Tom Sails Away

2. Remembrance 4. Charlie Rutlage

Aaron Copland (1900–1990) From "Old American Songs II"

1. At the River 2. Zion's Walls 3. Ching-a-ring Chaw

Brett Polegato's appearance at the National Gallery has been assisted by a grant from the Embassy of Canada.

**Brett Polegato** is a native of Niagara Falls, Ontario, whose powerful combination of talents in musical artistry and dramatic invention has placed him in the top rank of today's young baritones. Polegato was hailed enthusiastically by both judges and audiences when he became a winner in the prestigious Cardiff Singer of the World Competition. Similar adulation was bestowed upon him following his participation in Japan's Pacific Music Festival and Finland's Mirjam Helin International Competition. In Ontario, Polegato received the distinguished William Matheus Sullivan Foundation Grant for opera.

In January 1997, Brett Polegato made his "Opera in Concert" debut as Taddeo in Rossini's *Litaliana in Algeri*, followed by an appearance in Schubert's *Die Zwillingsbrüder* with the CBC Vancouver Symphony, conducted by Mario Bernardi for broadcast on the CBC radio network. In the spring of the same year, Polegato appeared as Masetto in concert performances of *Don Giovanni* with Boston Baroque and returned to New York's Alice Tully Hall for performances as Claudio in Berlioz' *Beatrice et Benedict* with l'Opéra Français de New York. A subsequent European tour included performances in Rameau's *Dardanus* with Les Musiciens du Louvre, and his debut at Finland's Savonlinna Festival in the role of Silvio in *I pagliacci*. His busy 1997–1998 sea-

## Selected Songs