

The Sixty-third Season of The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin Concerts

National Gallery of Art 2,504th Concert

Alessandra Marc, soprano David Chapman, pianist

October 10, 2004 Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free

Music Department National Gallery of Art Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue NW Washington, DC

Mailing address 2000в South Club Drive Landover, мр 20785

www.nga.gov

2,504th Concert October 10, 2004, 6:30 pm

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827) Scene: "Ah! Perfido" Opus 65 (1796)

# Alban Berg (1885–1935) Seven Early Songs (1905–1908) Nacht Schilflied Die Nachtigall Traumgekrönt Im Zimmer Liebesode Sommertage

Giacomo Puccini (1858–1924) "Vissi d'arte" from "Tosca" (1900)

# Intermission

# George Gershwin (1898–1937)

Can't help lovin' dat man Someone to Watch over Me

Richard Rodgers (1902–1979) "Climb Every Mountain" from "The Sound of Music" (1959)

# Carlisle Floyd (b. 1926)

"Trees on the Mountain" from "Susannah" (1954) Spirituals Swing Low, Sweet Chariot Guide My Feet Ride on, King Jesus

#### Gershwin

"My Man's Gone Now" from "Porgy and Bess" (1935)

For the convenience of concertgoers the Garden Café remains open until 6:00 pm.

The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed. Please be sure that cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices are turned off.

Please note that concerts now begin at 6:30 pm. Late entry or reentry after 6:30 pm is not permitted.

# The Musicians

#### ALESSANDRA MARC

"Une étoile est née (A Star Is Born)," headlined Le Figaro (Paris). The New Yorker proclaimed: "an instrument of unsurpassed beauty and impact and perhaps the richest, fullest, most beautiful big soprano voice around." Such accolades have been and continue to be a staple in the career of the outstanding American soprano Alessandra Marc. A frequent guest of the world's leading opera houses and orchestras, she collaborates with the most eminent conductors of our time, including Daniel Barenboim, Sir Georg Solti, Zubin Mehta, Christian Thielemann, Michael Tilson Thomas, Riccardo Chailly, Seiji Ozawa, Christoph von Dohnanyi, Christoph Eschenbach, Sir Colin Davis, Charles Dutoit, Edo de Waart, Lorin Maazel, Marek Janowski, Kent Nagano, Heinz Fricke, Leif Segerstam, Andreas Delfs, Franz Welser-Möst, Daniele Gatti, Sebastian Weigle, Mariss Jansons, Esa Pekka Salonen, James Conlon, and Gerard Schwarz. Marc collaborated most frequently with the late Giuseppe Sinopoli, and she was called upon to sing at his funeral mass in Rome in April 2001. Her Metropolitan Opera debut saw her in the title role of Aida, which she has also sung at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, the San Francisco Opera, and the Vienna State Opera.

The 2000–2001 season began with Alessandra Marc's triumphant return to the Metropolitan Opera. Of her opening night performance as Turandot, the *New York Times* reported: "She displayed burnished tone and enormous volume, especially in climactic phrases that soar above the orchestra and chorus." She repeated the role at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., in her debut at the Teatro alla Scala, and with the Danish Radio Orchestra. In 2004 she performed it at the Festival Casals in televised concert performances, and she will sing in staged productions of *Turandot* in 2005 and 2006 in Lisbon, Barcelona, Florence, and Tokyo. Other highlights of the upcoming seasons will include solo appearances with the Seattle Symphony, the Milwaukee Symphony, at George Mason University, and in recital at Tokyo's Suntory Hall.

Alessandra Marc's discography is equally impressive. Delos Records issued her first aria recital recording, American Diva, and her many releases include four on the Teldec label: Schoenberg's Erwartung, Berg's Altenberg Lieder and Lulu Suite, with Sinopoli and the Dresden Staatskapelle, and the final scene of Richard Strauss' Salome with the North German Radio Orchestra. Her most recent recordings are Albéniz' Henry *Clifford* on the Decca label (2003); a complete *Turandot*, recorded by the Regional Opera Company of Bilbao, Spain; and an Opera Gala with Andrew Litton and the Dallas Symphony Orchestra on the Delos label. This concert marks Alessandra Marc's fourth appearance at the National Gallery. Her debut recital at the Gallery occurred in January 1991, and her second appearance came just two months later, when she stepped in at the last minute for the ailing Arleen Auger to sing Richard Strauss' Four Last Songs with the National Gallery Orchestra under George Manos. The concert was a critically acclaimed triumph and a fitting observation of both the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Gallery and its 2,000th Sunday concert on March 17, 1991.

## DAVID CHAPMAN

David Chapman, a native Californian, holds degrees and performance diplomas in piano from the Peabody Conservatory and the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, where he was concerto soloist and served as opera coach in both conservatories. He was awarded a Fulbright grant in solo piano performance and spent two years in Germany. He remained in Europe for a total of eleven years, during which time he performed recitals in Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Denmark, Hungary, and Germany under contract to Steiner, Weylach, and Schulte concert managements. Chapman has recorded for the Süddeutscher Rundfunk in Stuttgart and the Westdeutscher Rundfunk in Cologne and has appeared on German television with the worldrenowned soprano Felicia Weathers. He has played in master classes for Martina Arroyo, Evelyn Lear, Felicia Weathers, Hans Hotter, and Elisabeth Schwarzkopf.

Chapman studied orchestral conducting with George Cleve and choral conducting with Charlene Archibeque. For six years he conducted and arranged music for ensembles that toured throughout Germany with soloist Felicia Weathers. He coached for three years at the International Bach Academy in Stuttgart under Helmut Rilling, performed in several Stuttgart Ballet premieres, and worked as pianist in collaboration with Fernando Bujones of the American Ballet Theater. Chapman began teaching vocalists in 1990. Since then he has given voice master classes at the University of Oklahoma, the University of Nebraska, the Sichuan Conservatory in Cheng-du, China, the Pedagogical University of Beijing, and the Moscow Conservatory. David Chapman is a founding member of Vocal Arts International (VAI), a group dedicated to establishing a network of cultural exchanges with singers of other countries in which American and foreign artists perform, teach master classes, and exchange information, both at home and abroad. He is a member of the Friday Morning Music Club and the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS).

#### Liebesode

Otto Erich Hartleben (1864-1905)

Im Arm der Liebe schliefen wir selig ein, Am offnen Fenster lauschte der Sommerwind, Und unsrer Atemzüge Frieden trug er hinaus in die helle Mondnacht. Und aus dem Garen tastete zagend sich ein Rosenduft an unserer Liebe Bett Und gab uns wundervolle Träume, Träume des Rausches, so reich an

Sehnsucht.

#### Sommertage Paul Hohenberg

Nun ziehen Tage über die Welt, Gesandt aus blauer Ewigkeit, Im Sommerwind verweht die Zeit, Nun windet nächstens der Herr Sternenkränze mit seliger Hand Über Wander- und Wunderland.

O Herz, was kann in diesen Tagen Dein hellstes Wanderlied dann sagen Von deiner tiefen, tiefen Lust; Im Wiesensang verstummt de Brust, Nun schweigt das Wort, wo Bild um Bild

Zu dir zieht und dich ganz erfüllt.

# Love Ode

Blissful in love's arms we fell asleep; The summer wind watched at the open window and carried out to the moon-bright night the peace of our every breath. And from the garden, feeling its timid way, a scent of roses came to our love bed and gave us wondrous dreams,

ecstatic dreams, so rich in longing.

#### **Summer Days**

Days that have been sent from blue eternity now travel through the world; time drifts away in the summer wind; Now at night the Lord twines garlands of stars with his blessed hand above wander- and wonderland. O heart, what, in these days, can your clearest wanderer's song then say of your deep, deep delight;

In the meadow's song the heart is dumb;

The word is silent where image upon image comes to you and fulfills you completely.

# Texts

Ah! Perfido, spergiuro Pietro Metastasio (1698–1782)

Ah! perfido, spergiuro, barbaro traditor, tu parti?
E son questi gl'ultimi tuoi congendi?
Ove s'intese tirannia più crudel?
Va, scellerato!
Va, pur fuggi da me, l'ira de Numi non fuggirai!

Se v'è giustizia in Ciel, se v'è pietà, congiureranno a gara tutti a punirti! Ombra seguace! presente, ovunque vai, vedrò le mie vendete; io già le godo immaginando; i fulmini ti veggo già balenar, dintorno.

Ah no! fermate vindici Dei! risparmiate quel cor, fermite il mio! S'ei non è più qual era, son' io qual fui; per lui vivea, voglio morir per lui!. Per pietà, non dirmi addio; di te priva che farò? Tu lo sai, bell' Idol mio! io d'affanno morirò.

Ah, crudel! tu vuoi ch'io mora! tu non hai pietà di me? Perchè rendi a chi t'adora cosi barbara mercè? Dite voi, si in tanto affanno non son degna di pietà?

#### Translations

#### **Ah! Faithless One**

Ah! Faithless one, deceiver, barbarous traitor, you depart? And are these the last words you have to say to me? Did anyone ever suffer such cruel tyranny? Away, villain! Go, you may escape me, but you will never escape the wrath of the gods!

If there is justice in heaven, if there is mercy, may they punish you in unison! My shadow follows you; Wherever you go, my vengeance will follow you. I am already enjoying the thought of lightning flashing around you.

But no! Stay, vengeful gods! Spare his heart, and stop mine!

If he is not faithful as he once was, I shall remain so. I lived for him; I wish to die for him! For pity's sake, do not say adieu; what will I do without you? You know, my beautiful idol, that I would die of grief.

Oh, cruel one! You want me to die! Have you no pity on me? Why do you treat the one who adores you so savagely? Tell me, does not such anguish deserve your pity?

#### Berg: Sieben frühe Lieder

#### Nacht Carl Hauptmann (1858–1921)

Dämmern Wolken über Nacht und Tal. Nebel schweben, Wasser rauschen sacht. Nun entschleiert sich's mit einemmal; O gib acht! Weites Wunderland ist aufgetan; Silbern ragen Berge, traumhaft groß. Stille Pfade silberlicht talan aus verborg'nem Schoß, Und die hehre Welt so traumhaft rein Stummer Buchenbaum am Wege Steht schattenschwarz, Ein Hauch vom fernen Hain cinsam leise weht. Und aus tiefen Grundes Düsterheit Blinken Lichter auf in stummer Nacht. Trinke, Seele! Trinke Einsamkeit! O gib acht!

#### Schilflied

Nikolas Lenau (1802-1850)

Auf geheimen Waldespfade Schleich' ich gern im Abendschein An das öde Schilfgestade, Mädchen, und gedenke dein!

Wenn sich dann der Busch Verdüstert, Rauscht das Rohr geheimnisvoll, Und es klaget und es flüstert, Daβ ich weinen, weinen soll.

Und ich mein', ich höre wehen Leise deiner Stimme Klang, Und im Weiher untergehen Deinen lieblichen Gesang.

#### **Berg: Seven Early Songs**

## Night

Clouds grow dark over night and valley, mists hover, and waters softly murmur.

All of a sudden, an unveiling: O pay heed! A vast wonderland opens. Mountains soar, silver-tinged and dream-large; still, silvery paths work their way into the valleys from a hidden source; and the lofty world is pure as in a dream. A mute beech tree stands by the way, shadow-black; A lonely breath blows quietly from the distant forest. and, from the deep valley's gloom, lights flash in the silent night. Drink, soul, drink solitude! O pay heed!

#### Reed Song

By a secret forest path, I love to steal in evening light To the desolate reedy shore and think, maiden, of you.

Then, when the wood grows dark, the reeds rustle mysteriously, whispering and lamenting that I should weep.

And I think I hear the sound of your voice wafting softly and your lovely song disappearing into the pond.

#### **Die Nachtigall** Theodor Storm (1817-1888)

Das macht, es hat die Nachtigall Die ganze Nacht gesungen; Da sind von ihrem süßen Schall, Da sind im Hall und Widerhall Die Rosen aufgesprungen. Sie war doch sonst ein wildes Blut, Nun geht sie tief in Sinnen, Trägt in der hand den Sommerhut Und dultdet still der Sonne Glut, Und weiß nicht, was beginnen. Das macht,....

#### Traumgekrönt

Rainer Maria Rilke (1875–1926)

Das war der Tag der weißen Chrysanthemen, Mir bangte fast vor seiner Pracht Und dann, dann kamst du mir die Seele nehmen tief in der nacht.

Mir war es so bang, und du kamst lieb und leise, Ich hatte grad im Traum an dich Gedacht; Du kamst, und leis' wie eine Märchenweise erklang die Nacht.

#### Im Zimmer

Johannes Schlaf (1862-1941)

Herbstsonnenschein. Der liebe Abend blickt still herein, Ein Feuerlein rot Knistert im Ofenloch und loht. So, mein Kopf auf deinen Knie'n, So ist mir gut, Wenn mein Auge so in deinem ruht, Wie leise die Minuten zieh'n.

#### The Nightingale

It is because the nightingale has been singing all night that roses have sprung up in the echo and re-echo of her sweet voice. Such a wild thing she once was;

Now she wanders, deeply pensive, carrying her summer hat in her hand, silently enduring the hot sun, and knowing not what to do. It is because....

#### **Crowned in a Dream**

It was the day of white chrysanthemums; Its splendor almost made me feel afraid; and then you came to take my soul from me in the dead of night. I was so afraid, yet you came sweetly and softly; I had been thinking of you in a dream; You came, and the night resonated softly, like a fairy tune.

## In the Room

Autumn sunshine. Fair evening looks silently in.

A little fire blazes red, flares up, and crackles in the stove window. So, with my head on your knees,

I am content; How quietly the minutes pass when my eyes rest in yours.