

Quia Respexit

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

From Magnificat

Using the Latin text of the story of the Virgin Mary as told in the Gospel of St. Luke, the Magnificat for choir, soloists and orchestra is one of Bach's most popular vocal works. This sublime movement has an ethereal calm and beauty. 'Because he has looked upon the lowliness of his servant, behold, from now on they'll deem me blessed.'

Fiona Zarb-Adami - Soprano, Owen Dennis - Cor Anglais, Mark Zarb-Adami - Piano

Sarabande

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

From Pour le Piano

This stately and reflective piece is taken from a three-movement suite completed in 1901. While the title refers to an antique dance form the harmony is strikingly progressive. Marking the score "with a slow and solemn elegance" Debussy said the impression should be "rather like an old portrait in the Louvre"

Ashton Gray - Piano

Chanson de Matin

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

'Morning song' is a charming, well-loved piece that was later orchestrated by the composer.

Jackie Drew - Violin, Ashton Gray - Piano

Sonata in F major K547a

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

1st movement - Allegro

This piano sonata movement started life as the 2nd movement of the Violin Sonata in F major K. 547, completed in 1788. However, the piano "accompaniment" was very dominant and the solo violin part played a rather minor role. The solo piano transcription was published in 1799, and is virtually the same as the original violin accompaniment.

Gilly Slot - Piano

Ich Ruf Zu Dir, Herr Jesu Christ

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Arranged by Ferruccio Busoni (1866-1924)

'I call to you Lord, Jesus Christ'. A deeply reflective piano transcription of this Chorale Prelude.

Tim Morris - Piano

Salut d'Amour

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Elgar's famous love song for violin and piano was composed for his future wife and presented as an engagement present. It has inspired many arrangements for different instrumental combinations.

Jackie Drew - Violin, Ashton Gray - Piano

My Heart is like a Singing Bird

Hubert Parry (1848-1918)

Text by Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

The teacher, historian and composer Sir Hubert Parry was born in Bournemouth and went on to become the director of the Royal College of Music. He is the composer of the well known choral song Jerusalem. This spirited song about requited love is full of joyful exuberance. (*Dais - raised platform for a throne. Vair - fur*)

Fiona Zarb-Adami Soprano, Mark Zarb-Adami - Piano

Scherzo No.2 in Bb minor

Frederic Chopin (1810-1849)

Chopin composed this piano piece in 1837, dedicating it to his student Countess Adèle de Fürstenstein. It takes us on a long emotional and passionate journey that has many twists and turns but ends with a triumphant conclusion.

Ed Slot - Piano

Song to the Moon

Antonin Dvořák (1841-1904)

From Rusalka

Rusalka is a popular opera about a water sprite who falls in love with a human. In her song to the moon, the title character Rusalka begs the moon to reveal her love to the prince. Originally sung in Czech, Melanie will be singing an English translation today.

Melanie Mastrototaro - Soprano, Fiona Zarb-Adami Piano

Gretchen am Spinnade

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Transcription by Franz Liszt (1811-1886)

Gretchen at the spinning wheel was set to text from Goethe's Faust. The ill-fated Gretchen pines for her beloved Faust whilst spinning at her wheel. My heart is heavy, my peace of mind is gone. I'll never get it back, never get it back...

Tim Morris - Piano

Oboe Sonata

Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)

2nd movement - Scherzo (Très animé)

Poulenc worked on a series of sonatas (aiming to write one for each wind instrument) in the last few years of his life and he completed three of these. Following the flute and clarinet sonatas, the oboe sonata was to be his final work before his death in 1963. The sonata is dedicated to Prokofiev, and this is most apparent in tonight's scherzo (the second movement) with typically brittle technically challenging piano writing. The lyrical central section is based on a theme from the finale of Prokofiev's flute sonata and Poulenc creates a truly beautiful homage to his hero.

Owen Dennis - Oboe, Mark Zarb-Adami - Piano

Embraceable You

George Gershwin (1898-1937)

Arrangement by Earl Wild (1915 - 2010)

Earl Wild was a popular American pianist who enjoyed writing and performing transcriptions. He composed virtuoso piano transcriptions to the music of a wide variety of composers including Bach, Handel, Chopin and Rachmaninov. This study from his 'Virtuoso Etudes after Gershwin' is very much in the style of Liszt where the beautiful melody is surrounded by a swirl of semiquavers.

Mark Zarb-Adami - Piano

We hope you've enjoyed our concert, please join us for tea & cake

The next concert will be held here on Sunday 19th December at 3pm

Visit www.sparsholtmusic.org for more details

All profits contributed to the village