



Rudi E. Scheidt
School of Music

XUEYING YE

SOPRANO RECITAL

Dr. Alex Benford, pianist

OCTOBER 10, 2024 | 7:30 PM

HARRIS CONCERT HALL

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music
Albert Nguyen, Interim Director
College of Communication and Fine Arts
Debra Burns, Dean

PROGRAM

Quindici composizione da camera

Malinconia, Ninfa gentile

Vanne o rosa fortunata

Vincenzo Bellini

(1801-1835)

Sogno d'infanzia

L'abbandono

Lied der Mignon

So lasst mich scheinen

Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt

Franz Schubert

(1797-1828)

Intermission

Red Bean Song

Liu Xuean

(1905-1985)

Chai Tou Feng

Zhou Yi

(b.1943)

Three Wishes of a Rose

Huang Zi

(1904-1938)

The Song of Yue People

Liu Qing

(b.1956)

“Deh vieni, non tardar” from *Le Nozze di Figaro*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

(1756-1791)

“Lascia ch’io pianga” from *Rinaldo*

George Friedrich Handel

(1685-1759)

TRANSLATIONS

Malinconia, ninfa gentile

Malinconia, Ninfa gentile,
la vita mia consacro a te;
i tuoi piaceri chi tiene a vile,
ai piacer veri nato non è.

Fonti e colline chiesi agli Dei; m'udiro
alfine, pago io vivrò,
né mai quel fonte co' desir miei,
né mai quel monte trapasserò.

Vanne o rosa fortunata

Vanne, o rosa fortunata,
a posar di Nice in petto
ed ognun sarà costretto
la tua sorte invidiar.
Oh, se in te potessi anch'io
transformarmi un sol momento;
non avria più bel contento
questo core a sospirar.
Ma tu inchini dispettosa,
bella rosa impallidita,
la tua fronte scolorita
dallo sdegno e dal dolor.
Bella rosa, è destinata
ad entrambi un'ugual sorte;
là trovar dobbiam la morte,
tu d'invidia ed io d'amor.

Melancholy Gentle Nymph

Melancholy, gentle nymph,
I devote my life to you.
One who despises your pleasures is
not born to true pleasures.

I asked the gods for fountains and hills;
They heard me at last; I live satisfied
Even though, with my desires, I never
Go beyond that fountain and that
mountain.

Go fortunate rose

Go, fortunate rose,
to rest at Nice's breast
and all will be forced
to envy your fate.
Oh, if I could change myself
into you, but for a moment,
my heart would long
for no greater happiness.
But you bow your head with spite,
fair faded rose,
your brow loses all colour
from disdain and pain.
Lovely rose, it is destined,
that we meet the same fate:
we shall both meet death there,
you from envy and I of love.

TRANSLATIONS

L'abbandono

Solitario zeffiretto,
a che movi i tuoi sospiri?
Il sospiro a me sol lice,
ché, dolente ed infelice,
chiamo Dafne che non ode
l'insoffribil mio martir.

Langue invan la mammoletta
e la rosa e il gelsomino;
lunge son da lui che adoro,
non conosco alcun ristoro
se non viene a consolarmi
col bel guardo cilestrino.

Ape industrie, che vagando
sempre vai di fior in fiore,
ascolta, ascolta.

Se lo scorgi ov'ei dimora,
di' che rieda a chi l'adora,
come riedi tu nel seno
delle rose al primo albor.

The abandonment

Lonely breeze
why do you sigh?
Sighs are meant for me alone
for, grieving and unhappy,
I call on Daphnis who does not hear
my unbearable torment.

The sweet-smelling violet,
the rose and the jasmine languish in
vain; I am far from him whom I adore,
and I have no relief
unless he comes and console me
with his beautiful blue gaze.

Industrious bee, who always flit
from flower to flower,
listen, listen:

If you find him where he is,
tell him to come back to the one who
adores him, as you come back to the
bosom of the roses at the
first light of dawn.

TRANSLATIONS

So lasst mich scheinen

So lasst mich scheinen, bis ich werde,
Zieht mir das weisse Kleid nicht aus!
Ich eile von der schönen Erde
Hinab in jenes dunkle Haus.
Dort ruh' ich eine kleine Stille,
Dann öffnet sich der frische Blick;
Ich lasse dann die reine Hülle,
Den Gürtel und den Kranz zurück.
Und jene himmlischen Gestalten
Sie fragen nicht nach Mann und Weib,
Und keine Kleider, keine Falten
Umgeben den verklärten Leib.
Zwar lebt' ich ohne Sorg' und Mühe,
Doch fühlt' ich tiefen Schmerz genug.
Vor Kummer altert' ich zu frühe;
Macht mich auf ewig wieder jung!

Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt

Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt
Weiss, was ich leide!
Allein und abgetrennt
Von aller Freude,
Seh' ich an's Firmament
Nach jener Seite.
Ach! der mich liebt und kennt
Ist in der Weite.
Es schwindelt mir, es brennt
Mein Eingeweide.
Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt
Weiss, was ich leide!

Thus let me seem

Thus let me seem till thus I become.
Do not take off my white dress!
I shall swiftly leave the fair earth for
that dark dwelling place below.
There, for a brief silence, I shall rest;
then my eyes shall open afresh.
Then I shall leave behind this pure
raiment, this girdle and this rosary.
And those heavenly beings do not ask
who is man or woman,
and no garments, no folds enclose the
transfigured body.
True, I lived free from care and toil,
yet I knew much deep suffering.
Too soon I grew old with grief;
make me young again for ever!

Only those who know longing

Only those who know longing
Know what I suffer!
Alone and cut off
From every joy,
I search the sky
In that direction.
Ah! he who loves and knows me
Is far away.
My head reels,
My body blazes.
Only those who know longing
Know what I suffer!

TRANSLATIONS

Red Bean Song

滴不尽相思血泪抛红豆
开不完春柳春花满画楼
睡不稳纱窗风雨黄昏后
忘不了新愁与旧愁
咽不下玉粒金莼噎满喉
照不见菱花镜里形容瘦
展不开眉头 捱不明更漏
呀！恰似遮不住的青山隐隐
流不断的绿水悠悠

Chai Tou Feng

红酥手，黄滕酒，
满城春色宫墙柳。
东风恶，欢情薄。
一怀愁绪，几年离索。
错、错、错。

春如旧，人空瘦，
泪痕红浥蛟绡透。
桃花落，闲池阁。
山盟虽在，锦书难托。
莫、莫、莫！

Red Bean Song

Still weeping tears of blood about our
separation: Little red love-beans of my
desolation. Still blooming flowers I see
outside my window growing. Still
awake in the dark I hear the wind a-
blowing. Still oh still I can't forget those
old hopes and fears. Still can't swallow
food and drink, 'cos I'm choked with
tears. Mirror, mirror on the wall, tell me
it's not true: Do I look so thin and pale,
do I look so blue? Mirror, mirror, this
long night how shall I get through?
Oh—oh—oh! Blue as the mist upon
the distant mountains, Blue as the
water in the ever-flowing fountains.

Chai Tou Feng

Red Silken Hands, Gold-branded wine,
Spring paints green willows palace
walls cannot confine.
East wind unfair, Happy times rare.
In my heart sad thoughts throng:
We've severed for years long.
Wrong, wrong, wrong!

Spring is as green, In vain she's lean,
Her silk scarf soak'd with tears and red
with stains unclean.
Peach blossoms fall
Near desert'd hall.
Our oath is still there, lo!
No word to her can go.
No, no, no!

TRANSLATIONS

Three Wishes of the Rose

玫瑰花玫瑰花
烂开在碧栏杆下
玫瑰花玫瑰花
烂开在碧栏杆下
我愿那
妒我的无情风雨莫吹打
我愿那
爱我的多情游客莫攀摘
我愿那
红颜常好不凋谢
好教我留芳华

Three Wishes of the Rose

Roses, roses, luxuriantly blooming
beneath the jade-green fence,
Roses, roses, luxuriantly blooming
beneath the jade-green fence;
I wish the envious wind and rain would
not blow nor lash upon me,
I wish the loving passerby would not
pluck me. May my crimson beauty
endure, never to wither,
So I may keep my fragrance
and youth forever.

The Song of the Yue People

今夕何夕兮，
擘舟中流。
今日何日兮，
得与王子同舟。
蒙羞被好兮，
不訾诟耻。
心几顽而不绝兮，
得知王子。
山有木兮木有枝，
心说君兮君不知。

The Song of the Yue People

What night is tonight?
All through the waves I row.
What day is today?
I share with Your Highness the same
canoe. Ashamed, ashamed am I,
In status so humbled. Disturbed,
disturbed am I, Your Highness I come
to know. Uphill grow trees, on the trees
boughs grow. My heart goes to you,
but you don't know.

TRANSLATIONS

Deh vieni, non tardar

Giunse alfin il momento
Che godrò senza affanno
In braccio all'idol mio! Timide cure,
Uscite dal mio petto,
A turbar non venite il mio diletto!
Oh, come par che all'amoroso foco
L'amenità del loco,
La terra e il ciel risponda!
Come la notte i furti miei seconda!

Deh, vieni, non tardar, o gioia bella,
Vieni ove amore per goder t'appella.
Finché non splende in ciel notturna
face Finché l'aria è ancor bruna e il
mondo tace. Qui mormora il ruscel, qui
scherza l'aura, Che dolce sussurro il
cor ristaura; Qui ridono i fioretti, e
l'erba è fresca: Ai piaceri d'amor qui
tutto adesca. Vieni, ben mio:
tra queste piante ascose
Ti vo' la fronte incoronar di rose.

Lascia ch'io pianga

Lascia ch'io pianga
la dura sorte,
E che sospiri
la libertà!

Il duolo infranga
Queste ritorte,
De' miei martiri
Sol per pietà.

Oh come, don't be late

Finally the moment has arrived
for me to give myself to pleasure
without worry in the arms of my
beloved. Shame, begone from my
heart, do not disturb my moment of joy!
Oh, it seems that to my amorous fire
the amenity of this place,
the earth and the sky responds,
like the night seconds my want!

Oh come, do not be late, my beloved,
come where love calls you to pleasure
until the night sky no longer glows,
while the world is still dark and silent.
Here murmurs the brook, the air
dances, and with sweet whispers heals
the heart, here flowers giggle and
grass is crisp, everything entices the
pleasures of love. Come, dear, among
these hidden trees,
I want to crown your head with roses.

Let me weep

Let me weep
over my cruel fate,
And that I long
for freedom!

The duel infringes
within these twisted places,
in my sufferings
I pray for mercy.

PROGRAM NOTES

Red Bean Song is an art song with lyrics by Cao Xueqin (1715-1763), the renowned author of *Dream of the Red Chamber*, and music composed by Liu Xue'an (1905-1985), a prominent Chinese composer of the 20th century. The song poignantly narrates a lover's yearning and sorrow over separation, using the red bean as a metaphor for deep emotional connection. In this art song, the "red bean" symbolizes profound longing and the desire for reunion. The lyrics poetically convey the sadness of separation and the enduring hope of meeting again, with the red bean representing heartfelt yearning.

Chai Tou Feng is a poignant lyric by the Song Dynasty poet Lu You (1125-1210). This poem reflects Lu You's deep emotional turmoil over his tragic love story with his first wife, Tang Wan. The poem describes an accidental reunion between Lu You and Tang Wan at the Yuzhi Temple and South Shen Garden. This unexpected encounter rekindles memories of their past affection and underscores the sorrow of their separation. Despite the emotional intensity of their meeting, they are unable to be together due to circumstances beyond their control. The phrase "Red Silken Hands" symbolizes Tang Wan's beauty and the shared happiness of their past. Lu You uses this imagery to convey his profound longing and the deep emotional pain caused by their separation, making the poem a classic example of tragic romance in Chinese literature.

Three Wishes of the Rose, composed in June 1932 with lyrics by Long Qi and music by Huang Zi, reflects the emotional landscape of China during a time of war and social upheaval. Inspired by the sight of withering roses on a campus after the Battle of Songhu, Long Qi penned lyrics filled with both melancholy and hope. The song portrays a delicate woman yearning for a brighter future and the tenderness of love, unwilling to resign herself to a harsh fate. Through its expressive melodies, the piece conveys intellectuals' profound sorrow over the turmoil of their homeland while holding onto dreams of renewal and peace.

The story of ***The Song of Yue People*** takes place during China's Spring and Autumn Period, specifically in 529 B.C. It tells the tale of Zixi, a prince of the Chu kingdom, who was deeply moved by a song sung by a Yue boatman while rowing on the Xinbo River. In fact, the boatman had long harbored admiration for Zixi, but had always kept his feelings hidden, never daring to approach him. On this particular day, however, he had the rare opportunity to share a boat with Zixi. The boatman improvised a song to express his emotions. Through the song, he conveyed his long-held feelings and expressing his joy at being able to accompany him on the boat.