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DAS MÄDCHEN
The maiden stood by the mountain slope;
the mountain reflected her face,
and the maiden spoke to her reflection:
"Truly, my face, O you my worry.
if, my white face, I knew
that someday an old man would kiss you,
then I would go to the green mountain,
pick all the wormwood in the mountains,
press the bitter water out of the wormwood,
and wash you, O my face, with that water,
so that you would be bitter when the old man kissed you!
But if, my white face, I knew
that someday a young man would kiss you,
then I would go to the green garden,
pick all the roses in the garden,
press the fragrant water out of the roses,
and wash you, O my face, with that water,
so that you would be fragrant when the youth kissed you!"

O SÜSSER MAI
O sweet May, streaming freely,
I stand close-mouthed, my eyes querulous.
I see neither your green array,
your colorfully blossoming splendour,
nor your blue skies; to the earth I gaze.
O sweet May, release me
like a song along the dark hedge.

I GONDOLIERI
Sail on, under a fast sky, beautiful is the resplendent sky.
The moon is without a veil, without tempest the sea.
To row, to rest upon the expanse of water,
To the gondolier is given among good things the best.
Sail on.
No matter if the sun is brilliant, or sad appears the moon;
Always on the lagoon the gondolier is king.

LA PASSEGGIATA
As long as the sky is serene, limpid and quiet the wave;
Let us sail from shore to shore. Love will guide us.
To the wave, to the air, to the flowers, we will speak of love,
And the beating of the heart will answer for them.
But heaven! Already the wind is whistling, the lagoon is foaming.
Quick! Rapidly we move the feet!
Ah no!
The moon appears, it was only a vain fear;
In such a laughing land, let us sing.
Behold, the sky is serene, it was only a vain fear.
Yes, let us sing!
SELECTED TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

WOMEN'S CHOIR

AURE VOLANTI (WANDERING BREEZES)
Wandering breezes, sweet warbling songbirds,
soft trickling fountains, graces and pleasures,
all here surrounding, make the sun brighter,
make the day much lighter.

Cool frosted caverns, sunlight so glowing,
Green waving meadows, violets and lilies,
all here surrounding, make the sun brighter,
make the day much lighter.

ALL I WAS DOING WAS BREATHING
Something has reached out and taken in the beams of my eyes.
There is a longing, it is for his body, for every hair of that dark body.
All I was doing was being,
and the Dancing Energy came by my house.
His face looks curiously like the moon, I saw it from the side, smiling.
My family says: 'Don't ever see him again!'
And they imply things in a low voice.
But my eyes have their own life; they laugh at rules,
and know whose they are.
I believe I can bear on my shoulders whatever you want to say of me.
Mira says: Without the energy that lifts mountains, how am I to live?

COMMONWEALTH SINGERS

DER BUCKLICHTE FIEDLER
There once lived a fiddler in Frankfurt-am-Main,
who was on his way home from a merry celebration;
he arrived at the market, and what did he see?
Fair women feasting - there were so many in that place.

"You! Hunchbacked fiddler, if you fiddle for us now
we will pay you a handsome reward!
Fiddle nimbly a fine dance,
for we celebrate Walpurgis Night tonight!"
The fiddler scratched out a vivacious dance,
and the ladies danced with wreaths of roses,
and then the first one spoke: "My dear son,
you play so merrily - have now your reward!"

At once she grasped him agilely under his jerkin
and removed the hump from his back:
"Go forth now, my tall young man,
now any maiden would take you on the spot!"

VCUArts MUSIC

WOMEN'S CHOIR AND COMMONWEALTH SINGERS
Friday, April 10, 2015 | 7:30 p.m.
Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall

"FOR, BY AND ABOUT WOMEN"

Hymn to Diana ........................................C Hubert Parry (1848-1918)
Text by Ben Johnson (1573-1637)

Aure volanti (Wandering Breezes)....... Francesca Caccini (1587-c.1630)
Text by Ferdinando Saracinelli c.1590-c.1640
Taylor Gaines, Thomas Keel, Christie Bannon, flute

Prelude in C# minor, BWV849 .........................J.S. Bach(1685-1750)
Margaret Taylor, keyboard

Dona nobis pacem, based on BWV849 ..........J.S. Bach(1685-1750)
Transposition to C minor and arrangement by Glen Thompson

My Favorite Things ..................................Rodgers and Hammerstein
Arranged by Joy Ondra Hirokawa
Taylor DaCosta, soloist

The Roof .............................................Andrea Ramsey
Text by Isabel Zacharias
Taylor Gaines, flute

All I was Doing was Breathing ..........................David Brunner
Text by Mirabai (1498-1547)
Carrie Bullard, soloist
India Reynolds, dancer
Stephanie Barrett, cello
Kevin Johnson, tabla
Gilson Fearnam and Richie Jones, percussion

WOMEN'S CHOIR
Rebecca Tyree, conductor
Margaret Taylor, pianist
INTERMISSION

Reincarnations..................................................Samuel Barber (1910-1981)
  Mary Hynes
  Anthony O Daly
  The Coolin

Sechs Lieder und Romanzen......................Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
  Der bucklichte Fiedler
  Das Mädchen
  O süßer Mai

  Erika Straus, soprano

Péchés de vieillesse..........................Gioacchino Rossini (1792-1868)
  I Gondolieri
  La Passeggiata

  Victoria Nochisaki Kenney, soprano
  Margaret Mayes, alto
  Aaron Jones, tenor
  Forrest Glass, baritone
  Michael Simpson, piano

Go Down Moses.............................................arr. Michael Tippett (1905-1998)
  Tess Ottinger, soprano & Forrest Glass, baritone

  Victoria Jackson, soprano & DeVonté Saunders, tenor

VCU COMMONWEALTH SINGERS
Erin Freeman, conductor
Michael Simpson, pianist

WOMEN’S CHOIR
Rebecca Tyree, conductor
Margaret Taylor, pianist

Erin Bolden
Carrie Bullard
Jordyn Burton*
Georgia Cotter
Taylor Dacosta
Tiun Duong
Robyn Freidin
Alex Goia*
Charlotte Gulasky
Hayley Howell
Maya Huguee
Maria Kellam
Rachel Kessinger
Marie Kreck

Sophia Marcelo
Brenna Miller*
Anne Moore*
Lindsey Page
Taylor Ramirez
Arianna Rose
Charlotte Roth*
Janet Speight
Erika Straus*
Jenna Wallace
Anna Webster
Hayleigh Wilson
Maya Zimmerman

*Section Leaders

COMMONWEALTH SINGERS
Erin Freeman, conductor
Michael Simpson, pianist

SOPRANO
Meredith Haynie,
  Section Leader
Victoria Jackson
Sammy John
Ella Mort
Tess Ottinger
Rachel Pietri
Emma Polich
Erika Straus,
  Conducting Assistant

ALTO
Jaylin Brown
Tylahr Dawes
Taylor Gaines
Lexie Gruber
Clarissa Heartsfield
Maggie Mayes,
  Section Leader
Victoria Nochisaki Kinney,
  Chorus Manager
Mary Kathryn Shurlds

TENOR
Jacob Devol,
  Section Leader
Aaron Jones,
  Conducting Assistant
Collier Phillips
DeVonté Saunders
Jason Garland

BASS
Evan Coldiron
Sam Cook
Forrest Glass,
  Section Leader
Malcolm Jones,
  Chorus Manager
Andrew Wingfield

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