



Vignettes of Life and Love

A Junior Recital by
Ngoo Tien Hong Ted, Tenor
Vernis Chua, Piano
Jason Suryaatmaja, Baritone

YSTCM Concert Hall
25th November 2022, 8:20pm

Featuring works of Loewe, Mozart & Warlock

Programme

Peter Warlock

Sweet Content

Whenas the rye reach to the chin

Take, O take those lips away

As ever I saw

Carl Loewe

Die Uhr, Op 123 No.3

Über allen Gipfeln ist Ruh, Op 9 H I No.3a

Der du von dem Himmel bist Op 9 H I No.3b

Ich denke dein Op 9 H III No. 1

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

In Mohrenland gefangen war

Frisch zum Kampfe

Vivat Bacchus!

from the opera "Die Entführung aus dem Serail"



A Pastoral Scene
L'Aimable Pastorale
François Boucher (1703 - 1770)

Peter Warlock

Philip Arnold Heseltine (1894 - 1930) was a British composer and music critic. Interestingly enough, "Peter Warlock" was a pen name Heseltine used for his published music, with the name "Warlock" as a reference to the composer's interest in occult practices. He was very well known as a composer of songs and vocal music, as well as his contributions to the scholarship of early music.

In today's programme, the first song "Sweet Content" proclaims the joyous delights of maintaining a simple, humble life filled with honest labour and freedom. "Whereas the rye reach to the chin" is a short ditty about how a maiden yearns to be with her lover in summer. Next is "Take, O take those lips away", which features a sad lament about how one's kisses are in vain when presented to a person promised to another. Finally, we have a proud declaration of a young girl's beauty in "As ever I saw".

Sweet Content

Poem by Thomas Dekker

Art thou poor, yet hast thou golden slumbers:

O sweet content!

Art thou rich yet is thy mind perplexed,

O punishment.

Dost thou laugh to see how fools are vexed,

To add to golden numbers, golden numbers.

O sweet content!

Work apace, apace, apace;

Honest labor bears a lovely face;

Then hey nonny, hey nonny: hey nonny, nonny.

Canst drink the waters of the crisped spring,

O sweet content!

Swim'st thou in wealth, yet sink'st in thine own tears,

O punishment.

Then he that patiently wants, burden bears,

No burden bears, but is a King, a King.

O sweet content!

Work apace, apace, apace;

Honest labor bears a lovely face;

Then hey nonny, hey nonny: hey nonny, nonny.

Whenas the rye reach to the chin

Poem by George Peele

Whenas the rye reach'd to the chin,
And chop cherry, chop cherry ripe within,
Strawberries swimming in the cream,
And schoolboys playing in the stream;

Then O, then O, then O, my true love said,
Till that time come again
She could not live a maid!

Take, O take those lips away

Text by Shakespeare

Take, oh take those lips away,
That so sweetly were forsworn,
And those eyes: the break of day,
Lights that do mislead the Morn;
But my kisses bring again, bring again,
Seals of love, but sealed in vain, sealed in vain.

As ever I saw

Poem by Anonymous

She is gentle and also wise;
Of all other she beareth the prize,
That ever I saw.

To hear her sing, to see her dance!
She will the best herself advance,
That ever I saw.

To see her fingers that be so small!
In my conceit she passeth all
That ever I saw.

Nature in her hath wonderly wrought,
Christ never such another bought,
That ever I saw.

I have seen many that have beauty,
Yet is there none like to my lady
That ever I saw.

Therefore I dare this boldly say,
I shall have the best and fairest may
That ever I saw.



Carl Loewe

Carl Loewe (1796 - 1869) was a German composer, tenor and conductor. During his music career, he was very well known for his ballads and songs. Loewe was also well known as a singer, making tours across Europe in the 1840s and 50s before his death a decade later.

In this set, we will be presenting "Die Uhr" (The Watch), a ballad about a man's watch and how it has followed him throughout his life's journey, a clever metaphor for the time he has spent on this Earth.

"Über allen Gipfeln ist Ruh" (Over every mountain-top lies peace) is a song about the peacefulness of the mountainside and the yearning for inner peace.

"Der du von dem Himmel bist" (You who come from heaven) is a passionate song about how peace can absolve the torment and suffering.

Lastly, "Ich denke dein" (I think of you) is a ballad about the yearning of love that is so far away, seeing her and hearing her in all scenes of life.

Die Uhr

Poem by Gabriel Seidel

Ich trage, wo ich gehe,
stets eine Uhr bei mir;
Wieviel es geschlagen habe,
genau seh ich an ihr.
Es ist ein großer Meister,
der künstlich ihr Werk gefügt,
Wenngleich ihr Gang nicht immer
dem törichten Wunsche genügt.

Ich wollte, sie wäre rascher
gegangen an manchem Tag;
Ich wollte, sie hätte manchmal
verzögert den raschen Schlag.
In meinen Leiden und Freuden,
in Sturm und in der Ruh,
Was immer geschah im Leben,
sie pochte den Takt dazu.

The Watch

English Translation by David Wyatt

Wherever I go,
I carry a watch with me:
Whatever the time is,
it tells me exactly.
It was a great master,
who made this work of art,
All the same its timekeeping isn't always
enough for my foolish wishes.

I wish, some days,
it would go faster
I wish, sometimes,
it would delay its rushing movement,
In my sorrows and joys,
in storm and in peace,
Whatever is going on in life,
it ticks out its rhythm.

Sie schlug am Sarge des Vaters,
sie schlug an des Freundes Bahr,
Sie schlug am Morgen der Liebe,
sie schlug am Traualtar.
Sie schlug an der Wiege des Kindes,
sie schlägt, will's Gott, noch oft,
Wenn bessere Tage kommen,
wie meine Seele es hofft.

It ticked at my father's coffin,
it ticked at my friend's bier,
It ticked on the morning of love,
it ticked at the wedding altar,
It ticked at my children's cradle,
it will tick, God willing, still more
When better days come,
as my soul hopes.

Und ward sie auch einmal träger,
und drohte zu stocken ihr Lauf,
So zog der Meister immer
großmütig sie wieder auf.
Doch stände sie einmal stille,
dann wär's um sie geschehn,
Kein andrer, als der sie fügte,
bringt die Zerstörte zum Gehn.

And if one day it gets lazy
and threatens to stop its course,
Then the courageous master
will wind it again.
But if one day it stops still,
then he will have made it happen
No other than the one who made it,
will make the broken watch work.

Dann müßt ich zum Meister wandern,
der wohnt am Ende wohl weit,
Wohl draußen, jenseits der Erde,
wohl dort in der Ewigkeit!
Dann gäb ich sie ihm zurücke
mit dankbar kindlichem Flehn:
Sieh, Herr, ich hab nichts verdorben,
sie blieb von selber stehn.

The must I go to the master,
who lives at the end, far off,
Far outside, the other side of the earth,
over there in eternity!
Then I will give it him back,
with thanks and childlike tears,
See, Lord, I have not broken it,
it stopped by itself.

Über allen Gipfeln ist Ruh

Poem by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Über allen Gipfeln
Ist Ruh',
In allen Wipfeln
Spürest du
Kaum einen Hauch;
Die Vögelein schweigen im Walde.
Warte nur, balde
Ruhest du auch.

Over every mountain-top lies peace

English Translation by Richard Stokes

Over every mountain-top
Lies peace,
In every tree-top
You scarcely feel
A breath of wind;
The little birds are hushed in the wood.
Wait, soon you too
Will be at peace.

Der du von dem Himmel bist

Poem by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Der du von dem Himmel bist,
Alles Leid und Schmerzen stillest,
Den, der doppelt elend ist,
Doppelt mit Erquickung füllest,
Ach, ich bin des Treibens müde!
Was soll all der Schmerz und Lust?
Süsser Friede!
Komm, ach komm in meine Brust!

You who come from heaven

English Translation by Richard Stokes

You who come from heaven,
Soothing all pain and sorrow,
Filling the doubly wretched
Doubly with delight,
Ah, I am weary of this restlessness!
What use is all this pain and joy?
Sweet peace!
Come, ah come into my breast!

Ich denke dein

Poem by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Ich denke dein,
wenn mir der Sonne Schimmer
Vom Meere strahlt;
Ich denke dein,
wenn sich des Mondes Flimmer
In Quellen malt.

Ich sehe dich,
wenn auf dem fernen Wege
Der Staub sich hebt;
In tiefer Nacht,
wenn auf dem schmalen Stege
Der Wanderer bebt.

Ich höre dich,
wenn dort mit dumpfem Rauschen
Die Welle steigt.
Im stillen Haine geh ich oft zu lauschen,
Wenn alles schweigt.

Ich bin bei dir,
du seist auch noch so ferne,
Du bist mir nah!
Die Sonne sinkt,
bald leuchten mir die Sterne.
O wärst du da!

I think of you

English Translation by Richard Stokes

I think of you,
when the shimmering sun
Gleams from the sea;
I think of you,
when the glittering moon
Is mirrored in streams.

I see you,
when on the distant path
Dust rises;
In deep night,
when on the narrow bridge
The traveller trembles.

I hear you
where, with muffled roar
The wave rears up.
In the silent wood I often hearken
When all is silent.

I am with you,
however far away you be,
You are by my side!
The sun sets,
soon the stars will shine for me.
Ah! were you but here!



La Leçon de musique
François Boucher (1703 - 1770)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791), was a prolific Austrian composer and musician. Mozart had an extensive career in music, writing many successful operas and instrumental works. We will presenting arias "Die Entführung aus dem Serail" (The Abduction from the Seraglio), one of his most celebrated operas. The opera was sponsored by the Nationalsingspiel, set up by Austrian Emperor Joseph II to perform works in the German language. Mozart began working on the opera when he was 25, and played a major part in shaping the libretto to fit the music. It was premiered in Vienna on 1782, and was a huge success, increasing Mozart's public standing as a composer.

In the opera, Belmonte and his servant, Pedrillo, embark on an adventure to save their lovers, Constanze and Blondchen, from the harem of Pasha Selim.

In "Mohrenland gefangen war", Pedrillo tells a story to the girls in the harem about a knight rescuing a maiden, distracting them as Belmonte prepares to save Constanze. Pedrillo also plans to incapacitate the overseer of the harem, Osmin, by getting him drunk. After encouraging himself in "Frisch zum Kampfe", he approaches Osmin with glasses of wine and get drunk together. They sing a duet, praising the God of Wine and the women in "Vivat Bacchus"!

In Mohrenland gefangen war

In Mohrenland gefangen war
Ein Mäd'el hübsch und fein;
Sah roth und weiss,
war schwarz von Haar,
Seufzt' Tag und Nacht
und weinte gar;
Wollt' gern erlöset sein.

In Moorish lands imprisoned lay
A girl, pretty and delicate;
Rosy cheeks, white skin,
black hair,
She sighed day and night,
she even wept,
Longing to be rescued.

Da kam aus fremdem Land daher
Ein junger Rittersmann;
Den jammerte das Mädchen sehr;
Jach rief er, wag' ich Kopf und Ehr,
Wenn ich sie retten kann.

Then came from foreign lands
A young knight
Who took pity on the maiden.
Hey, he cried, I'll risk my life and honour
If only I can rescue her.

Ich komm zu dir in finst'rer Nacht,
Lass, Liebchen, husch mich ein!
Ich fürchte weder Schloss noch Wacht;
Holla! horch auf! um Mitternacht,
Sollst du erlöset seyn.

I'll come to you at dead of night,
Dearest, let me in quickly;
I fear neither padlocks nor watchmen,
Heigho, take heed, at midnight
You shall be saved.

Gesagt, gethan; Glock zwölfte stand
Der tapfre Ritter da;
Sanft reicht sie ihm die weiche Hand,
Früh man die leere Zelle fand;
Fort war sie, hopsasa!

No sooner said than done, one the stroke
Of midnight the brave knight was there;
Gently she gave him her white hand,
Next morning her cell was found to be empty;
She was gone, up and away!

Frisch zum Kampfe

Frisch zum Kampfe!

Frisch zum Streite!

Nur ein feiger Tropf verzagt.

Sollt' ich zittern?

Sollt' ich zagen?

Nicht mein Leben

Muthig wagen?

Nein, ach nein, es sey gewagt!

Frisch zum Kampfe!

Frisch zum Streite!

Nur ein feiger Tropf verzagt.

Now to battle!

Now to arms!

Only cowards are afraid.

Should I tremble,

Should I quake,

Rather than valiantly

Risking my life?

No, oh no, I'll take the risk!

Now to battle!

Now to arms!

Only cowards are afraid.

Vivat Bacchus!

PEDRILLO

Vivat, Bachus!
Bachus lebe!
Bachus war ein braver Mann!

PEDRILLO

Vivat Bacchus,
Long live Bacchus,
Bacchus was a fine fellow.

OSMIN

Ob ichs wage?
Ob ich trinke?
Ob's wohl Alla sehen kann?

OSMIN

Shall I chance it?
Shall I drink it?
Can Allah see me?

PEDRILLO

Was hilft das Zaudern?
Hinunter, hinunter!
Nicht lange, nicht lange gefragt!

PEDRILLO

What's the use of wavering?
Down with it, down with it!
Don't delay any longer!

OSMIN

Nun war's geschehen,
Nun war's hinunter:
Das heiss ich,
das heiss ich gewagt!

OSMIN

Now the deed is done,
Now I have downed it;
I do declare,
that's brave!

BEIDE

Es leben die Mädchen,
Die Blonden, die Braunen,
Sie leben hoch!

TOGETHER

Three cheers for the girls,
The blondes, the brunettes,
Three cheers!

PEDRILLO

Das schmeckt treflich!

PEDRILLO

It tastes lovely!

OSMIN

Das schmeckt herrlich!

OSMIN

It tastes heavenly!

BEIDE

Ah! das heiss ich Göttertrank!
Vivat Bachus,
Bachus lebe,
Bachus, der den Wein erfand!

TOGETHER

That's what I call a drink for the Gods!
Vivat Bacchus,
Long live Bacchus,
Bacchus who discovered wine!



Musical Conversation in a Rococo Salon
Cristobal de Antonio (1862 - 1905)



Ngoo Tien Hong Ted, Tenor

Ngoo Tien Hong Ted is a tenor currently studying his Bachelor's Degree in Voice Performance at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music at NUS (YSTCM). Ted graduated from the School of the Arts, Singapore (SOTA) in 2017, where he was taught by Reuben Lai, and was also part of YSTCM's Young Artist Programme between 2016 and 2017.

Ted has a deep passion for theater music, having first started opera as a chorus member in New Opera Singapore's staging of Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas" (2014) and YSTCM's semi-staging of Handel's "Acis and Galatea" (2017). Ted had the opportunity to have his opera debut with L'Arietta, in their production of Michael Ching's "Speed Dating Tonight" (2022). Ted is grateful to have many performance experience as a soloist, having performed as a soloist in events such as the ASEAN Paragames Opening Ceremony (2015), the Orchestra of Music Makers in the Concerto Il Solisti Series (2017) as part of the SOTA-OMM Concerto Competition, and alongside the YST Orchestra and Red Dot Baroque in the Voyage Festival (2022).

Apart from his passion for singing, Ted loves eating good food, traveling, kendo, and meeting new people.



Vernis Chua, Piano

Vernis Chua Kai En is a pianist who is currently studying at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, Singapore under the guidance of Dr Khoo Hui Ling. Vernis passion for music started at the age of 5, and she continued to enrich her knowledge as part of the music elective programme in her teens. Vernis has won the silver award in the 2018 Singapore Asia Music competition, and was complimented by judge Rita Reichmann in the recent YST conservatory competition.

Vernis is currently studying vocal accompaniment under Dr Choi Hye-Seon in YST.

She enjoys playing a part in painting vibrant colours in the poem with the singer.

She also receives accompaniment guidance from tenor Professor Alan Bennett.

During her studies in Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of music, Vernis has studied the accompaniment for art songs and arias such as *Il mio tesoro* from *Don Giovanni* by Mozart, *Dichterliebe* op.48 by Schumann and *Would you gain the tender creature* from the opera *Acis and Galatea*.

Vernis will be having her own solo recital on the 29th of November, at 6.40pm. She will be playing Prokofiev sonata no.2 and Bach's prelude and fugue in Eb minor, BWV853.



Jason Suryaatmaja, Baritone

Jason Suryaatmaja is a baritone who is currently studying at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, Singapore.

Jason's passion for music began when he joined the Sinlui High School Choir while studying at St. High School. Louis 1, Surabaya. Under the guidance of conductor Onny Prihantono and with Sinlui High School Choir, Jason has won several choral competitions such as winning the Grand Champion title at the 3rd Saint Angela International Choir Festival, winning the Grand Champion title at the 5th National Choral Festival of Universitas Surabaya and winning the Grand Champion title at the Karangturi International Choir Competition. After attending high school, Jason studied solo singing under Yosafat Rannu Leppong. Under the direction of Yosafat Rannu Leppong, Jason managed to get 3rd place in the Music Classicgram National Online Competition 2021 for the Senior Vocal category.

During his studies at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, Singapore, Jason studied and sang many arias and art songs from various eras. One of the works he ever sung is St. John Passion by Bach (April, 2022), Series of songs from Song of Travel by Vaughan Williams (October, 2022), Bach's Gleichwie der Regen und Schnee vom Himmel fällt (October, 2022), Henry Purcell's Come Ye Sons of Art (October, 2022), and many others.