
CONCERTS AT THE UNIVERSITY

Spring - Summer 2017

Friday 10 February 2017

1.10pm

Greyfriars Kirk

La Seraphine

Petrea Cooney · soprano / violin

Gordon Ferries · guitar

Programme of works by MERTZ, GIULIANI
and GORDON FERRIES



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Edinburgh College of Art

Lied ohne worte

Liebeslied

Johann Kaspar Mertz (1806-56)

2 Ariettes

Mauro Giuliani (1781-1829)

Ombre amene
Quando sarà quel di

Stanzas for music

Gordon Ferries

Mutability
Alas! They had been friends in youth
Stanzas for Music
Sonnet. On the Sea (Dedicated to Eileen Ferries)

2 Irish airs

Mauro Giuliani

The last rose of summer
My lodging is on the cold ground

The lass of Aughrim

Anon (arr G. Ferries)

Gentle lady do not sing

Gordon Ferries

Ombre amene

Ombre amene, amiche piante,
il mio bene, il caro amante
chi mi dice ove n'andò?
Zeffiretto lusinghiero,
a lui vola messaggero:
di che torni, e che mi renda
quella pace che non ho

Pleasant shades, friendly trees,
who will tell me where my beloved,
my dear lover, went?
Flattering breeze,
fly to him with a message:
tell him to come back, and to give me
the peace which I do not have.

Quando sarà quel di

Quando sarà quel di,
ch'io non ti senta in sen
sempre tremar così,
povero core?
Stelle, che crudeltà!
Un sol piacer non v'è,
che, quando mio si fa
non sia dolore.

When will the day come
when I do not feel you
trembling so in my breast,
poor heart?
Oh stars, what cruelty!
There isn't a single pleasure,
which when it becomes mine,
does not turn into sorrow.

(text by Pietro Metastasio)

Stanzas for Music

Mutability

We are as clouds that veil the midnight moon;
How restlessly they speed and gleam and quiver,
Streaking the darkness radiantly!— yet soon
Night closes round, and they are lost for ever:

Or like forgotten lyres whose dissonant strings
Give various response to each varying blast,
To whose frail frame no second motion brings
One mood or modulation like the last.

We rest—a dream has power to poison sleep;
We rise—one wandering thought pollutes the day;
We feel, conceive or reason, laugh or weep;
Embrace fond woe, or cast our cares away:

It is the same! For, be it joy or sorrow,
The path of its departure still is free;
Man's yesterday may ne'er be like his morrow;
Nought may endure but Mutability.

(Percy Bysshe Shelley)

Alas! they had been friends in youth

(Lines from Christabel)

Alas! they had been friends in youth;
But whispering tongues can poison truth;
And constancy lives in realms above;
And life is thorny; and youth is vain;
And to be wroth with one we love,
Doth work like madness in the brain.
But never either found another
To free the hollow heart from paining—
They stood aloof, the scars remaining,
Like cliffs which had been rent asunder;
A dreary sea now flows between;—
But neither heat, nor frost, nor thunder,
Shall wholly do away, I ween,
The marks of that which once hath been.

(Samuel Taylor Coleridge)

Stanzas for Music

There's not a joy the world can give like that it takes away,
When the glow of early thought declines in feeling's dull decay
'Tis not on youth's smooth cheek the blush alone, which fades so fast,
But the tender bloom of heart is gone, ere youth itself be past.

Then the few whose spirits float above the wreck of happiness,
Are driven o'er the shoals of guilt, or ocean of excess:
The magnet of their course is gone, or only points in vain
The shore to which their shivered sail shall never stretch again.

Then the mortal coldness of the soul like death itself comes down;
It cannot feel for others' woes, it dare not dream its own;
That heavy chill has frozen o'er the fountain of our tears,
And though the eye may sparkle still, 'tis where the ice appears.

Oh, could I feel as I have felt, or be what I have been,
Or weep as I could once have wept, o'er many a vanished scene;
As springs in deserts found seem sweet, all brackish though they be,
So, midst the withered waste of life, those tears would flow to me.

(Lord Byron)

Sonnet. On the Sea (excerpt)

Oh ye! who have your eye-balls vex'd and tir'd,
Feast them upon the wideness of the Sea;
Oh ye! whose ears are dinn'd with uproar rude,
Or fed too much with cloying melody,
Sit ye near some old cavern's mouth, and brood
Until ye start, as if the sea-nymphs quir'd!

(John Keats)

Gentle lady, do not sing

Gentle lady, do not sing
sad songs about the end of love;
Lay aside sadness and sing
How love that passes is enough

Sing about the long deep sleep
Of lovers that are dead and how
In the grave all love shall sleep,
Love is a weary now.

(James Joyce)

Petrea Cooney studied singing with Pat MacMahon at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. She was the violinist and singer with an Edinburgh-based Argentinian tango band 'Orquesta Atípica de Edimburgo'. Petrea has performed as a soloist in a "Scots Requiem" by Simon Thoumire and at Celtic Connections. She has recorded vocals and instrumental music with various traditional artists including Martyn Bennett and Michael Marra.

Over the years Petrea has performed with Edinburgh Festival Chorus and joined many amateur-performing groups both as a soloist and ensemble singer. She has also performed as a soloist and violinist at Bunratty Castle in Ireland for a number of seasons.

Petrea is one half of the duo 'La Seraphine' with Gordon Ferries who specialise in combining the worlds of music and literature.

Petrea's performance repertoire cuts across many genres and her career ambition has always been to make music accessible to all types of audience. She is an accomplished traditional singer and musician on violin and clarsach and is equally at home in classical/operatic repertoire.

Having initially studied classical guitar at Napier University, **Gordon Ferries** went on to study at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland where he specialised in lute and early guitar. He has now established himself as one of the UK's leading exponents of the baroque guitar. Gordon has worked for both television and radio: arranging and performing music for Radio 4's production of 'The Dreamer of the Calle de San Salvador', featuring on 'Scotland's Music' with Concerto Caledonia and for BBC 2 television. He has performed in venues and festivals across the UK and in Europe both as a soloist and in ensemble, appearing with The Scottish Ensemble, The Scottish Early Music Consort, the Edinburgh Quartet, Symphonie de plaisirs, Fires of love (with which he has recorded three CDs, the third of these, 'Remember me my deir' was editor's choice in Gramophone magazine), Baroque ensemble 'Lord Rochester's Monkey' with John Kitchen and as an accompanist with Susan Hamilton, Frances Cooper and Lorna Anderson and in duo with Rob MacKillop and with Stephen Morrison in 19th-century duo 'De la guitarra'. He also performs regularly as one half of the duo 'La Seraphine' with Irish soprano Petrea Cooney. This duo is a vehicle for Gordon's own compositions; his song cycle 'Sun of the sleepless' having been premiered at the Wigtown book festival.

Gordon also played on the acclaimed album 'Spoils' and the accompanying EP 'The wyrd meme' by Scottish songwriter and guitarist Alasdair Roberts and is to be found with him again on the 'Food of love' project, released in 2017 which features new versions of songs from Shakespeare by various artists. Gordon has released five much lauded solo recordings with Delphian records. Gordon has also been awarded two grants from the Scottish Arts Council towards study at the Bibliotheque Nationale de Paris, researching the baroque guitar; the fruits of which appear on his recordings. Gordon is also much in demand as a teacher and is involved in teaching young people and adults in many musical styles.

FORTHCOMING CONCERTS:

Tuesday 14 February

1.10pm

Methodist Church, 25 Nicolson Square

Reid Memorial Concert

The Edinburgh Quartet

BEETHOVEN String Quartet Op.59 No.3

GENERAL JOHN REID Sonata No.2

Admission Free

Friday 17 February

1.10pm.

Reid Concert Hall, Bristo Square

Oliver Hancock (organ)

BUXTEHUDE Praeludium, Fuga und Ciaconna in C

LANGLAIS Dialogue sur les Mixtures

J.S. BACH O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde gross BWV 622

BRAHMS Schmücke dich, O liebe seele

EBEN Moto ostinato

ARNE Allegro J.S. BACH Prelude and Fugue in C major BWV 545

LEIGHTON Paeon

Admission Free

Tuesday 21 February

1.10pm

Methodist Church, 25 Nicolson Square

Emmanuel Bach (violin)

Jenny Stern (piano)

BRAHMS Sonata No.2 in A major

JANACEK Violin Sonata

Admission Free