

Northwest University Music Department Presents
A Senior Recital

“A Life in Song”
Elizabeth Otto, soprano



March 31, 2012

Chris Vincent - Pianist
Bethany Hascall - Jazz Pianist
Clarissa Apostol - Violinist
Jessica Polley - Mezzo Soprano

“The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him.” Ex 15:2

Performance Selections:

“Mi chiamano Mimi” from *La Bohème*

Giacomo Puccini (1858 - 1924)

“Ain’t Misbehavin’”

Music by Thomas “Fats” Waller and Harry Brooks

Lyrics by Andy Razaf

“Cycle of Holy Songs”

Psalm 134

Psalm 142

Psalm 148

Ned Rorem (1923 -)

“Morgen!”

Richard Strauss (1864 - 1949)

Poem by John Henry Mackay

Feat. Clarissa Apostol, violinist

“Zueignung”

Richard Strauss (1864 - 1949)

Poem by Hermann von Gilm

“The Midnight Sun”

Music by Lionel Hampton and Sonny Burke

Lyrics by Johnny Mercer

“Giunse alfin il momento...Deh vieni, non tardar” from *Le Nozze di Figaro*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791)

“I Get Along Without You Very Well”

Music and Lyrics by Hoagy Carmichael

“The Way You Look Tonight”

Music by Jerome Kern

Lyrics by Dorothy Fields

“Sous le dôme épais” from *Lakmé*

Leo Delibes (1846 - 1891)

Feat. Jessica Polley, mezzo soprano

Translations:

“Mi chiamano Mimi.”

Yes, they call me Mimi, but my name is Lucy. My history is brief. With cloth or with silk, I embroider at home or outside... I am peaceful and happy and it is my pastime to make lilies and roses. I dearly love those things that have such a sweet smell, that speak of love, of spring, that speak of dreams and of illusions; those things that have poetic names. Do you understand me? They call me Mimi, and why I don't know. Alone, I make the same lunch for myself. I do not always go to mass, but I pray a lot to the Lord. I live alone, alone. There is a white little room where I look upon the roofs and the heavens. But when the thaw comes, the first sun is mine. The first kiss of April is mine! As rose buds in a vase open leaf by leaf, I watch them unfold! That gentle perfume of a flower! But the flowers that I make, ah me! they don't have odor! I would not know how to tell you about myself, only that I am your neighbor who came unexpectedly to bother you.

“Morgen!”

And tomorrow the sun will shine again and on the path where I shall walk, it will again unite us, the happy ones in the midst of this sun-breathing earth... And to the wide, blue-waved shore, we will quietly and slowly descend. Mute, we will gaze into each other's eyes, and on us sinks the muted silence of happiness.

“Zueignung”

Yes, you know it, dear soul, that I am tormented far from you, love makes the heart suffer, thanks to you. Once I held, the one who delighted in freedom, high the amethyst cup and you blessed the drink, thanks to you. And exorcised the evil ones therein, until I, as I had never been, holy, holy onto your heart I sank, thanks to you.

“Giunse alfin il momento. . .Deh vieni, non tardar”

The moment finally arrives when I'll enjoy without haste the arms of my beloved... Fearful anxieties, get out of my heart! Do not come to disturb my delight. Oh, how it seems that to amorous fires the comfort of the place, earth and heaven respond. Oh, it seems that earth, heaven and this place answer my heart's amorous fire as the night responds to my ruses. Oh, come, don't be late, my beautiful joy. Come where love calls you to enjoyment until night's torches no longer shine in the sky as long as the air is still dark and the world quiet. Here the river murmurs and the light plays that restores the heart with sweet ripples. Here, little flowers laugh and the grass is fresh. Here, everything entices one to love's pleasures. Come, my dear, among these hidden plants. Come, come! I want to crown you with roses.

“Sous le dôme épais”

(Lakmé) Come, Mallika, the vines are in bloom, they already cast their shadows on the sacred river which flows, calmly and serenely, they have been awakened by the song birds! (Mallika) Oh! mistress, this is the time when your face smiles, the time when I can read Lakmé's secrets hidden in her heart! (Together) Dome made of jasmine, entwined with the rose together, both in flower, a fresh morning, call us together. Ah! let us float along on the river's current: on the shining waves, our hands reach out to the flowering bank, where the birds sing, O the lovely birds sing. Dome of white jasmine, calling us together! (Lakmé) But, I do not know what subtle fear enfolds me. When my father goes alone to that cursed town; I tremble, I tremble in fear! (Mallika) For the god Ganessa protects him, let us venture to the joyous pool. The swans with wings of white are happy, let us go there and gather the blue lotus. (Lakmé) Yes, near the swans with wings of white let us go there and gather the blue lotus.

Special Thanks Goes To:

Chris Vincent - Also known as my “knight in shining armor” who came to the rescue after I lost my first accompanist. Thank you for sharing your musical insight and your talent! I am truly lucky to have found you in my time of need.

Bethany Hascall - I am blessed to not only enjoy your friendship, but your wonderful talent as a jazz pianist. Practicing with you always gave me joy, as we worked together to create good music. Thanks for your diligence, humility, and constant encouragement; I can't think of anyone else whom I would want to accompany these songs!

Clarissa Apostol - When thinking of adding a violin part to “Morgen,” you were the first person that came to mind. Not only did this give me an excuse to spend time with my dear former roommate, but asking you to play for my recital allowed me the opportunity to hear you play your violin so beautifully once again.

Jessica Polley - It was a lucky thing indeed that I had the privilege of sitting next to you in chapel last semester! Your vivacious personality and willingness to be helpful made working with you nothing less than a delight. Thank you so much for your time, effort, and lending your gorgeous voice to my recital.

Jocelyn Pacchiarotti - You are the wind beneath the music department's wings! I'm so thankful to have your support and wonderful attention to detail throughout the planning stages of my recital.

Tyler Cronk - I so appreciate your help in arranging the rental of the chapel! Thanks for generously allowing me the opportunity to use this facility and also coordinating who would be running sound.

Bill Owen, Ken Prettyman, and Mizue Fells - Without your support, advice, and encouragement, I would not be able to be the musician that I am today. Your mentorship means the world to me. I am certain that I will never forget your influence on my life as a musician and as a person.

Heidi Hall - I can't believe it's been four years since I took my first voice lesson with you! Thanks so much for sticking with me, even when I was stubborn about singing my own way. In the end, you were always right, and I am so thankful that I was able to learn under such a talented teacher and singer. I know that your patient training has made a huge difference in my life.

Mom and Dad - There are no words to describe how incredibly blessed I am that you're my parents. I know that there aren't many parents out there who would so selflessly support their daughter's dreams of becoming a professional musician. More than that, you present an example of godliness and grace that I can only hope to adopt in my adulthood. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Thank you all for attending my senior recital. To God be the glory.