

# KOREY BARRETT AND FRIENDS FACULTY CHAMBER RECITAL

# **PROGRAM**

# ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Sean Botkin and Korey Barrett, pianos

Korey Barrett
Nash Ryder

John Hines

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Sean Botkin

# **TRANSLATIONS**

## **WANDERER:**

(strides to a vault-like cavernous opening in the foreground and stands there, while he calls the following towards the mouth of the cave)

Waken, Wala! Wala! Awake!
From lasting sleep rise and appear at my call. I call you again: Arise! Arise!
From earth's hidden caves, imprisoned in darkness, arise!
Erda! Erda! Woman all-wise!
From silence and darkness rise to the world!
With spells I rouse you, rise up and answer; your slumbering wisdom
I would awake. All-knowing one!
Wisdom's guardian!
Erda! Erda! Woman all-wise!
Waken, awaken, O Wala! Awaken!

(The cavern begins to glow with a bluish light, in which Erda is seen rising very slowly from the depths. She appears to be covered by hoar-frost: her hair and garments give out a glimmering shine.)

# **ERDA**:

Strong is your call, mighty spells have roused me. From wisdom's dreams, I rise at your call. Who drives my slumber hence?

# **WANDERER:**

The Wanderer wakes you;
I need your wisdom;
my spells have called you
from caverns far below.
On earth I've wandered,
far I have roamed;
I searched for wisdom,
strove day and night to achieve it.
No one on earth is wiser than you;
you know what's hid
in the caves of night,
what hill and dale, air and water do

hold.

Where life is found, Erda is stirring; where brains are brooding, you stir their thoughts.
All things, all things, all you must know. Seeking your wisdom and counsel, I arouse you from sleep!

# **ERDA**:

My sleep is dreaming; my dreaming, brooding, my brooding brings all my wisdom. But while I sleep the Norns are waking, and winding their cord, and weaving all that I know: the Norns can give your answer.

## **WANDERER:**

They weave for the world, spin what you tell them, but cannot change that world with their weaving. But you are wiser, you can advise me if the cruel wheel of fate can be stopped?

## **ERDA**:

Deeds of men have beclouded all my thoughts; my wisdom itself once felt a conqueror's force.

A brave daughter I bore to Wotan: at his command she chose heroes for Valhalla. She's valiant and wise as well: so why wake me? You'll learn your answer from Erda's and Wotan's child.

#### **WANDERER:**

My Valkyrie daughter,
Brünnhilde the maid?
She disobeyed the lord of the tempest
when he'd controlled the storm in his
breast: When my son was in need
I longed to help him, yet I renounced hir
and doomed him to death.
She knew my will, yet she defied me
and dared to break my commandment
Brünnhilde herself in her pride.
I had to deal with the maid;
so I closed her eyelids in sleep;
on that rock asleep she lies.

Our holy maid can be awakened alone roused by some man who makes her his bride. What can I learn from the maid?

**ERDA** (is lost in dreams):

My waking leaves me confused: wild and strange seems the world. The Valkyrie, the Wala's child, lay in fetters of sleep, while her all-knowing mother slept? How can pride's teacher punish pride? He who urged the doing, punish the deed? He who rules by right, to whom truth is sacred, scorn what is right, rule by falsehood? I'll return to the dark, seal in slumber my wisdom!

#### **WANDERER:**

O woman, you may not leave: You are bound by my sorcerer's might. All-wise one, you drove a thorn of cares and sorrows in Wotan's fearless heart: with fear of ruin, shameful downfall you filled my spirit with words of warning and doom. If you are the world's wisest of women, say to me now: how a god can master his care?

## **ERDA**:

You are not what you declare! Why come here, stubborn and wild one to trouble the Wala's sleep?

# **WANDERER:**

You are not what you have dreamed. Wisdom of ages finds its ending: your wisdom grows weak before my wishes. Know you what Wotan wills?

You unwise one, learn what I will, then carefree you may sleep in peace! That the gods will die soon gives me no anguish; I have willed that end! What in an hour of fiercest anguish

despairing once I resolved, freely and gladly I shall now bring to pass. Once I declared in my loathing the Niblung might claim all the world; today to the Wälsung I have bequeathed my realm. One who has never known me, though chosen by me, a youth of dauntless daring, unhelped by Wotan, has gained the Nibelung's ring. Free from hate, joyful and loving, that youth is not harmed by Alberich's curse, for he knows naught of fear. She whom you once bore, Brünnhilde, wakes to that hero's kiss. Then your wisdom's child will achieve that deed that will free our world. So back to your dreams; dream on in darkness; dream of the gods' destruction. Whatever may happen the god will gladly yield his role to the young! Return then, Erda! Mother of dread! World-sorrow! Return! Return to endless sleep!