## Liverpool Lieder Circle



Stephen Wearing piano

Celia Van Mullem soprano

Philip Mitchell baritone

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**NOTE:** The Songs on this record are selected from some thirty songs recorded Sunday, 7 February, 1970. To achieve the best balance of piano and voice, keep the volume at low level: you should then enjoy a performance of Lieder given in the ideal and intimate dimensions of the drawing-room.

## SIDE ONE

BANDS 1, 2 & 3. Three folk songs set by Johannes Brahms, here sung as duets.

VERGEBLICHES STÄNDCHEN. Dialogue between youth standing in the cold street and his girl friend within the house; she refuses him entry and sends him home.

DA UNTEN IM TALE and WE KUMM ICH DANN DE POOTS EREN? English translations by Celia Van Mullem.

BAND 4. Duet by Mendelssohn.

O WERT THOU IN THE COLD BLAST. Words by Robert Burns. The German version is known as VOLKSLIED.

BANDS 5, 6 & 7. Songs by Franz Schubert.

GEHEIMES. (1821). Words by Goethe: Only I know the secret in my sweetheart's eyes - she is telling me of our next meeting.

LACHEN UND WEINEN. (1823). Words by Rückert: Laughter and tears are the lot of those in love, and for many reasons.

**DER DOPPELGÄNGER.** (1828). Words by Heine: The poet despairingly returns to the house once inhabited by his long lost beloved; he sees another grieving and realises it is his own ghost or double.

BANDS 8, 9 & 10. Songs by Richard Strauss.

WIEGENLIED. Words by Falke: Mother, bending over the cradle, prays that her child will be happy throughout life.

FREUNDLICHE VISION. Words by Bierbaum: The vision of a white house embowered in trees where he and his beloved shall dwell.

SCHLECHTES WETTER. Words by Heine: Poor mother shopping in rain for nice things to eat, and all for her lazy, golden-haired, pretty daughter, who lounges cosily by the fire.

## SIDE TWO

BANDS 1, 2, 3 & 4. Songs by Brahms.

**FELDEINSAMKEIT.** (1877). Words by Almers: The poet, lying in the meadow grass, feels transported in spirit to the serene depths of the heavens.

**DER JÄGER.** (1884). Words by Halm: My beloved is a huntsman, but he'll only catch me through the church door.

NACHTIGALL. (1884). Words by Reinhold: Your song, Nightingale, is bitter sweet to me, for I am reminded of the voice of one whom I loved and lost long ago.

**DIE MAINACHT.** (1868). Words by Hölty: I turn from the beautiful moonlight to the darker shadows to hide my tears: when shall I see my beloved again?

BANDS 5, 6 & 7. Songs by Robert Schumann.

STÄNDCHEN. (1840). Words by Reinick: Come to me in the silent night; my love, why delay?

DU BIST WIE EINE BLUME. (1840). Words by Heine: You are like a flower, beautiful and pure, and I pray that God will keep you so.

SCHNEEGLOCKCHEN. (1849). Words by Rückert: The snowflakes which fell last night are like so many bells which herald the return of Spring.

BAND 8. Song by Jensen.

LEHN'DEINE WANG'AN MEINE WANG'. Words by Heine: In your arms I shall die of love's longing.

BANDS 9, 10 & 11. Songs by Hugo Wolf.

HERR, WAS TRÄGT DER BODEN HIER. (1889). Sacred song from the Spanisches Liederbuch: Thorns and flowers grow in this ground. "For me the thorns," says the Lord, "the flowers for thee."

ICH HAB'IN PENNA. (1882). The last song from the Italienisches Liederbuch: I have a lover in Penna, lovers here and more lovers there - ten in Castiglione!

MAUSFALLEN-SPRÜCHLEIN. (1882). Words by Mörike: The child accompanied by the cat invites the mice to come into the moonlight to have a sing-song and a little dance, but, beware, mice dear, my old cat will dance too!

CELIA VAN MULLEM studied at Morley

College, London. She is well known on Merseyside as a singer of opera, oratorio and English songs, though German poetry and German Lieder are her first loves. As administrator of the Bluecoat Society of Arts, she was responsible for founding the Liverpool Lieder Circle.

PHILIP MITCHELL qualified at Leeds

University as an engineer. He has made a life-long study of Lieder, and his enthusiasm as a founder member of the Lieder Circle is unbounded. His performance with Bridget Fry of Schubert's "Winterreise" will be remembered by many as a highlight of the Circle's programmes.

STEPHEN WEARING studied at the Royal Manchester College of Music, where he was awarded the Hallé Scholarship and the Chappell Gold Medal. He was honoured by a Fellowship in 1943.

His first London appearance was as Soloist at the Promenade Concerts under the baton of the late Sir Henry J. Wood. During his long career he has played with the leading conductors and orchestras, and is well-known to music lovers throughout the country by his frequent broadcasts and recitals. A founder member of the Lieder Circle, he has shown that he is a master accompanist as well as a master soloist.

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