

## Vokalna akademija Ljubljana

Stojan Kuret, conductor

Breda Zakotnik, piano

Martina Burger, soprano

Aco Aleksander Bišćević, tenor

Teja Udovič Kovačič, accordion

### PROGRAM

(first part)

Franz Schubert 1797-1828	<b>Psalm 23</b> D 706, op. 132
Franz Schubert	<b>Nachhelle</b> Johan Gabriel Seidl D 892, op. posth. 134
Uroš Krek 1922-2008	<b>Prekmurska</b> Folk Text
Felix B. Mendelssohn 1809-1847	<b>Beati mortui</b> op. 115/1
Anton Bruckner 1824-1896	<b>Mitternacht</b> Joseph Mendelssohn WAB 80
Andrej Makor 1987	<b>O lux beata Trinitas</b> Saint Ambrose
Franz Schubert arr. Goff Richards	<b>An Sylvia</b> William Shakespeare D 891, op. 106/4
Franz Schubert	<b>Standchen</b> Franz Grillparzer D 920, op. 135

### INTERMISSION

(second part)

- Ambrož Čopi  
1973
- Missa pro Pace**  
- Requiem aeternam - Kyrie - Requiem ... In memoria  
- Letters from the Frontline / I. Farewell  
(Alojz Praprotnik)  
- Sanctus – Benedictus  
- Letters from the Frontline / II. Sea of Fire  
(Alojz Praprotnik)  
- Agnus Dei - Pie Jesu

**Tə prbə rej in Ziljska uəhctet / *The First Dance and Zilja Wedding***

- Chorale in front of the church:
- Julijan Strajnar (transcr.)  
1936
- Koj b'jəs kristjan vəsiəw kna biw**  
*Why would I not be a merry Christian*
- Merry-makers sing under the linden:
- France Marolt (arr.)  
1891-1951
- Buh nan dej tə duobər čes**  
*God give us good time*
- Samo Vremšak (arr.)  
1930-2004
- N'co je dra'n liəp vəčer**  
*'Tis a very nice evening tonight*
- Oskar Dev (arr.)  
1868-1932
- Zamər me čriəs Ture bura**  
*My darling is carting o'er the Ture mountains*
- Jaz pa'no kajžəco man**  
*I have a small shack*
- France Marolt (arr.)
- Druməlca**  
*Jew's harp*
- They come for the bride:
- Mendirar mə urišče pa cestə**  
*The bannerman shouts by the road*
- They call for the bride:
- Al je to tista šiša**  
*Is this the house?*
- Farewell to mother:
- Radovan Gobec (arr.)  
1909-1995
- Sma prišlə pa spet puojdamo**  
*We've come and now we're off again*

Oskar Dev (arr.)

**Muəj puəbəč bura, u Uaše griə**

*My lad is carting to Italy*

The wedding party farewell celebration:

Samo Vremšak (arr.)

**Jes griən, jes griən**

*I'm off, I'm off...*

At the altar:

**Od nabeške ohcete**

*Of heavenly wedding*

After the ceremony:

**Zdej sta pej aženjena**

*And now you are married*

Joint wedding procession to the bridegroom's home:

**U Celoucu ljəpo paukajo**

*In Celovec the kettledrums play nicely*

## A FEW WORDS ON THE PROGRAM

### **Prekmurska**

A contemporary piece on folk wording from Prekmurje (*Eastern Slovenia*) by Uroš Krek tells the story of a girl who finds out her lover is getting married. She makes plans to come to his wedding, bearing a beautiful gift: a wreath of rosemary in her left, and in her right hand - his very son. Let it show whom she had loved! And now, she loves his son.

### **Missa pro Pace**

Composed to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of World War I and dedicated to maestro Kuret and VAL, Ambrož Čopi set the standard Latin requiem mass parts to music for male choir and accompaniment, and inserted two soloist sentences for tenor or soprano. These give a personal account of homesickness and the horrors of war through the letters by Alojz Praprotnik, a Slovenian soldier who perished on the *Soča (Isonzo) front* in 1915, written from the frontline to his family.

### **The First (also the High) Dance and Zilja Wedding**

Traditional folk song fragments from Zilja (*Gail*) Valley, Carinthia

(as arranged by France Marolt, Samo Vremšak, Oskar Dev, Radovan Gobec)

Both the High Dance as well as the Zilja Wedding are part of ceremonial celebration following the traditional Slovenian quintain, a rustic jousting game dating back to Roman times. Boys and young men who sing are joined by girls to dance together in unique and colourful costumes. Celebration joins simple Christian narratives with pre-Christian rites, whence it roots. Fragments from both musical frames are presented intertwined, but stick to the order of celebration chronologically.

- After mass, celebration begins in front of the church with a chorale...

**"How would I not be a merry Christian when I was at the holy mass tonight."**

- Merry-makers sing in circle under the linden tree

**"God give us good time, we have started the first dance. Did you see a badger on the other side of the ridge? There, he dug a burrow for the winter. Seven pairs of devils ... In Gail, the flowers grow in winter and in summer. What a good time for anyone who wants to pick them!"**

*"'Tis a very fine evening tonight, 'tis a very bright night. The moon shines at me through the night, so I cannot even sleep. I will call a friend and we will go sing to the girls again, rousing them from sleep."*

*"My dear is carting o'er the Ture (Tauern) mountains, he is pretty and young. When he comes home, he is shouting and singing nicely."*

*"I have a small shack with three rooms inside. What good is that when I am all alone? But joy I have still, because I will not be alone much longer. I will get a bride, a faithful girl, no more by myself!"*

*Jew's harp "Give me, mother, two copper coins so I can buy myself a jew's-harp. O, that it were made of gold, that its voice could be heard! That the girl would open the door as she sees us!"*

- They come for the bride

*"The bannerman shouts by the road, listen, what a beautiful voice! Soon now, you will have to marry and he will have command. You will lose your wreath and sing to your son when rocking his cradle."*

- They call for the bride

*"Is this the house? Is this the village? Is this the girl I used to go to?"*

- Farewell to mother

*"We've come and now we're off again, taking young Mojca with us, so she would not break the pots and sadden mom and dad."*

*"My lad is carting to Italy ... He will bring a barrel, full of wine. Come, bring it, I will not drink it."*

- The wedding party farewell celebration

*"I'm off, I'm off, I have to go, away from this place. I bid you good night, wish me godspeed!"*

- At the altar

*Of heavenly wedding "What joy in my heart when I remember that God in Heaven hath created me."*

- After the ceremony

*"And now you are married, do be well! Fondle your children good and teach them even better!"*

- Joint wedding procession to the bridegroom's house

*"In Celovec (Klagenfurt), the kettledrums play nicely..."*