

# Stephan Genz, baritone

## Roger Vignoles, piano

Sunday, January 6, 2002, 3 pm

Hertz Hall

### PROGRAM

- Ludwig van Beethoven An die Ferne Geliebte, Op. 98, Nos. 1–6  
Auf dem Hügel sitz' ich  
Wo die Berge so blau  
Leichte Segler in den Höhen  
Diese Wolken in den Höhen  
Es kehret der Maien  
Nimm sie hin denn, diese Lieder
- Franz Schubert Lieder to Texts by Johann Wolfgang Goethe  
Der Musensohn, D. 764  
Ganymed, D. 544  
An Schwager Kronos, D. 369  
Am Flusse, D. 766  
Willkommen und Abschied, D. 767

### INTERMISSION

- Robert Schumann Lieder to Texts by Heinrich Heine  
Tragödie I & II, Op. 64, No. 3  
Lehn' deine Wang', Op. 142, No. 2  
Abends am Strand, Op. 45, No. 3  
Belsazar, Op. 57
- Hugo Wolf Lieder to Texts by  
Joseph Freiherr von Eichendorff  
Der Soldat I  
Der Soldat II  
Der Musikant  
Der Scholar  
Die Nacht  
Liebesglück  
Seemans Abschied

By arrangement with Matthew Sprizzo

Cal Performances would like to thank Dr. A. Jess Shenson  
for his generous support of our 2001/02 Recital Series.

Cal Performances would like to thank The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation  
and the Zellerbach Family Fund for their generous support.

Cal Performances is supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts,  
a federal agency that supports the visual, literary, and performing arts to benefit all Americans,  
and by the California Arts Council, a state agency.

Stephan Genz (baritone) has in an astonishingly short time become one of Europe's most sought-after and acclaimed lieder interpreters. He has given acclaimed recitals in Paris' Théâtre Châtelet and Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, London's Wigmore Hall, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Brussels' Opéra Royal de la Monnaie, the Schubertiade (Feldkirch/Hohenems), and the music festivals of Aix-en-Provence, Edinburgh, Maggio Musicale, and Verbier, as well as throughout Spain and Japan. His recordings on the Teldec, Hyperion, Claves, and Capriccio labels include songs by

Brahms, Schumann, and Beethoven, the latter earning him a 1999 Gramophone Award. His current North American recital tour includes today's Cal Performances appearance, as well as concerts at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, the University Musical Society (Ann Arbor, Michigan), the Vocal Recital Series (Montreal), the Cleveland Chamber Music Society, and the Vocal Arts Society (Washington, DC). These concerts mark his first United States appearances since making a sensationally received debut at New York's Frick Collection in January 2000.

Equally accomplished on the concert and opera stages, Genz has performed principal roles at La Scala; the Deutsche Oper Berlin; and the opera companies of Lausanne, Rennes, Strasbourg, and Paris (Bastille and Théâtre des Champs-Élysées). He has also collaborated with such conductors as Myung-Whun Chung, Pierre Cao, Marcus Creed, John Eliot Gardiner, Daniel Harding, Thomas Hengelbrock, Philippe Herreweghe, Gustav Kuhn, Sigiswald Kuijken, Jesus Lopez-Cobos, Fabio Luisi, Georges Prêtre, René Jacobs, and Giuseppe Sinopoli. In April 2002, he will make his Hamburg State Opera debut as Guglielmo in Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, appearing with his brother, tenor Christoph Genz (as Ferrando).

Awards and distinctions include top prizes at the Hamburg International Brahms and Stuttgart International Hugo Wolf Competitions, and the Brahms-Preis des Landes Schleswig-Holstein (October 1999).

Born in Erfurt, Germany, Genz's early musical training was as a member of Leipzig's renowned Thomanerchor. At age 15, he began studies with Hans-Joachim Beyer at Leipzig's Hochschule für Musik, and he subsequently worked with Mitsuko Shirai and Hartmut Höll at Karlsruhe's Staatliche Hochschule für Musik. Genz has also studied with Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau and Elisabeth Schwarzkopf. He appears by arrangement with Matthew Sprizzo.

Roger Vignoles (piano) is one of Britain's most outstanding musicians. Originally inspired by the playing of Gerald Moore, he decided on leaving university to pursue a career as a piano accompanist, completing his essential training with the distinguished Viennese-born teacher Paul Hamburger.

Since then, reviewers worldwide have consistently recognized his distinctive qualities as a player. Among his first partners was the great Swedish soprano Elisabeth Söderström, whom he regularly accompanied throughout the 1970s and 1980s. During this period, he also developed particularly fruitful collaborations with Dame Kiri te Kanawa; with Sir Thomas Allen, recording works including Schumann's *Dichterliebe* and Schubert's *Winterreise*; and with Sarah Walker, in a wide repertoire of song, from German lieder and French *mélodies* to cabaret songs by Gershwin, Britten, and others.

Recent seasons have included tours with Sylvia McNair, Dame Felicity Lott, Susan Graham, Véronique Gens, Sir Thomas Allen, and Joan Rodgers, as well as recitals with Olaf Bär, Kathleen Battle, Brigitte Fassbaender, Bernarda Fink, Christine Schaefer, Thomas Hampson, Lorraine Hunt, Stephan and Christoph Genz, Monica Groop, and Sarah Walker (featuring appearances at the music festivals of Bath, Brighton, Cheltenham, Aldeburgh, Schleswig-Holstein, Prague, Verbier, and Ravinia). He is also a regular visitor to the Schubertiade in Feldkirch.

In 1997, the Schubert celebration year, Vignoles devised and directed at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London a week-long series entitled "Landscape into Song," in which his culminating performance of *Winterreise* with Robert Holl was described by *The Times* as "one of the most memorable performances of the year." In 1998, he inaugurated the Nagaoka Winter Festival in Japan, giving recitals and masterclasses based on Schubert's *Winterreise*; he has subsequently returned each year

as the Festival's artistic director. Last December, Vignoles was the subject of BBC Radio 3's Artist in Focus series. In 2001, he took part in the Schumann Festival at the South Bank in London giving recitals with Wolfgang Holzmair, Christiane Oelze, and Robert Holl. Also that year, he appeared in staged performances of the complete Britten *Canticles* in Barcelona with John Mark Ainsley and Michael Chance.

Among his recent recordings, *La Belle Époque* with Susan Graham (devoted to the songs of Reynaldo Hahn), *Nuits d'Étoiles* with Véronique Gens (Fauré, Debussy, Poulenc), and a CD of Strauss, Mahler, and Marx with Katarina Karnéus all have been nominated for Gramophone Awards, while his recording of Beethoven songs with Stephan Genz on Hyperion won the 1999 Award in the song category. Future releases include the complete Wolf *Mörrike-Lieder* with Stephan Genz, and *Canciones Amatorias*, a CD of Spanish songs, with Bernarda Fink.

Future engagements include recitals with Stephan Genz, John Mark Ainsley, Joan Rodgers, Katarina Karnéus, and Leila Josefowicz; a return to Barcelona with Sarah Walker; and tours of the United States and Japan.