

CATHERINE ROBBIN, Mezzo-soprano  
JOHN GREER, Piano

I

The Blessed Virgin's Expostulation

Henry Purcell  
(1659-1695)

II

An die Musik  
Der Fischer  
Der König in Thule  
Der Musensohn

Franz Schubert  
(1797-1828)

III

The Mary Stuart Songs

*Abschied von Frankreich*  
*Nach der Geburt ihres Sohnes*  
*An die Königin Elisabeth*  
*Abschied von der Welt*  
*Gebet*

Robert Schumann  
(1810-1856)

INTERMISSION

IV

Chansons de Bilitis

*La Flute de Pan*  
*La Chevelure*  
*Le Tombeau des Naiades*

Claude Debussy  
(1862-1918)

V

The House of Tomorrow

*On Children*  
*The Whole Duty of Children: A Recitation*  
*Midnight Prayer*  
*Rhyme*

John Greer  
(b. 1954)

VI

Irish Country Songs

*The Next Market Day*  
*I Know Where I'm Goin'*  
*The Bard of Armagh*  
*The Lover's Curse*  
*A Ballynure Ballad*

arr. Hughes  
(1882-1937)

### **CATHERINE ROBBIN, Mezzo-soprano**

A "musician of rare sensitivity" with a stunning voice of unusual colour and richness mezzo-soprano Catherine Robbin reinforces her reputation as a dedicated and extraordinarily gifted artist through her performances in opera, oratorio and recital.

A top prize winner in the vocal competitions of Paris and Geneva, and the Gold Award Winner at the Benson and Hedges International Competition in Great Britain, Miss Robbin has been described as having "unquestionably one of the finest voices, in its range, that Canada has produced in decades".

Highlights of the past season included performances of Messiah with the Montreal Symphony, Berlioz' Les Nuits d'Ete with the National Ballet of Canada and Mozart' Requiem with the National Arts Centre Orchestra. In September, she was invited to represent Canada on the jury of the Tercer Concurso Latino Americano de Canto in Venezuela.

Miss Robbin's busy schedule this season will see her performing with the St. Louis Symphony, the National Arts Centre Orchestra, the Winnipeg Symphony, the Thunder Bay Symphony, and the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony.

Miss Robbin can be heard on the album Sweet Was the Song with the Vancouver Chamber Choir (Marquis Records: ERA 107) and on a recording of Messiah, under the baton of John Eliot Gardiner, with the Monteverdi Choir and English Baroque Soloists (Philips 6769107).

Catherine Robbin's first solo recital recording, recently released by Marquis Records (ERAff 113) was a 1985 JUNO nominee.

### **JOHN GREER, Piano**

John Greer was born in Winnipeg and attended the University of Manitoba where he was awarded the Gold Medal. He also attended the University of California where he was student of Gwendolyn Koldofsky and Brooks Smith.

John Greer is presently a faculty member of the Opera Division of the University of Toronto where he made his conducting debut in Respighi's one-act opera Maria Egiziaca in the fall of 1983. He has also conducted Benjamin's Prima Donna for Opera Piccola, and The Sorcerer, Ruddigore, Princess Ida and The Yeomen of the Guard for Toronto's Gilbert Sullivan Society, as well as the Marriage of Figaro and Gianni Schicci for the University of Toronto's Opera Division.

In the fall of 1986, Mr. Greer supplied the musical direction and arrangements for the highly successful show "An Evening with Noel Coward" for Toronto's Centre Stage Music. He was also the pianist for this production which enjoyed a week-long run at the St. Lawrence Centre, and included performers Mark Dubois, Katherine Terrell, Janet Stubbs Mark Pedrotti and John Neville.

Mr. Greer's activities as a vocal coach and accompanist have taken him across Canada with artists such as Catherine Robbin and Mark Pedrotti, and he has been broadcast frequently on CBC Radio. A composer and arranger, he has written numerous vocal and choral works which have received performances by various Canadian artists.

*Miss Robbin is represented by Hart/Murdock Artists Management.*