



Royal Conservatoire  
of Scotland

# *CLASSICS at KIPPEN*

Kathleen McKellar Ferguson

Introduces

## The Scarlet Quartet

from

The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Kippen Parish Church  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2012

Supporting

# CROSSROADS

*“Music expresses that which  
cannot be put into words  
and that which cannot remain  
silent”*

Victor Hugo

Emily Mitchell	Soprano
Lynda Jane Nelson	Mezzo Soprano
John Findon	Tenor
Andrew McTaggart	Baritone
Daniel Goncalves	Piano
Kathleen McKellar Ferguson	Piano & Mezzo Soprano

## Programme

### **Liebeslieder Walzes**

Johannes Brahms (7 May 1833 – 3 April 1897)

1. Rede, Mädchen, allzu liebes. - Speak, Maden, whom I love.
2. Am Gesteine rauscht die Flut – Against the stone the stream rushes.
3. O die Frauen – O Woman.
4. Wie des Abends schöne Röthe–Like the evening's lovely red.
5. Die grüne Hopfenranke – The green hops vine.
6. Ein kleiner, hübscher Vogel nahm – A small pretty bird.
7. Wohl schön bewandt – Quite fair and content
8. Wenn so lind dein Augen mir – When your eyes looks as me.
9. Am Donaustrande – On the Danube's banks.
10. O wie sanft die Quelle – How gently the stream
11. Nein, est ist nicht auszukommen – No, there is no getting along.
12. Schlosser auf, und mache Schlösser – Locksmith - Up and make your locks
13. Vögelein durchrauscht die Luft – Little bird rushes through the air.
14. Sieh, wie ist die Welle klar – See how clear the waves are.
15. Nachtigall, sie singt so schön – The nightingale sings so beautifully.
16. Ein dunkeler Schacht ist Liebe. Lebhaft – Love is a dark shaft
17. Nicht wandle, mein Licht. Mit Ausdruck – Do not wander, my light.
18. Es bebet das Gesträuche. Lebhaft – The bushes are trembling.

The second half will include a selection of popular classics including Opera, Show and Traditional Song.

**Kathleen McKellar Ferguson**, originally from Thornhill, is a graduate of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in both piano (with Lawrence Glover) and singing (with Elizabeth Izatt). After finishing her teacher training she pursued post graduate studies in singing at the Royal College of Music in London with Marion Studholme. A Countess of Munster Scholarship enabled her to continue her studies with Margaret Hyde with whom she had a long association during her professional singing career.

Her varied singing career in both opera and on the concert platform has taken her all over the world, most notably on the concert platform to the Gstaad Festival (Beethoven symphony no 9), Festival of Sacred Music in Czestochowa in Poland, Mozart Festival in Vienna (Mozart Requiem), Orchestra of RAI in Milan, Tokyo Philharmonic, Czech Philharmonic, Orchestra of Euskede in Spain, St Petersburg Camerata (Messiah in the Hermitage Theatre and the Symphony Hall), Orchestra of the Theatre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels (Mahler's Das Lied von der Erde).

In the UK she has sung with many of the leading orchestras including the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra, London Bach Orchestra, Ulster Orchestra, Bournemouth Sinfonietta, and the Orchestra of St John's Smith Square. Recordings include Beethoven Symphony no 9 with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (also performed at the Royal Festival Hall at the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday concert of Sir Yehudi Menuhin in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen Mother), Lily Boulanger's *Au fond de l'Abime* at the Three Choirs Festival for BBC Radio 3 and Handel's *Messiah* in the Royal Albert Hall, London with the BBC Concert orchestra and Huddersfield Choral Society. Recital work includes Theatre Royale de la Monnaie (Brussels), Queens Festival (Belfast) and in 1991 her Wigmore Hall debut to name but a few. She has also made numerous broadcasts for the BBC religious department and for BBC television a Christmas Day Celebration. In 1996 she released a recording of Scottish folk songs 'Echoes of Scotland' with her accompanist Peter Bailey.

Operatic Roles include Florence Pike (Albert Herring) at the Aldeburgh Festival, Marcellina and Cherubino (*Marriage of Figaro*) for Pavillion Opera and Clonter Opera, Mercedes (*Carmen*) for Clonter Opera, Maketaten (*Akhnaton*) for ENO, Suzuki (*Madam Butterfly*) for a tour of the Middle East and for Opera Forum in the Netherlands, Second Lady (*Magic Flute*) for the Theatre Royale de la Monnaie in Brussels and at the Aix-en Provence Festival with Les Arts Florissan under Sir William Christie, and Bradamante (*Alcina*) for Flanders Opera in Antwerp under Jos van Imerseel and for Zurich Opera under Niklaus Harnoncourt.

During her 20 years in London Kathleen taught singing at the Purcell School and at St Paul's Girls school. She now lives in Kippen with her husband Grant and teaches singing at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.



**SCARLET**

**QUARTET**

**The Scarlet Quartet** was founded three years ago whilst its members were studying together at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. The Quartet is made up of singers who are working as soloists and who enjoy ensemble singing; all having experience singing in the RCS's Chamber Choir throughout their time studying there. The Quartet has sung at many prestigious events throughout Scotland and continues to grow in standard and acclaim. It is known for its rich and deep sound, which is shaped to match the musical style. Forthcoming concerts include performances in Edinburgh Fringe Festival and Troon Music Festival. The Quartet are available for corporate and private functions. Please contact Andrew on 07887556569 for information.

Scottish soprano, **Emily Mitchell** began her formal classical training at the RSAMD (now Royal Conservatoire of Scotland), where she gained a Bachelor of Music and a Masters of Music under the tutelage of Margaret Aronson. She is now continuing her vocal study with soprano Jane Irwin. Emily has appeared several times with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra as part of the Edinburgh International Festival and in a performance of Linberg's *Graffiti*. Emily has been broadcast on BBC Radio Scotland in *Mendelssohn Rediscovered*, and BBC Radio 3. Her most recent appearance on BBC Radio 3 was with the BBC SSO and the London Symphony Chorus singing in the Scottish premiere of MacMillan's *St John Passion*. Emily made her BBC Proms debut in August 2010 at the Royal Albert Hall with the BBC SSO, conducted by Donald Runnicles in Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music*. As a regular performer with the Dunedin Consort, Emily has performed in Bach's *Bminor* Mass and *Magnificat*, Handel's *Messiah* and *Dixit Dominus* and has recorded Handel's *Esther* with Linn Records, due to be released this spring.

**Lynda-Jane Nelson** (nee. Workman) was born and raised in Northern Ireland. She is currently studying a MMus (Opera) at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (formerly RSAMD), under the tutelage of Kathleen McKellar-Ferguson. She also holds a MMus (Performance) and BMus from the RSAMD. Lynda-Jane represented the RSAMD at the Junior Kathleen Ferrier Awards and has sang in the RSAMD's Opera productions of *Tales of Hoffmann* by Offenbach (Mother's Voice and chorus) and in *Kasper Hauser* by Rory Boyle (Daumer's Mother), Innkeeper's Wife in *The Cunning Little Vixen*, Mrs Herring in *Albert Herring* and La Duenna in *Betrothal in a Monastery*. She

also regularly sings with the chamber choir, most recently in Handel's *Messiah*, Sir Peter Maxwell Davies *Taverner* and Bach's *Magnificat*. Lynda-Jane also sang in the opening concert of the Edinburgh International Festival in August 2008 as one of the 'Ladies of Mahagonny' from Kurt Weill's *Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny*. Recent masterclasses have included Kathryn Harries, Jane Eaglen, Malcolm Martineau, and Patricia McMahon and Lynda-Jane was a finalist in this year's NI Opera Vocal Competition and Thelma King Prize. Solo concert performances include Bach's *Magnificat*, Handel's *Messiah*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Beethoven's *Mass in C* and Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Handel's *Dettingen Te Deum* and Charpentier *Te Deum*. Recent engagements include Bach's *Magnificat* and Mozart's *Requiem* in Canterbury Cathedral, Mozart *Solemn Vespers*, *Serenade to Music* by Vaughan Williams in the Royal Albert Hall as part of the BBC Proms, Lucretia in the *Rape of Lucretia* and Third Lady in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*. Upcoming engagements include Mrs Chin and the Old Crone from *A Night at the Chinese Opera* with British Youth Opera.

**John Findon** has appeared as a soloist with the Halle Youth Choir, the Sing Live Ensemble and the Scholae Buriensis Chorus and Players. John has also been featured on BBC broadcasts as soloist in morning services for Glasgow University Chapel Choir and St Mary's Cathedral choir. As a chorister beginning at Bury Parish Church, John has performed with the Choir of Keble College Oxford, St, Georges Chapel Windsor, Bristol and Worcester Cathedral, Glasgow University Chamber Choir and the RSAMD Chamber Choir. He has performed at the Bridgewater Hall Manchester and numerous Cathedrals around the country. John began his vocal training at the age of 17 under the direction of Bass/Baritone Martin Bussey. At 18 John gained a place to the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, where he is learning with Kathleen Ferguson. In his first year at the Academy John was involved in the World Premier of Prokofiev's opera '*War and Peace*' as part of the offstage chorus, he also took part in the performance of Peter Maxwell Davies' semi-opera '*Taverner*' for the composers 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday, with Peter Maxwell Davies present at the performance. John has been involved in many solo oratorio performances while in Scotland most notably Saint-Saens '*Christmas Oratorio*', Haydn's '*Creation*', Mozart, Durufle and Faure's '*Requiem*s', Handel's '*Messiah*', and a notable recording for Delphion records of the Liszt '*Funeral Odes*'. Scottish

Baritone **Andrew McTaggart** is in his last year at the Alexander Gibson Opera School at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland studying with George Gordon and Kathleen

McKellar Ferguson. He recently became the 2012 Winner of the Joaninha Trust for Singing. Whilst at the Conservatoire he has won the *Governors Recital Price for Singing* and the *Florence Veitch Ibler Prize for Oratorio Singing*.

In Opera, he has performed role of 'Matveyev' in the critically acclaimed performances of *War and Peace* (RCS): performing in Glasgow, Edinburgh and also in Rostov-on-don, Russia. Other roles include 'Badger' in *Cunning Little Vixen* (RCS), 'Antonio' in *Le Nozze di Figaro* and 'Copelius' in *Les contes d'Hoffmann* (RSC). Andrew performed in the Scottish Premier of Tom Cunningham's chamber opera *Okavango MacBeth*. Andrew performed Walton's *Bellszazar's Feast* in his debut with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra along side the 160 strong National Youth Choir of Scotland, gaining a five star review. Other major oratorio performances include Handel's *Messiah* in the Usher Hall Edinburgh, Howard Goodall's *Eternal Light* with the Ulster Orchestra and Belfast Philharmonic Choir in the Ulster Hall, Belfast and the second performance of 'Christus' in MacMillan's *St. John Passion* at the Association of British Choral Directors conference.

In August, he is going on start his role as an Emerging Artist at Scottish Opera and will be performing roles including 'Bottom' in Britten's *Midsummer Nights Dream* and 'Barone Doupho' in Verdi's *La Traviata*.

**Daniel Goncalves** holds a degree in music at the Arts Institute of UNESP, where he studied under the guidance of Anna Claudia Agazzi and continued under Marisa Lacorte, with whom he has studied since 2002. Daniel has won several national piano and chamber music competitions including; Art Livre, National Piano Competition Cubatao, Young Brazilian Musicians and the 1<sup>st</sup> Chamber Music National Competition in Londrina (Brazil), which yielded a tour through several cities in Parana in late 2006. Daniel has participated in master classes with renowned pianists such as Flavio Augusto, Daisy de Luca, Yara Bernette, Richard Bishop, Gilberto Tinetti, Diana Kacso and Malcolm Martineau. He's been the official pianist of several music festivals in Brazil and, in 2009, 2010 and 2011, played in the conducting class at the Festival Eleazar de Carvalho in Fortaleza. During the last 5 years Daniel has worked as a répétiteur in the classes of the tenor Benito Maresca. After winning a répétiteur scholarship to the RSAMD in September 2010, he is now working towards his Master Degree. Daniel was the winner of the "James H Geddes Bursary for Répétiteurs" prize and the "Leonard Hancock Memorial Trust Bursary".

**Crossroads** was founded in Kippen over 30 years ago to provide care and respite for carers. Many local families have benefitted from regular or emergency care over the years. Crossroads West Stirlingshire is very grateful to Kathleen McKellar Ferguson and the students from The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland for their generosity in making this their chosen charity for a Crossroads concert.

[www.crossroads-scotland.co.uk](http://www.crossroads-scotland.co.uk)