

The Norwegian Glee Club and Swedish Male Chorus

Present



SIGURD NILSSEN

EMINENT BASS BARITONE

Is an Oregonian by birth, of Norwegian parentage. He studied in this country and in Europe, where he devoted much time to opera. In 1922 he made his debut at Monte Carlo with brilliant success. In this country his success has been equally great.

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Sunday, May 7th, 1939, 8:15 p.m.

Dear Friends:

Siguard Nilssen, the Norwegian Glee Club and the Swedish Male Chorus wish to take this means of extending to you their heartfelt appreciation for your kind and loyal support to the cause of music. Your co-operation and encouragement bring renewed inspiration to all who are taking part in the program to give of their best to the musical and cultural tradition of the beloved land of their adoption.

They wish further to assure you that their efforts in the future will be, as in the past, to bring only music of the highest quality to the concert platform, and they cordially invite you to attend their future programs.

Sincerely yours,

DR. FRANS P. FRANSEN,
Chairman Committee on Arrangements

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* * *

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PROGRAM

Si, Tra i Ceppi (from the opera "Berenice") *G. F. Handel*

Yea, mid chains and tortures frightful,
Shall my faith resplendent shine.
Nor shall Death with venom spiteful,
Quench this burning fire of mine.

Les Chevaliers de la Croix Blanche (15th Century) --Arranged by G. Michiels

(Old French of the time of Charles VIII in the latter part of the 15th Century)

Gentle gallant of France
On your way to the war,
I pray you greet my friend.
His uniform is all white,
He wears a white cross
And spurs that are golden,
At the point of his lance.

Weep no more, pretty one,
For he is dead.
The Bretons killed him.
I saw them dig his grave,
At the edge of a green meadow,
And saw four Cordeliers
Sing a mass for his soul.

La Mousse de Biscaye (11th Century) Arranged by G. Michiels

(Basque refrain: "So-az, So-az, ordonarequin," an expression in Basque meaning "You shall pay dearly for this.")

I met a girl from old Biscay
On my way to the mill one day.
She was as white as a parchment.
I kissed her—she did not seem to mind.
By the Prophets, what do I hear?
You speak neither French nor Latin.
Throw to the winds that strange babble
And speak to me in the language of love.

Tom der Reimer (Tom the Poet) *Carl Loewe*

As Tom the poet lay dreaming by the brook, he saw a beautiful maiden on a white horse, from whose plaited mane hung little silver bells. It was the Fairy queen. She bade him play on his harp and sing for her, but warned him that if his lip touched hers, he would become her slave for seven years. The poet kissed the Fairy queen again and again. She cast her spell over him, and to the accompaniment of her sweet chiming bells the two rode away through the woods.

SIGURD NILSSEN

Margaret Notz Steinmetz, accompanist

On the Sea *D. Buck*

I Midnattsolen *Alf Wold*

"In the Midnight-sun" is pictured the fire-red sun which spreads red flames over sea and land. Thousands of white birds on the cliffs appear like snow. The birds are asleep peacefully. The midnight-sun is on guard. Midnattsol!

Naar Fjorderne Blaaner *Paulsson*

A patriotic song. When the Fjords are blue like violets on the ground, when the breakers glitter in the playing sun, then I can only whisper: God bless Norway, my glorious land."

Combined Choruses
Director, Ernest Harold

PROGRAM—Continued

Vaer Hilset i Damer (Ladies, Be greeted)..... *Edward Grieg*

A bard comes to the castle. He greets the ladies, drinks to their health, even offers to lead them in a dance, but warns them that he will not become a victim to their charms.

Med en Vandilje (With a Waterlily) *Edward Grieg*

See, Marie, I bring a white-winged flower, a waterlily, I pray thee wear it. On the quiet surface of the stream it floats, heavy with dreams, but take care, child, for the fierce currents beneath.

Vaaren (The Spring) *Edward Grieg*

This song is an elegy and expresses the poignant feelings of one who gazes enraptured at awakening nature, and realizes that for him it may be the last spring. The text was written by Vinje, the great Norwegian poet, shortly before his death.

Eit Syn (A Vision) *Edward Grieg*

I met a maiden who made me forget life's woes and set me dreaming. My dream was changed into wonder as I gazed on her charms, so far, yet so near. She faded away but to my sight she returned with insistence as pure as the sunlight—but distant, O distant, O distant!

Til Norge (To Norway) *Edward Grieg*

Thou, my Native land, hast born me, I love thee. No more can I say.

Og jeg vil ha mig en Hjertenskjaer *Edward Grieg*

Midsummer nights in Norway are nights of gaiety. This poem is about a young man goes to a celebration with hopes of finding a sweetheart. Clad in his finest, and riding a white horse, he finds the maiden of his heart, swings her into his saddle, rides madly, gaily through the bewitching white summer night.

(Sung in Norwegian)

SIGURD NILSSEN

Margaret Notz Steinmetz, accompanist

Dear Land of Home *Sibelius*

Mor, Lilla Mor *Unknown*

Mother, Little Mother, no one is like you in the whole world. If I only some day could pay you back for all you have done for me. For all you have sacrificed for me; no one can equal you on the whole earth.

Vikingarne *A. Friberg*

A forceful story of the Viking trips to other lands and their battles there. The solo invites all the weak to throw away fear and go out with courage and let the enemy feel the Viking's sharp swords.

Combined Choruses

Solo by Sigurd Nilssen

Werner Sahlin, accompanist. Director, E. Okerstrom

When the King went forth to war..... *T. Koeneman*

My Homeland *Clara Edwards*

Young Tom O'Devon..... *K. Russell*

The Pilgrim *Peter Tschaikovsky*

SIGURD NILSSEN

Margaret Notz Steinmetz, accompanist

Landkjending (Land-Sighting) *Edward Grieg*

Combined Choruses

Solo by Sigurd Nilssen

Werner Sahlin, accompanist. Director, Ernest Harold

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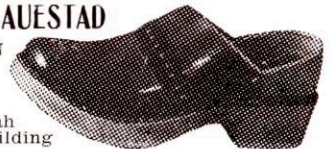
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