

*GUEST ARTIST
AND FACULTY RECITAL*

RODNEY WATERS, piano
ANNETTE ELSTER, mezzo-soprano
WAYNE BROOKS, viola

Sunday, January 24, 1999

8:00 p.m.

Lillian H. Duncan Recital Hall

RICE UNIVERSITY

the
Shepherd
School
of Music

PROGRAM

*Innocence**Bedřich Smetana**Remembrance**(1824-1884)**Fleeting Thought**Five Songs on Poems by Friedrich Rückert**Gustav Mahler**Ich atmet' einen linden Duft**(1860-1911)**(I breathed a gentle fragrance)**Liebst du um Schönheit ...**(If you love for beauty ...)**Blicke mir nicht in die Lieder!**(Do not look at my songs!)**Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen**(I have lost touch with the world)**Um Mitternacht (At midnight)*

INTERMISSION

*Two Songs for Alto, Viola, and Piano, Op. 91**Johannes Brahms**Gestillte Sehnsucht (Stilled Longing)**(1833-1897)**Geistliches Wiegenlied (Sacred Lullaby)**October 1, 1905 (for piano)**Leoš Janáček**The Premonition**(1854-1928)**Death**Traum durch die Dämmerung**Richard Strauss**(Dream at Twilight), Op. 29 No. 1**(1864-1949)**Die Nacht (Night), Op. 10 No. 3**Heimliche Aufforderung (Secret Invitation), Op. 27 No. 3**Morgen! (Tomorrow), Op. 21 No. 4**Zueignung (Dedication), Op. 10 No. 1*

BIOGRAPHIES

RODNEY WATERS, a native of Lubbock, Texas, made his formal debut at sixteen when, as a student of Thomas Redcay, he performed Grieg's Piano Concerto with the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra. He earned his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Mannes College of Music in New York, where he studied piano with Leon Pommers and Richard Goode as well as chamber music with Felix Galimir. Highlights of the 1990 season included appearances in Carnegie Hall and Orchestra Hall, Detroit, Michigan. Since then he has performed in Carnegie Recital Hall with flutist Lisa Philby Waters and toured Japan extensively with Ms. Waters and violinist Asako Urushihara.

In 1994 Mr. Waters returned to Japan to perform with soprano Lucy Shelton at the Togamura Festival of Contemporary Music and Theater. In recent years he has performed in summer festivals in Texas, Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, and has worked as staff accompanist at the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California since 1996. In the spring of 1997 he traveled to Japan and Germany to assist in the preparation of the world premiere of *Vision of Lear*, an opera by Japanese composer Toshio Hosokawa, commissioned by the Munich Biennale.

In April Mr. Waters will perform with Curt Thompson the complete Sonatas for Violin and Piano by Charles Ives at a national festival of the composer's music at Texas Christian University in Ft. Worth. In the summer of 1999 he will perform in recital with mezzo-soprano Annette Elster and baritone Yaron Windmueller in Japan.

Mr. Waters also serves as a staff accompanist at The Shepherd School of Music, a position he has held since 1992.

ANNETTE ELSTER was born in Hammeln, Germany, in 1965. While still a student at the Musikhochschule in Würzburg, she made operatic and concert debuts in Italy as well as in the United States. After graduation she was awarded a contract with Theater Hagen, where she performed many important mezzo-soprano roles including *Carmen*, *Charlotte (Werther)*, *Orpheus*, and *Cenerentola*.

Since 1994 she has been engaged by Oper Nürnberg performing mezzo-soprano as well as soprano roles such as the Composer (*Ariadne auf Naxos*) and Kundry (*Parzifal*). In addition she has performed in the opera houses of Dresden, Bologna, Palermo, and Dallas. Her affinity for music of the twentieth century has been shown in critically acclaimed performances of works by Rihm, Dallapiccola, Orff, and Berg.

Her oratorio and symphonic repertoire is extensive, with performances including Verdi's *Requiem*, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, and Mahler's *Rückert Lieder* both in Germany and abroad.

In April of 1998 she performed the role of Goneril in the opera *Vision of*

Lear by Japanese composer Toshio Hosokawa, which received its world premier in Germany at the Munich Biennale.

Highlights of the 1998-99 season include *Wozzeck*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Die Walküre*, as well as the Japanese premiere of *Vision of Lear*.

WAYNE BROOKS is the principal violist of the Houston Symphony. Born in Los Angeles, Mr. Brooks joined the orchestra in 1977 as associate principal violist after graduating from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. In 1985 he won the position of principal viola.

In addition to appearances as soloist with the Houston Symphony, Mr. Brooks has appeared in chamber music performances with Joseph Silverstein and Christoph Eschenbach. He has participated in concerts of contemporary chamber music in the Houston Symphony's INNOVA series, in performance with Da Camera, and in chamber music festivals in Craftsbury, Vermont, and Lake City, Colorado. Since 1993 he has been the violist of the Houston Symphony Chamber Players, serving on the faculty of Japan's Pacific Music Festival, and touring Japan (1993, 1994 and 1995) and Europe (1994 and 1997). He has also appeared at Chicago's Ravinia Festival in 1996 and 1997. With the Houston Symphony Chamber Players he has recorded works of Webern and Berg.

In 1995 Mr. Brooks gave the Houston premiere of Alfred Schnittke's Viola Concerto with Christoph Eschenbach and the Houston Symphony and was praised for his "confidence, projection, and the ability of a veteran soloist. Few musicians heard in Jones Hall have made such an effortless transition from ensemble to soloist. His work was first rate."

Mr. Brooks has toured Germany as the solo violist of the Pennsylvania Pro Musica. In addition he presently serves on the faculty of The Shepherd School of Music as an Associate Professor of Viola where he teaches both solo repertoire and classes focusing on the study of orchestral repertoire, as well as the preparation for orchestral auditions.

Following the performance there will be a reception in Room 1402 generously sponsored by the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany. Everyone is invited.



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