More Friends

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Upcoming Concerts

University Singers; May 21, 8:00 PM, Meany Theater
Percussion Ensemble; May 22, 8:00 PM, Meany Studio Theater
Madrigal Singers; May 22, 8:00 PM, Meany Theater
Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band; May 23, 8:00 PM, Meany Theater
Jazz Combos; May 24, 8:00 PM, Brechemin Auditorium
Sonor Ventorum Wind Quintet; May 25, 8:00 PM, Brechemin Auditorium
French and German Baroque Concert; May 29, 8:00 PM, Meany Theater
Studio Jazz Ensemble; May 30, 8:00 PM, Meany Theater
Young Composers; May 31, 8:00 PM, Brechemin Auditorium
Cast of Characters
(in order of appearance)

Vanessa            Cynthia Ann Oeck (May 16 & 20)
                    Christine Peters (May 18)
Erika               Ann Wopat
The Old Baroness    Geraldina Sorrentino
Anatol              Jeffrey Francis
The Doctor           Mel Ulrich
The Major Domo      Kelly Redeker
A Footman           Glenn Rumbaoa
Pastor               George Forman
Maids                Lucretia Boissonou
                    Kelly Bouwman
Coachman            Eric Swigart
A Duchess            Salina Gleason
Count d'Albany       Brad Fanta
Countess d'Albany    Deirdre Jasper

The action takes place in the winter garden of Vanessa's
country estate. The year is 1910.

The University Symphony Orchestra
Peter Erös, Conductor
José Nilo Valle, Assistant Conductor

Violin I
Jennifer Hillaker
Anne Marie Hoffman
Sunny Lee Kim
Shirley Lee
Matthew Weiss
Jeff Yang
Jonathan Graber
Stephanie Chang

Gretchen Yanover
Chris Marcum
Jens-Uwe Gross
Kim Carter
Edward Tellman

Bass
Todd Gowers
Veronica Rudolph
Loui Ledbetter

Flute
Kathleen Woodard
Laura Lube
Twi McDonell

Oboe
Chian Mei Huang
Annalisa Morton

Viola
Scott Ligocki
Gregory Savage
Paul Susen
Ed Davis
Angela Engebretsen
Melanie Edwards
Phil Gainey

English Horn
Sarah Weiner

Clarinet
Sue Kelleher
Cecilia Kim
Billie Winter

Cello
Brian Schuld
Nora Engebretsen

Horn
Jackie Sue Faissal
Jennifer Smith
Tony Miller
Pete Hodges

Trumpet
Michael Kane
Matt Johnson
Carrie Dixon

Trombone
Daniel Wolch
Stephen Wampler
Geoffrey D. Ogle

Tuba
Bret Taylor

Percussion
Jan Dobson
Carter Hoodless
Patti Dixon

Keyboards
Ciro Scotto
Melanie Nalbandian
Kevin Johnson

The University Opera Chorus
Randall Johnson, Conductor

Kurt Alakulppi
Jamie Armstrong
Renée Beaudry
Lucretia Boissonou
Kelly Bouwman
Denise DeVoe
Brad Fanta

Regina Flatt
George Forman
Selina Gleason
Deirdre Jasper
Keith McKenzie
Jan Moria
Ruth Paulhamous

Glenn Rumbaoa
Jennifer Sanderson
Kim Shreiner
Jessica Stanton
Eric Swigart
Tamara Vlasuk

There will be a 15 minute intermission between Act I and Act II.
Friends of Music Night
May 16, 1990

Tonight we recognize with special appreciation our Friends of Music. To those caring individuals who provide additional financial support to the School of Music's goals and programs, we dedicate this performance of Vanessa. Whether a scholarship recipient or an ensemble member on tour, each student beneficiary of Friends' support is given vital assistance and encouragement. To each of you, we give our heartfelt thanks.

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Friends of Music
May 16, 1990

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This is the story of two women, Vanessa and Erika, caught in the central dilemma which faces every human being: whether to fight for one's ideals to the point of shutting oneself off from reality, or compromise with what life has to offer, even lying to oneself for the mere sake of living.

- G. C. Menotti

As young Erika watches an early winter storm, her aunt, the beautiful but aging Vanessa, waits for her lover, as she has been waiting every day for the past twenty years. A young man appears at the door. Without even looking at him, Vanessa addresses him as "Anatole." And so begins a gothic romance of an aunt and niece in love with the same young man.

When Barber's Vanessa premiered at New York's Metropolitan Opera House in January 1958, The New York Times called it "the best American opera ever presented" and The New Yorker praised Barber as "a real master of the operatic tradition." That same year Vanessa won the Pulitzer Prize for composition and was produced at the Salzburg Festival.

This great American opera has been praised by aficionados as much for its libretto as for its beautiful score. Menotti (Amahl and His Night Visitors) has produced one of his best libretti for Vanessa. In the disquieted Vanessa, her vulnerable niece Erika, her stern mother, the Baroness (Erika's grandmother) and other protagonists, Menotti has portrayed fine, three-dimensional characters, drawn with a wry sense of humor.

Program Note

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