Arnold Schoenberg founded the Society for Private Musical Performances in 1918 to perform contemporary music from ‘Mahler to the present’. Mahler had been an early supporter of Schoenberg’s music, and Schoenberg repaid the favour by arranging Mahler’s orchestral works for chamber ensemble and including them at the society’s concerts. The colourful Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen are given a feel of great intimacy in this form, while the lighter scoring of Das Lied von der Erde has the advantage of clarifying instrumental textures, its magical effects capturing ‘the finite nature of earthly things’.

Gustav MAHLER
(1860-1911)

arr. Arnold Schoenberg (1874-1951)

Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen (Songs of a Wayfarer) (1896/1920)

1. Wenn mein Schatz Hochzeit macht (When My Sweetheart is Married) 3:54
2. Ging heut’ Morgen übers Feld (I Went This Morning Over the Field) 4:01
3. Ich hab’ ein glühend Messer (I Have a Gleaming Knife) 3:03
4. Die zwei blauen Augen von meinem Schatz (The Two Blue Eyes of my Beloved) 5:28

Das Lied von der Erde (The Song of the Earth) (1908-09/?)

5. Das Trinklied vom Jammer der Erde (The Drinking Song of the Earth’s Sorrow) 8:16
6. Der Einsame im Herbst (The Lonely One in Autumn) 9:59
7. Von der Jugend (Of Youth) 3:30
8. Von der Schönheit (Of Beauty) 7:29
9. Der Trunkene im Frühling (The Drunkard in Spring) 4:27
10. Der Abschied (The Farewell) 31:00

Susan Platts, Mezzo-soprano 6 8 10 • Charles Reid, Tenor 5 7 9
Roderick Williams, Baritone 1-4 • Attacca Quartet
Virginia Arts Festival Chamber Players • JoAnn Falletta

The German sung texts and English translations can be found inside the booklet, and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/573536.htm

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