FRANCES BIBLE, mezzo-soprano
Betty Ruth Tomfohrde, accompanist

Thursday, January 27, 1977
8:30 P.M.
Hamman Hall

RICE UNIVERSITY
Shepherd School of Music
Samuel Jones, Dean
PROGRAM

I

Adieu forêts

"Jeanne d'Arc"

Peter I. Tschaikovsky

"Farewell, my forests, my beloved meadows, and you, my lambs, disperse o'er yonder heath. No shepherd have you now to lead you, for I forsake this flock to tend another, on far off fields of war. Farewell then - for I depart and nevermore shall see you!"

II

Er ist's

Hugo Wolf

"Hark! From afar soft harp-tones fill the air! It is spring! I knew it would come soon! Spring is here!"

Auf ein altes Bild

Hugo Wolf

"In a green landscape, radiant with summer flowers, beside cool waters where reeds and rushes grow, see how the little Jesus, free from sin, plays happily t the virgin's knee. And yonder in the pleasant wood, alas, the tree for the cross is even now in leaf."

Mausfallen-Sprüchlein

Hugo Wolf

"This little song is addressed to Mr. or Mrs. Mouse by a little girl who is peering into their mousehole. The song was intended to have a spellbinding effect when sung "While singing and dancing three times around a mouse-trap."

Auch kleine Dinge

Hugo Wolf

"Even little things may often give us pleasure; often, too, little things are the most highly prized. The little pearl we treasure above all other gems - how great its worth and yet, how small its size. How small, too, yet how perfect in flavor the olive's fruit, and how small the rosebud, the fairest of all flowers."

In dem Schatten mainer Locken

Hugo Wolf

"In the shadow of my tresses my beloved has fallen asleep. Shall I wake him? Ah, no! I have smoothed my curling tresses every day at early morn, but my trouble is all in vain, for the wind blows them awry. Tresses, blown by soft winds, have lulled my loved one to sleep. Shall I wake him? Ah, no! He tells me that he languishes for me, that my brown cheeks cause him anguish. He calls me a Vixen but he falls asleep by my side. Shall I wake him now? Ah, no!"

Ich Hab' in Penna einen Liebsten wohnen

Hugo Wolf

"I have a lover true who lives in Penna, one in the Maremma plain yonder. One by the sunny harbour of Ancona, a fourth in Viterbo; another dwells in Casentino, the next one lives in my own village. Still another have I in Magione, four in La Fratta, ten in Castiglione."
Four Tonadillas

A tonadilla is a form of vocal composition popular in Spain in the 18th century. Granados' Tonadillas are all concerned with a single theme – love in various aspects as depicted by Goya. Written in a deliberately antique style, they are, in fact, a supplement to the "Boyescas" for piano.

El Mirar de la Maja

"Why do you look so deeply into my eyes? Your eyes, full of disdain, raise fire in my soul; don't look at me. Your eyes are like burning rays, showering death."

El tra la la y el punteado

"It is useless, my Majo,* for you to persist in questioning me; there are some things I will only answer with a song."

(*Majo was a Madrid gallant of bygone days.)

La Maja dolorosa

"My handsome sweetheart was my life and I jealously guard his memory. He loved me long and when I think of him, it brings back dreams of days now past."

El Majo discreto

"They say my majo is homely; perhaps he is, but love is blind. However, he is discreet and keeps my secret. What is the secret? It would be indecent for me to tell. Ah, the secrets a majo has with a woman! He's a majo, a majo he is!"

INTERMISSION

A SALUTE TO AMERICAN OPERA –

Augusta's Aria

"The Ballad of Baby Doe" - Douglas Moore

Horace Tabor, the Colorado Silver King, has lost his fortune. Baby Doe's mother, Mama McCort, begs the still wealthy first wife, Augusta, to help the destitute Horace and Baby. Augusta says she cannot; years before Horace said he wanted nothing from her ever! After Mama leaves, Augusta, feeling helpless, sings this aria.

Trouble in Tahiti

"Trouble in Tahiti" - Leonard Berstein

"Trouble in Tahiti" is the story of a day in the life of a married couple who are bored with each other and themselves. He spends his free time at the gymnasium; she spends hers at the movies. The wife, on her way home from a matinee, reminisces about the movie she has just seen.
AND TO THE AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATER

My Ship — "Lady in the Dark" — Kurt Weill
If He Walked into MY Life — "Mame" — Jerry Herman
You’ll Never Get Away from Me — "Gypsy" — Jule Styne
Send in the Clowns — "A Little Night Music" — Stephen Sondheim
You’ll Never Walk Alone — "Carousel" — Rodgers-Hammerstein

FRANCES BIBLE is a native of northern New York state. She is a graduate of the Institute of Musical Art and the Juilliard Graduate School. Upon graduation, she became a member of the New York City Opera. She is still an active member of that organization.

In 1950 Miss Bible was named woman of the year in opera. She has sung with many of the leading opera companies of the world, including: San Francisco, Houston, Dallas, Miami, The Vienna Staatsoper, The Glyndebourne Festival Opera, The Glasgow Opera Festival, The Karlsruhe Staatsoper.

She has concertised extensively in the United States, Canada, and Australia, not only in solo recital but with all of the leading symphony orchestras.

Miss Bible has taught at the New England Conservatory, Mt. San Jacinto College in California and, at present, is affiliated with Rice University Shepherd School of Music.

BETTY RUTH TOMFOHRDE began her early piano studies with Miss Ruth Barr of Houston. She attended Rice University for two years, then was awarded a fellowship at the Juilliard Graduate School where she studied with Ernest Hutcheson. After graduating from Juilliard, Mrs. Tomfohrde studied at Fontainebleau, France, with Robert Casadesus.

Mrs. Tomfohrde helped found the J. S. Bach Society of Houston and is well-known in the Houston area as a solo recitalist, accompanist for singers and instrumentalists, and as a pianist in chamber music performance. In addition she has performed professionally in New York City; The Hague, Netherlands; Seattle, Washington; and Saint Louis. Mrs. Tomfohrde has recently joined the faculty of the School of Music at the University of Houston.

There will be two programs sponsored by The Shepherd School of Music Chamber Music Series in February: on Monday, February 21st, Denes Kovacs, violin, at 8:30 p.m. in Hamman Hall; and on Wednesday, February 23rd, Meryl Ettelson, piano, at 8:30 p.m. in Hamman Hall.