

*GUEST ARTIST AND  
FACULTY RECITAL*

*KAROL BENNETT, soprano*

*JEANNE KIERMAN, piano*

*Friday, December 10, 1999*

*8:00 p.m.*

*Lillian H. Duncan Recital Hall*

RICE UNIVERSITY

the  
Shepherd  
School  
of Music

## PROGRAM

*Shall we gather at the River* (Hymn) Aaron Copland  
*Long Time Ago* (Ballad) (1900-1990)  
*Simple Gifts* (Shaker tune)

*Nimmersatte liebe* (*Insatiable Love*) (Möricke) Hugo Wolf  
*Ach, des knaben augen* (*Ah, the infant's eyes*) (1860-1903)  
(*Spanisches Liederbuch*)  
*Verschwiegene Liebe* (*Silent Love*) (Eichendorf)  
*Ich hab in Penna* (*I have in Penna*) (*Italienisches Liederbuch*)

*En Sourdine* (*Muted*) (Verlaine) Gabriel Fauré  
*Toujours* (*Always*) (*Grandmougin*) (1845-1924)  
*Adieu* (*Farewell*) (*Grandmougin*)  
*Claire de lune* (*Moonlight*) (Verlaine)  
*Notre amour* (*Our love*) (*Silvestre*)

## INTERMISSION

*Winter Words* (Hardy) Benjamin Britten  
(1913-1976)  
1. *At day-close in November*  
2. *Midnight on the Great Western*  
3. *Wagtail and Baby*  
4. *The Choirmaster's Burial*  
5. *Proud Songsters*  
6. *At the Railway Station, Upway*  
7. *Before Life and After*

*Arrangements of folksong settings* Benjamin Britten  
*from the British Isles*  
*O Waly, Waly* (*from Somerset*)  
*Can Ye Sew Cushions?* (*Scottish tune*)  
*The Ash Grove* (*Welsh tune*)  
*Oliver Cromwell* (*Nursery rhyme from Suffolk*)

## BIOGRAPHIES

Hailed for her "exquisite" singing (The Los Angeles Times) and "ravishing tone and fire of imagination" (The Boston Globe), soprano KAROL BENNETT has been heard worldwide in lieder, oratorio, opera, and new music. Her honors include the Pro Musicis International Award, a fellowship from the Bunting Institute of Radcliffe College, an Artistic Ambassadorship, a Recitalist Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, and, with the *Metamorphosen Ensemble*, a Copland Recording Grant.

Recent operatic roles include *Mélisande* in a Russian production of *Pélleas et Mélisande*, Adèle in *Die Fledermaus*, and Gretel in *Hansel und Gretel*. An accomplished oratorio performer, she has been featured as soloist in works by Bach, Scarlatti, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Fauré, Verdi, Orff, and Bernstein. As a recitalist, she has performed in the Far East, France, Rome, Moscow, Mexico, and throughout the U.S. Ms. Bennett has been a participant at the Marlboro International Music Festival and Artist-in-Residence at the International Festival of Music in Morelia, Mexico.

Ms. Bennett is known as an extremely gifted and versatile exponent of contemporary music. Her extensive repertoire includes numerous world premieres, many written especially for her. Ensembles with whom she has appeared include the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, New York New Music Ensemble, the *Metamorphosen Chamber Orchestra*, Dinosaur Annex, Boston Musica Viva, Griffin Music Ensemble, Collage New Music, and Extension Works, in venues ranging from the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., to Benaroya Hall in Seattle.

Her recording of Tod Machover's *Flora* was selected as The Boston Globe's "New Music Recording of the Year: 1992." Her release of Jonathan Harvey's *From Silence* was praised by Gramophone as "strikingly agile and secure, powerfully convincing." Other releases include John Harbison's *Simple Daylight*, a collection of twentieth-century sacred music with the Boston Cecilia, and upcoming recordings of music of Earl Kim and Tod Machover.

A longtime resident of Boston, Ms. Bennett moved to Houston last year with her family. Her local engagements later this season include Despina in Orchestra X's production of *Così fan Tutte*, and premieres of works by Anthony Brandt, Arthur Gottschalk, and Christopher Theofanidis with the Houston Composers' Alliance, *SYZYGY*-New Music at Rice, and *Da Camera* of Houston.

JEANNE KIERMAN is a leading advocate of the piano as a collaborative instrument. A graduate of Oberlin, the Dalcroze School, and the New England Conservatory, she studied with master pianists William Masselos, Miles Mauney, Victor Rosenbaum, and Menahem Pressler. Ms. Kierman is equally adroit as a collaborator with voice or instrument and is in great demand as a recital partner. For ten years she was the pianist with the New England-based Alcott Ensemble, performing a broad range of chamber music and developing a virtuosity she frequently demonstrates both on stage, as resident and guest artist with various ensembles, and in the studio with her students. The Fischer Duo, with pianist Jeanne Kierman, is marking its 28th anniversary during the 1999-2000 season. Selected as Artistic Ambassadors for the United States Information Agency, the Fischer Duo completed tours of South America in 1996 and South Africa in 1997. In addition to featuring works by the masters, the group has become known for its thematic approach to programming, has performed neglected pieces by composers such as Franz Liszt, Victor Herbert, Nadia Boulanger, and Ferruccio Busoni, and has commissioned new works by American composers George Rochberg, Augusta Read Thomas, Robert Sirota, David Stock, Samuel Jones, Richard Lavenda, and Pierre Jalbert, among others.

Formerly on the faculty of the Oberlin Conservatory, Ms. Kierman is now Artist Teacher of Piano at The Shepherd School of Music. Ms. Kierman has recorded for Northeastern Records.