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A CONCERT TO THE MEMORY OF ALBERT COATES AND HIS MUSIC
(b.23/4/1882 d.11/12/1953)

The Wigmore Hall
July 1st., 1959.

The London Symphony Orchestra.
 Conductors: Avril Coleridge Taylor
 " Arthur Hammond ~~xxx~~
 Singers: Vera de Villiers
 " Johanna Uys
 Pianists: Frank Laffitte
 " James Sherrin.
 Narrator: Frank Phillips.

Programme

1. "In Memorium" Avril Coleridge-Taylor.

The "In Memorium" was composed and dedicated to the memory of Lady S. E. Graaff. The first performance was in 1952 with the Cape Town Municipal Orchestra. It is not meant to be a sad memory and has at times moods of lightness and happiness.

2. Piano Concerto ~~xxx~~ Frank Laffitte.

3. Three Songs: ~~xxx~~

a. "To an Isle in the Water" Vera de Villiers
 Poem by W.B. Yeats.
 b. "The Nightingale's Song"
 c. "Gone in Winter Gloom"

a. "Shy one, shy one, shy one of my heart,
 She moves in the fire-light, pensively apart,
 She carries in the dishes and she lays them in a row,
 To an isle in the water, with her would I go.

She carries in the candles and lights the curtained room,
 Shy in the doorway and shy in the gloom,
 Shy as a rabbit, helpful and shy,
 To an isle in the water, with her would I fly.

Shy one, etc., "

b. "The Nightingale's Song" is taken from Act, 2, Scene 1 of the Opera "Gainsborough's Duchess". The Duchess is alone for a few moments during the festivities in the gardens at Ranelagh. She hears a nightingale, and in sentimental mood joins in a duet with the nightingale.

The Opera was composed in 1936 in collaboration with Reginald C. Grundy who wrote the libretto, and dedicated to "Vera". It is a Romantic Opera in 3 Acts, and is an episode in the life of Thomas Gainsborough.

"Oh nightingale, what love song art thou singing?
 What fervent passion first they throbbing strain?
 Does it breathe hope to which they heart is clinging
 Tells it of joys that ne'er may come again.
 Is't alluring, poignant, pleading, to the one you love?
 Or does it mourn for loneliness profound?

Song so sweet and sad might well a mistress move,
 Or be the dirge for hopes dashed to the ground.
 Dear rapturous songster
 With they music voicing our highest bliss
 And our most sore distress
 Only heaven will hear it -
 All rejoicing - for there alone is unalloyed happiness".

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It was conducted by the composer.

2. Piano Concerto Frank Laffitte.

In collaboration with Reginald C. Grundy who wrote the libretto.

3. a. Two songs from the Opera "Gainsborough's Duchess" This Opera was composed in 1936. It is a Romantic Opera in 3. Acts, and is an episode in the life of Thomas Gainsborough. ~~C. Reginald Grundy wrote the libretto.~~ The first song is from Act 2. Scene one. The Duchess is alone for a few moments, during the festivities in the gardens at Ranelagh. She hears a Nightingale, and in sentimental mood joins in a duet with the Nightingale.

"The Nightingale's Song" ALBERT COATES

(From the Opera "Gainsborough's Duchess")

Oh nightingale, what love song art thou singing?
What fervent passion fires thy throbbing strain?
Does it breathe hope to which thy heart is clinging
Tells it of joys that ne'er may come again.
Is't alluring, poignant, pleading, to the one you love?
Or does it mourn for loneliness profound?

Vera de Villiers.

Song so sweet and sad might well a mistress move,
Or be the dirge for hopes dashed to the ground.
Dear rapturous songster
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And our most sore distress
Only heaven will hear it—
All rejoicing—for there alone is unalloyed happiness.

Reginald C. Grundy.

the Gainsborough daughter

b. This song is from Act 2. Scene two. Here the Duchess presents Molly and her bridegroom to the Prince of Wales (afterwards George IV.) The scene takes place at the Royal Pavilion at Ranelagh. The Duchess begins the song, which, is afterwards taken up by the ensemble of ladies.

"Gone is Winter Gloom" (From the Opera "Gainsborough's Duchess")

Gone is winter glooming
Everything is blooming,
Fields are fresh and green,
Are fresh and green.
Warm the breezes quiver
Over mead and river,
All the birds are singing
Love songs while they're winging
Each to find its mate.
For they now are pairing
None are left despairing
'cause they woo'ed too late.

Now the sun is shining
Let's have no repining
All is bright and fair,
Is bright and fair.
Tall the crops are growing
Gay the flowers are blowing,
Scenting sweet the air.
'Tis the time for mating,
What's the use of waiting.
Go to church and wed.
In this halcyon weather
Youth and love together
Share their nuptial bed.

Reginald C. Grundy.

Reginald C. Grundy
Gainsborough's daughter

c.

Song. "To an Isle in the Water." Poem by W.B. Yeats.

Shy one, shy one, shy one of my heart,
She moves in the fire-light, pensively apart,
She carries in the dishes and she lays them in a row,
To an isle in the water, with her would I go!-

She carries in the candles and lights the ^ucertained room,
Shy in the doorway and shy in the gloom,
Shy as a rabbit, helpful and shy,
To an isle in the water, with her would I fly!-

Shy one, etc.,

Interval.

4. Excerpt from the Opera "The Tablecloth" or, "Van Hunks and the Devil" (A Fantasy Folk Opera) in 3. Acts.

Johanna Uys.

An ancient legend about Table Mountain tells us that a certain Dutchman, by name Van Hunks, periodically holds a smoking contest with the Devil on top of the Mountain, thus causing the cloud which spreads over the top like a vast tablecloth. This is usually accompanied by a violent wind, which often prevents ships from entering the harbour and sometimes causes havoc in the city below. This legend is the ~~the~~ theme of Albert Coates' Fantasy Folk Opera. P.D.

The excerpt is from Act 2. scene one. It is the wedding day of the son of Van Hunks and "Johanna" (Three years after the arrival at the Cape of Van Hunks, his wife, "Isabella" and their son) The guests dance to the music of old traditional songs and everyone, including Van Hunks himself, is completely unaware of the ordeal awaiting him, after the festivities are over.

"Ah....."
All things in Nature bow to Thy Word,
Blending their voices, naught but praise is heard,
"Ah....."
That we too could hear the call,
And in whole hearted surrender to Thee,
Surrender one and all."

The Opera was commissioned by the Van Riebeeck International Festival of Music and Drama, held in Cape Town during 1952. The Festival commemorated the Landing of Jan Van Riebeeck in 1652. Albert Coates wrote the Libretto as well as the music. This song was especially written for Johanna Uys, who sang the role of "Johanna" in the Opera. It was staged by the S.A. Opera and Ballet Group with the Cape Town Municipal Orchestra, and produced by *Vera de Villiers*

5. "Little Alfie" Frank Phillips Narrator. The Book & illustrations are by Robert S. Robison, then Teacher of Fine Arts at the Washington University. U.S.A.

This is a story about a little Colt and his activities!-
It was performed with full Orchestra in Cape Town by the Municipal Orchestra and conducted by Edward Dunn during the Arts Festival for Youth in 1955. During the War Years, Albert Coates entertained by making the piano sound like an Orchestra, much to the enjoyment of his listeners!-

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In collaboration with Reginald Grundy who wrote the Libretto & dedicated to Vera.

- 3. a. Two songs from the Opera "Gainsborough's Duchess" This Opera was composed in 1936. It is a Romantic Opera in 3. Acts, and is an episode in the life of Thomas Gainsborough. ~~C. Reginald Grundy wrote the Libretto.~~ The first song is from Act 2. Scene one. The Duchess is alone for a few moments, during the festivities in the gardens at Ranelagh. She hears a Nightingale, and in sentimental mood joins in a duet with the Nightingale.

** Reginald C. Grundy
Prince of Wales*

"The Nightingale's Song"
(From the Opera "Gainsborough's Duchess")

Oh nightingale, what love song art thou singing?
What fervent passion fires thy throbbing strain?
Does it breathe the hope to which thy heart is clinging
Tells it of joys that ne'er may come again.
Is't alluring, poignant, pleading, to the one you love?
Or does it mourn for loneliness profound?

Song so sweet and sad might well a mistress move,
Or be the dirge for hopes dashed to the ground.
Dear rapturous songster
With thy music voicing our highest bliss
And our most sore distress
Only heaven will hear it—
All rejoicing—for there alone is unalloyed happiness.

Reginald C. Grundy.

Vera de Villiers.

- b. This song is from Act 2. Scene two. Here the Duchess presents Molly and her bridegroom to the Prince of Wales (afterwards George IV.) The scene takes place at the Royal Pavilion at Ranelagh. The Duchess begins the song, which, is afterwards taken up by the ensemble of ladies.

** Gainsborough's eldest daughter*

"Gone is Winter Gloom"
(From the Opera "Gainsborough's Duchess")

Gone is winter glooming
Everything is blooming,
Fields are fresh and green,
Are fresh and green.
Warm the breezes quiver
Over mead and river,
All the birds are singing
Love songs while they're winging
Each to find its mate.
For they now are pairing
None are left despairing
'cause they woo'ed too late.

Now the sun is shining
Let's have no repining
All is bright and fair,
Is bright and fair.
Tall the crops are growing
Gay the flowers are blowing,
Scenting sweet the air.
'Tis the time for mating,
What's the use of waiting.
Go to church and wed.
In this halcyon weather
Youth and love together
Share their nuptial bed.

Reginald C. Grundy.

** Johanna Uys, Obere Player, 19/10*

c.

Song. "To an Isle in the Water." Poem by W.B. Yeats.

Shy one, shy one, shy one of my heart,
 She moves in the fire-light, pensively apart,
 She carries in the dishes and she lays them in a row,
 To an isle in the water, with her would I go!-

She carries in the candles and lights the ^{certained} room,
 Shy in the doorway and shy in the gloom,
 Shy as a rabbit, helpful and shy,
 To an isle in the water, with her would I fly!-

Shy one, etc.,

Interval.

4. Excerpt from the Opera "The Tablecloth" Johanna Uys.
 or,
 "Van Hunks and the Devil"
 (A Fantasy Folk Opera)
 in 3. Acts.

An ancient legend about Table Mountain tells us that a certain Dutchman, by name Van Hunks, periodically holds a smoking contest with the Devil on top of the Mountain, thus causing the cloud which spreads over the top like a vast tablecloth. This is usually accompanied by a violent wind, which often prevents ships from entering the harbour and sometimes causes havoc in the city below. This legend is the ~~the~~ theme of Albert Coates' Fantasy Folk Opera. P.D.

The excerpt is from Act 2. scene one. It is the wedding day of the son of Van Hunks and "Johanna" (Three years after the arrival at the Cape of Van Hunks, his wife, "Isabella" and their son) The guests dance to the music of old traditional songs and everyone, including Van Hunks himself, is completely unaware of the ordeal awaiting him, after the festivities are over.

"Ah....."
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 "Ah....."
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5. "Little Alfie" Frank Phillips Narrator. The Book & illustrations are by Robert S. Robison, then Teacher of Fine Arts at the Washington University. U.S.A.

This is a story about a little Colt and his activities!-
 It was performed with full Orchestra in Cape Town by the Municipal Orchestra and conducted by Edward Dunn during the Arts Festival for Youth in 1955. During the War Years, Albert Coates entertained by making the piano sound like an Orchestra, much to the enjoyment of his listeners!-

(b) The second song is from Act 2, Scene 2. Here the Duchess presents "Molly", Gainsborough's eldest daughter, and her bridegroom, Johann Fischer (Oboe player to the Prince of Wales) to the Prince (afterwards George IV). The scene takes place at the Royal Pavilion at Ranelagh. The Duchess begins the song which is afterwards taken up by the ensemble of ladies.

"Gone is Winter Gloom".

Gone is winter glooming
Everything is blooming,
Fields are fresh and green,
Are fresh and green.
Warm the breezes quiver
Over mead and river,
All the birds are singing
Love songs while they're winging
Each to find its mate.

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(c) "To an Isle in the Water". Poem by W.B. Yeats.

Shy one, shy one, shy one of my heart,
She moves in the fire-light, pensively apart,
She carries in the dishes and she lays them in a row,
To an isle in the water, with her would I go:-

She carries in the candles and lights the curtained room,
Shy in the doorway and shy in the gloom,
Shy as a rabbit, helpful and shy,
To an isle in the water, with her would I fly:-

Shy one, etc.,

Interval

4. Excerpt from the Opera "The Tablecloth", or "Van Hunks and the Devil".
(A Fantasy Folk Opera in 3 Acts.)

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(2)

For they now are pairing
 none are left despairing
 'cause they woo'ed too late.

Now the sun is shining
 Let's have no repining
 All is bright and fair,
 Is bright and fair.
 Tall the crops are growing
 Gay the flowers are blowing,
 Scenting sweet the air.
 'Tis the time for mating,
 What's the use of waiting,
 Go to church and wed.
 In this halcyon weather
 Youth and love together
 Share their nuptial bed."

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INTERVAL

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 (A Fantasy Folk Opera in 3 Acts". *Johanna Uys*

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X Municipal