



Sunday, December 3, 2017, 3pm
Hertz Hall

Simon O'Neill, *tenor*
Terence Dennis, *piano*
with guest tenors
Pene Pati and Amitai Pati

PROGRAM

- Ludwig van BEETHOVEN (1770–1827) *An die ferne Geliebte*, Op. 98
Auf dem Hügel sitz ich spähend
Wo die Berge so blau
Leichte Segler in den Höhen
Diese Wolken in den Höhen
Es kehret der Maien, es blühet die Au
Nimm sie hin denn, diese Lieder
- “Gott! welch dunkel hier” from *Leonore* (1805)
- Gaetano DONIZETTI (1797–1848) “Angelo casto e bel” from *Le duc d’Albe*
Gioachino ROSSINI (1792–1868) “Cujus animam” from *Stabat Mater*
Pene Pati, *tenor*
- Richard WAGNER (1813–1883) “Brünnhilde! heilige Braut” (Siegfrieds Tod)
from *Götterdämmerung*
Siegfrieds Trauermarsch from *Götterdämmerung*
(transcribed by Busoni)
“Nur eine Waffe taugt” from *Parsifal*

INTERMISSION

Richard STRAUSS (1864–1949)	Ruhe, meine Seele, Op. 27, No. 1 Heimliche Aufforderung, Op. 27, No. 3 Caecilie, Op. 27, No. 2 Morgen!, Op. 27, No. 4 Ich trage meine Minne, Op. 32, No. 1 Zueignung, Op. 10, No. 1
Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART (1756–1791)	“Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön” from <i>Die Zauberflöte</i> , K.620
Francesco CILEA (1866–1950)	“È la solita storia del pastore” from <i>Larlesiana</i> Amitai Pati, <i>tenor</i>
WAGNER	<i>Wesendonck Lieder</i> Der Engel Stehe still! Im Treibhaus Schmerzen Träume “Ein Schwert verhiess mir der Vater” from <i>Die Walküre</i>

*Major support provided by Annette Campbell-White and Trustees of Kia Ora Foundation.
Cal Performances' 2017–18 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Simon O'Neill (*tenor*), a native of New Zealand, has established himself as one of the finest heldentenors on the international stage. He is a principal artist with the Metropolitan Opera; the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; Teatro alla Scala; and both the Bayreuther Festspiele and Salzburger Festspiele, appearing with illustrious conductors including James Levine, Riccardo Muti, Valery Gergiev, Sir Antonio Pappano, Daniel Barenboim, Pietari Inkinen, Pierre Boulez, Sir Charles Mackerras, Sir Colin Davis, Daniele Gatti, Edo de Waart, Fabio Luisi, Donald Runnicles, Sir Simon Rattle, Jaap van Zweden, and Christian Thielemann.

O'Neill's performances as Siegmund in *Die Walküre* at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden with Pappano; Teatro alla Scala and Berlin Staatsoper with Barenboim; the Metropolitan Opera with Runnicles (the celebrated Otto Schenk production) and Luisi (the Lepage *Der Ring des Nibelungen*); and Deutsche Oper Berlin with Rattle (the Götz Friedrich production) were performed to wide critical acclaim. He was described as “an exemplary Siegmund, terrific of voice,” “THE Wagnerian tenor of his generation,” and “a turbo-charged tenor.”

Notable debuts have included Jenik in *The Bartered Bride* at the Royal Opera House (Mackerras, 2005); *Die Zauberflöte* at the Salzburger Festspiele (Muti, 2005); Gran Sacerdote in *Idomeneo* at the Metropolitan Opera (Levine, 2006); Sergei in *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* with Opera Australia (Armstrong, 2009); Siegmund in *Die Walküre* at Teatro alla Scala (Barenboim, 2010); *Lohengrin* (title role, Nelsons, 2010) and *Parsifal* (title role, Gatti, 2011) at Bayreuth; and Chairman Mao in *Nixon in China* with San Francisco Opera (Lawrence Renes, 2012).

O'Neill made his Bayreuth debut in the title role of *Lohengrin* in the new Hans Neuenfels production and returned as Parsifal in the celebrated Stefan Herheim production. Other recent engagements have included opening La Scala's season as Siegmund in *Die Walküre* with Barenboim; the Wiener Staatsoper with Welser-Möst; his return as Siegmund in Keith Warner's celebrated *Der Ring des Nibelungen*; Stolzing in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and the title role in *Parsifal* in the Stephen Langridge production at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; the Tambourmajor in *Wozzeck* with Levine at the Metropolitan Opera; Erik in *Der Fliegende Holländer* at

the Ravinia Festival with Conlon and the Chicago Symphony; Cavaradossi in *Tosca* in Tokyo, Berlin, and Hamburg; Florestan in *Fidelio*, and *Die Walküre* at the Houston Grand Opera and Staatsoper Hamburg. O'Neill also sang Siegfried in concert performances of *Götterdämmerung* with the Orquesta Sinfonica Galicia, reprised his Parsifal with the Balhasar-Neumann Ensemble and Hengelbrock at Teatro Real Madrid, and returned to Opera Australia and Houston Grand Opera in the title role in *Otello*.

Recent highlights include Mahler's Symphony No. 8 in Tokyo; Florestan in *Fidelio* with the Accademia di Santa Cecilia under Pappano; *Gurrelieder* with Runnicles at the Edinburgh Festival and Proms with Rattle; *Otello* with the Auckland Philharmonia; *Die Walküre* for the Berlin Staatsoper (Barenboim), Berlin Philharmonic (Rattle), and Bayerischer Staatsoper (Pentrenko); *Götterdämmerung* in Houston; and the title role of Siegfried in Hong Kong with Jaap van Zweden. Opera engagements this season and beyond include Drum Major in *Wozzeck* for the Staatsoper Hamburg, Kaiser in *Die Frau ohne Schatten* with the Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin, *Die Walküre* and *Parsifal* for the Bayerische Staatsoper München, *Tannhäuser* for the Deutsche Oper Berlin, and a return to the Wiener Staatsoper as Parsifal; in concert he will sing *Das Lied von der Erde* with the London Symphony Orchestra under Rattle, Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with Barenboim in Berlin, Mahler's Eighth Symphony with Daniel Harding and the Swedish Radio Symphony, *Die Walküre* (Act 1) in his debut with the New York Philharmonic and for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra with Jaap van Zweden, and the title role of Siegfried with the Hallé Orchestra conducted by Sir Mark Elder.

On extremely short notice, O'Neill made his debut in the title role in Verdi's *Otello* in concert at the Barbican Centre with the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Sir Colin Davis (2009). His performance was widely acclaimed by critics, who described O'Neill's musical and dramatic portrayal as

"thrilling," "a triumph," and "a tremendous debut in the title role, giving notice that he is the best heroic tenor to emerge over the last decade."

O'Neill has appeared in many of the world's leading concert halls and music festivals, including the Salzburger Festspiele and BBC Proms, and in Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center in Washington (DC), London's Royal Albert Hall and Royal Festival Hall, Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Herkulessaal München, Tokyo's NHK Hall, and the Sydney Opera House. He also toured Europe with Daniel Barenboim and the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, performing Act I of *Die Walküre* in concert, and the complete *Ring* cycle with the Staatskapelle Berlin at the BBC Proms.

O'Neill's discography has received multiple Grammy nominations and includes his debut solo album, *Father and Son, Wagner Scenes and Arias* with Pietari Inkinen and the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra for EMI; the title role in *Parsifal* on Blu-ray and DVD with Sir Antonio Pappano from Covent Garden; the title role in *Otello* and Max in *Der Freischütz* with Sir Colin Davis for LSO Live; *Die Walküre* on Blu-ray and DVD with Daniel Barenboim from La Scala; *Die Zauberflöte* for the Salzburger Festspiele Mozart 25 DVD with Riccardo Muti; Mahler's Symphony No. 8 with Vladimir Ashkenazy and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra; Frank Martin's *Der Sturm* with the Netherlands Radio Symphony and Thierry Fischer; and, most recently, *Voices of German Opera* on EMI.

O'Neill became an Officer of New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2017 Queen's Birthday Honors list. He is an alumnus of Victoria University of Wellington (Doctor of Music, *honoris causa*), the University of Otago, the Manhattan School of Music, and the Juilliard Opera Center. A former Fulbright Scholar, he was awarded the 2005 Arts Laureate of New Zealand and was a grand finalist in the 2002 Metropolitan Opera National Auditions, returning as guest artist in 2007. O'Neill also appears on the 1998 New Zealand one-dollar performing arts postage stamp.



Terence Dennis (*piano*) was born in Christchurch, New Zealand, graduated from the University of Otago and the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik, Cologne, and is currently Blair Professor and

Head of Classical Performance studies at the University of Otago.

Respected both internationally and in his country for his performances and teaching, he has regularly partnered with distinguished visiting and resident artists. Particularly notable is his extensive partnership with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, with whom he has given dozens of concerts around the world, including recitals for both Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and for a state visit by Charles, Prince of Wales and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall. Their recital at a ninth-century temple in Nara, Japan (a World Heritage site), was filmed for Japanese television.

Other noted collaborations include those with bass-baritone Sir Bryn Terfel, sopranos Margaret Marshall and Alessandra Marc, mezzos Kathleen Kuhlmann and Sarah Walker, bass Sir Donald McIntyre, and cellist Maria Kliegel, winner of the Paris Rostropovich Competition.

Dennis has been an official pianist for numerous competitions, including at the finals of the Mobil and Lexus Song Quests since 1991, and guest adjudicator for the regional finals of the Metropolitan Opera Auditions. He was appointed to the New Zealand Order of Merit in 2004, and is a Fellow of both the Royal Society of New Zealand and the New Zealand Academy of Humanities.

Dennis' CD of piano works of Wagner and Liszt was issued in 2007, and he has recently recorded a recital CD with Simon O'Neill, featuring lieder by Beethoven, Wagner, and Richard Strauss, scheduled for international release through Deutsche Grammophon.



Amitai Pati (*tenor*), a first-year San Francisco Opera Adler Fellow and tenor of Samoan descent, made his SFO debut last summer as Matteo Borsa in *Rigoletto* and most recently appeared as Gastone in

La Traviata. He was a participant in the 2016 Merola Opera Program, where he performed his first principal role as Ferrando in *Così fan tutte*. Pati was also a participant at the 2014 Young Singers Project in Salzburg. He won the Lexus Song Quest in 2012 and the Waiariki Institute of Technology New Zealand Aria competition in 2015. Pati, along with his brother, tenor Pene Pati, and their baritone cousin Moses Mackay, have formed the highly successful New Zealand vocal trio Sol3 Mio, which mixes both classical and contemporary music.



Pene Pati (*tenor*), a New Zealander and Samoan-born tenor, is a second-year San Francisco Opera Adler Fellow and a participant in the 2013 Merola Opera Program. He made his SFO debut as Count Lerma in last

year's *Don Carlo* and most recently appeared as the Duke of Mantua in last summer's *Rigoletto*. The recipient of an array of prizes in recent years, including the prestigious Joan Sutherland and Richard Bonyngé Bel Canto Award in 2012 and the Dame Malvina Major Foundation New Zealand Aria Award in 2009, Pati most recently took first place at the Montserrat Caballé International Aria Competition.

Representation for Simon O'Neill:

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Kia Ora Foundation



Today's concert marks the final act of sponsorship by the Kia Ora Foundation and its board of trustees. Beginning January 1, 2018, the foundation will move its assets to a donor-advised fund, where it will continue to support New Zealand artists around the world.

“The Kia Ora Foundation’s mission is simple. To help shape New Zealand’s musical, artistic, and creative landscape through higher education, global expertise, and good old Kiwi ingenuity.”

—Jonathan Lemalu,
Trustee, Kia Ora Foundation

Kia Ora Foundation was founded in 1997 by Cal Performances sustaining trustee Annette J. Campbell-White. Its primary goal is to enable post-graduate study in musical performance while its secondary purpose is to assist in education in applied sciences. The Patricia Pratt Scholarship is named after Ms. Campbell-White’s mother, a talented pianist who had hoped as a young woman to become a physician, but was prevented from doing so by the exigencies imposed on New Zealand by the Second World War. The Charles Campbell-White Scholarship is named after Ms. Campbell-White’s father, who, after serving as a fighter pilot for the RAF and RNZAF in the Second World War, studied mining and metallurgical engineering at the University of Otago in Dunedin. These two people believed that education is the key that unlocks the future, and it is to acknowledge this conviction and to honor Charles and Patricia Campbell-White that Kia Ora Foundation and these scholarships exist.

In addition to the scholarships, the Kia Ora Foundation funds special projects, which support activities involving New Zealand artists. Such projects range internationally and concern issues involved with appearing in musical performances or in undertaking further study not specifically related to an academic institution.

PATRICIA PRATT SCHOLARSHIP

For post-graduate study in musical performance at an internationally recognized academy. Awarded annually. Renewable for up to two years of post-graduate study at an international academy.

Past Winners

Benson Wilson, 2016; Isabella Moore, 2016; Alex Verster, 2016; Olivia Francis, 2016 and 2015; Todd Gibson-Cornish, 2015; Na Young (Jane) Koo, 2014; Kate Oswin, 2014; Bryony Gibson-Cornish, 2014 and 2013;

Somi Kim, 2014 and 2013; Alexander Wilson, 2013; Pene Pati, 2013; Amalia Hall, 2011; Rachelle Pike, 2011 and 2010; Thomas Eves, 2011; Edward King, 2010; Gemma New, 2010 and 2009; Callum Hall, 2008; Wade Kernot, 2008; Ellen Deverall, 2007; Madeleine Pierard, 2006; Serenity Thurlow, 2006; Blair Sinclair, 2005; Malavika Gopal, 2005; Michael Jamieson, 2004; Simeon Broom, 2004; Andrew Conley, 2003; Anna Leese, 2003; Joel Batson, 2003; Moky Gibson-Lane, 2002; Victoria Simonsen, 2002; Jane Kircher, 2001; Ana James, 1999; David Bremner, 1998

CAMPBELL-WHITE SCHOLARSHIP

Purposed for undergraduate study in applied sciences at the University of Otago.

Past Winners

Jasmine Mawson, 2015; Alexis Belton, 2014; Alex Carter-Green, 2013; Joshua Brinkmann, 2012; Alexander Wilson, 2011; Fiona Robertson, 2010; Callum Bruce, 2009; Jenny-Rebecca Stein, 2008; Lawrence Bishop, 2007; Charlotte King, 2007; Jesse Robertson, 2006; Emily Todd, 2005; Kahn Mason, 2001, 2000, and 1999

SPECIAL GRANTS AND AWARDS

These grants and honors are awarded by the trustees and have ranged from support of New Zealand artists appearing in internationally staged opera productions to special grants for study and master class projects such as the Pacific Opera Program in Christchurch in 2011.

Special Awards

Amitai Pati, *tenor*, 2016; Pene Pati, *tenor*, 2016; Amina Edris, *soprano*, 2016; Pene Pati, *tenor*, 2012–13; Jonathan Lemalu, *baritone*, 2012–13; Simon O’Neill, *tenor*, 2012–13; Hadleigh Adams, *bass-baritone*, 2010–12

Travelling Scholarship in Music

Helen Bevin, *viola*, 2009

Pacific Opera Program

Established in 2011

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