ROLE OF ABIGAIL WILLIAMS IN ROBERT WARD'S THE CRUCIBLE

by

MELANIE ERIN KRUEGER

B.Mus., Wilfrid Laurier University, 1998

A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF MUSIC

in
THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES
(School of Music)

We accept this thesis as conforming
to the required standard

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
April 2001
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Department of **Music**

The University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada

Date **April 30, 2001**
The Crucible
by Robert Ward

March 1, 2, 3, 4
2001

Chan Shun Concert Hall
Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
The Crucible
An opera in four acts based on the play by Arthur Miller
Music by Robert Ward
Libretto by Bernard Stambler

with
The UBC Opera Ensemble &
The UBC Symphony Orchestra

Conductor - Jesse Read
Stage Director - Nancy Hermiston
Musical Director - Richard Epp
Set & Costume Design by Alessia Carpoca
Light Design by Jeremy Baxter

There will be one twenty-minute intermission

Chan Shun Concert Hall

March 1, 2, 3, 4, 2001

THIS PRESENTATION IS MADE POSSIBLE BY GENEROUS ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE
CHAN ENDOWMENT FUND OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
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This presentation is made possible by generous assistance through the Chan Endowment Fund of the University of British Columbia
Welcome to a memorable night of opera! I hope you will savor this evening, the ideal kind of theatre experience, an opera based on a great piece of dramatic art—Arthur Miller's striking play, a score from a legendary composer who has graced us with his presence, a sharply-defined visual and theatrical setting which complements and supports the story, all performed by the singers and musicians from what is emerging as the most exciting opera training program in Canada! We are proud of this production, excited that UBC, the School of Music and the Department of Theatre, Film and Creative Writing can collaborate again to bring you into its midst. As the Director of the School and conductor of tonight's performance, I share your excitement, enthusiasm and sense of appreciation for the talent and dedication necessary to give birth to such a moving and dramatic production. Thank you for joining us.

Warm wishes,

Jesse Read - Conductor, Director UBC School of Music

The Performing Arts are too often assumed to be just entertainment. Theatre in all its forms, has been a crucial part of our societal development, with an importance far beyond the merely diversionary. The Crucible is a case in point. In 1950, the play was Arthur Miller's response to a social injustice, and it gave us a picture of how we behave in the throes of political hysteria. Robert Ward's operatic work makes this picture even more poignant and more accessible to an even broader audience. The Department of Theatre, Film and Creative Writing is proud to join with the Opera Program to present this classic, relevant and important story.

Ron Fedoruk - Head of Theatre, Film and Creative Writing, UBC
About the Composer

Robert Ward was born in 1917 in Cleveland, Ohio. He studied with Howard Hanson and Bernard Rogers at the Eastman School of Music; with Frederick Jacobi, Bernard Wagenaar, Albert Stoessel and Edgar Schenkman at the Juilliard Graduate School, and with Aaron Copland at the Berkshire Music Center. He has served on the faculties of Queens College, Columbia University, and the Juilliard School of Music where he was also Assistant to the President from 1952 to 1956. He was the Director of the Third Street Music School Settlement from 1952 to 1955. He was Executive Vice-President and Managing Editor of Galaxy Music Corporation and Highgate Press until 1967 when he became President of the North Carolina School of the Arts. Until his retirement in 1987, he was the Mary Duke Biddle Professor of Music at Duke University. Mr. Ward's large and distinguished musical creation has, in large measure, been commissioned by the New York City Opera, Broadcast Music, Inc., the New York Philharmonic, the Friends of Dumbarton Oaks, the Juilliard Musical Foundation, and many others. His opera, The Crucible, based on the play by Arthur Miller, won both the 1962 Pulitzer Prize for Music and the New York Music Critics Circle Citation for the same year.

A Message from the Director

Robert Ward's opera The Crucible gives us pause to think of our own human strengths and weaknesses. We have chosen to give the piece no fixed period as the issues addressed by this very moving work are ones which have remained with us long before and long after those Puritan days of Salem. One needs only to look into our history books, listen to the 6:00 o'clock news, enter some schools, universities, colleges or even some courts and churches to see that mass hysteria, mob mentality, persecution, jealousy, hatred, sexual repression, and the darker sides of power and love are as present now as they were in Salem or in Miller's 1950 U.S society. Through this most disturbing and inspiring work both Miller and Ward provide us with the opportunity to find, as does John Proctor, "that shred of goodness" in ourselves.

When asked what the opera has to say to modern audiences, Robert Ward replied: "We think events like the Salem witch trials or the McCarthy hearings can't happen again, but as we look around us in the world, we see the same conditions recur again and again."

It is a great honour and privilege to have the composer with us for this production.

Nancy Hermiston Director UBC Opera Ensemble
The Opera Ensemble and I would like to thank you for your continued support and interest. The 2000/2001 season has been a most exciting and active one. Our collaboration with the Opera House in Usti nad Labem, Czech Republic, was a most successful and rewarding venture. A highlight of our European schedule was our performances of Gärnerin aus Liebe in the Stovosky Theatre, Prague, where Mozart premiered his Don Giovanni.

A further consequence of this venture was the collaboration between the Usti Opera House and the Opera Ensemble in this production of The Crucible. On Sept. 21, 2001 the Opera House in Usti will present the Czech premiere of The Crucible with this production featuring a Czech/UBC Opera Ensemble cast.

We return to Usti in May and June to perform three operas, Gounod's Faust in French, Janacek's The Cunning Little Vixen in Czech, and Mozart's Gärnerin aus Liebe in German. Internationally renowned conductor David Agler will conduct the Faust performances while Usti's General Music Director, Norbert Baxa will lead the Vixen and Gärnerin. The Ensemble will complete its tour at the International Festival for Young Opera Singers in the University town of Erlangen, Germany with a performance of Gärnerin aus Liebe on July 1, Canada Day. Along with their colleagues from Usti the Ensemble will share this Festival with singers from Italy and Germany.

Our season has also included the annual David Spencer Memorial concert, our Christmas production of Hansel and Gretel, many community concerts and a tour to Cranbrook, B.C. with our shortened school version of Hansel and Gretel, where approximately 1500 children attended our performances. In addition, we participated with Italy's Ruggiero Ensemble in a production of Monteverdi's Il Ritorno d'Ulisse di Patria.

After The Crucible we will join the Choral Union and Wind Symphony for Operatic excerpts Mar. 23 & 24 and present three evenings of Operatic Bon Bons on Apr. 20, 21, & 22 in the Old Auditorium, featuring excerpts from Faust, Othello, Romeo and Juliette, Hamlet and Sir John In Love, with guest directors, Irving Guttman and Mari Hahn.

- Nancy Hermiston

THE OPERA ENSEMBLE EXECUTIVE

Rhonwen Adams, Alexis Barthelemy
Melissa Bencic, Katy Bowen-Roberts
Neema Bickersteth, Jeanine Fynn
Rhoslyn Jones, Riley McMitchell
Janet Vandertol, Justin Welsh
The Crucible
by Robert Ward

**Cast**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March 1 &amp; 3</th>
<th>March 2 &amp; 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Betty Parris</td>
<td>Katy Bowen-Roberts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reverend Parris</td>
<td>Russell Robson</td>
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<td>Tituba</td>
<td>Beverly McArthur</td>
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<td>Abigail Williams</td>
<td>Melanie Krueger</td>
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<td>Ann Putnam</td>
<td>Shauna Martin</td>
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<td>Thomas Putnam</td>
<td>Elio Catana</td>
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<td>Rebecca Nurse</td>
<td>Jeanine Fynn</td>
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<td>Francis Nurse</td>
<td>Joel Klein</td>
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<td>Giles Corey</td>
<td>Craig Johnson</td>
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<td>John Proctor</td>
<td>*Gil Anderson</td>
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<td>Reverend Hale</td>
<td>David Jefferies</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Proctor</td>
<td>Alexis Barthelemy</td>
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<td>Mary Warren</td>
<td>Maaike deBruyn</td>
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<td>Sheila Christie</td>
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<td>Ezekiel Cheever</td>
<td>Ian Paul</td>
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<td>Judge Danforth</td>
<td>Neil Wright</td>
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<td>Sarah Good</td>
<td>Elaine Lee</td>
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<td>Ruth Putnam</td>
<td>Jinny Park</td>
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<td>Susanna Walcott</td>
<td>Mia Harris</td>
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<td>Mercy Lewis</td>
<td>Soula Parassidis</td>
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<td>Martha Shelton</td>
<td>Charis Vanelst</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridget Booth</td>
<td>Rhonwen Adams</td>
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*by permission of Canadian Actor's Equity Association

**Chorus**

| Stephen Bell | Jerome Dubois |
| Jeannette Gibault | Andrew Jameson |
| Amy LaFroy | Michael Mori |
| Steven Rathjen | Mark Sampson |
| | Janet Vandertol |
**ORCHESTRA**

**VIOLIN 1**
+ Alycia Au
  Ruth Huang
  Evet Bo-Kyoung Kim
  Adrian Dyck
  Amanda Hsueh
  James Wei
  Angela Hodgson
  Amy Pei
  Amelia Mori
  Jenny Atkinson
  Ruth Houtman

**VIOLIN 2**
+ Gillian Mott
  Brooke Day
  James Hill
  Denise Ng
  Jessica Wan
  Trevor Pearce
  Vincent Wong
  Phyllis Ho
  Heather Liau
  Jack Tsai

**VIOLA**
+ Beth Schaufele
  Aaron Butler
  Szaboles Kabok
  Suzanne Schweikle-Davey
  Gillian Hunter

**BASS**
+ Leanna Wong
  Peggy Tong
  Jennifer Chu
  Jessy Giammarino

**FLUTES**
+ Tara Whittaker
  Greg Kirczenow (piccolo)

**OBOE & ENGLISH HORN**
  Marisa Chang

**CLARINETS**
+ Eileen Walsh
  Jennifer McEnhill
  Amanda Beatty (bass clarinet)

**BASSOONS**
  Meghan Dahl

**HORNS**
+ Megan Smith
  David Quackenbush

**TRUMPETS**
+ Meghan Turner
  Chris Mitchell

**BASS TROMBONES**
  Peter Waldkirch

**TIMPANI & PERCUSSION**
  Bruce Henczel

**LIBRARIAN**
  Peggy Wong

**MANAGER**
  Colin Giles

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<tr>
<th>Concert Master</th>
<th>Section Leader</th>
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PRODUCTION

FOR THE OPERA DEPARTMENT
Music Director
Richard Epp
Repetiteurs
Daniel Chow
Donna Falconer
Brett Kingsbury
Technical Director
Cameron McGill
Technical Coordinator
Jason Bosher
Wigs
Elke Engligh
Head of Properties
Valerie Moffat
Prop Builder
Make-Up
Neil Volrich
Lighting Assistant
Mike Inwood
Lighting Board Operator
Jeremy Baxter
Painters
Gennie Willoughby-Price
Costumes
Opera House, Usti Nad Labem, Czech Republic
Costume Coordinator
Lydia Hiebert

Production
Stage Manager
Peggy Jameson*
Assistant Stage Managers
April Lawrence
Maya Sanders
Stage Crew
Laura Parson
Stacy Landers

FOR THE THEATRE DEPARTMENT
Technical Director
Ian Pratt
Production Manager
Robert Eberle
Props Supervisors
Janet Bickford
Lynn Burton
Costume Supervisors
Jean Driscoll-Bell
Stage Carpenters
Jim Fergusson
Don Griffiths
Jay Henrickson
Business Manager
Marietta Kozak
Communications
Joan Wellwood
Poster Design
James A. Glen
Box Office
Gerry Bratz
Office Support
G. Vanderwoude
Program Layout
Maryke Flameling

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
The Chan Family, Michael Noon
The Vancouver Opera, The Vancouver Playhouse, The Arts Club Theatre, Valerie Moffat,
School of Music Office Staff, Phyllis Lavalle and The Friends of UBC Opera, David
Spencer Endowment Encouragement Fund, Enchanted Florist, Ian Pratt, Thomas
Thompson, UBC Opera Ensemble, The Moving Guys, and
Jim Wright General Director of The Vancouver Opera

A Special Thank You to the Vancouver Opera Guild for their donation to this production.
The Crucible - Synopsis

Act I

The curtain rises on the Reverend Samuel Parris kneeling distraught at the bed of his daughter Betty. She lies immobile and scarcely breathing, as she has lain since Parris came upon her and her cousin Abigail dancing in the woods the night before. Tituba comes to ask about Betty but is angrily sent away.

Abigail enters to say that the town is whispering of witchcraft and that Parris should go out to make denial. He bitterly turns on her to question her about the dancing and about her mysterious dismissal from the service of the Proctors. As she vehemently denies any wrongdoing, attributing her dismissal to Goodwife Proctor's arrogant desire for a slave, the Putnams enter to tell that their Ruth was stricken at the same time as Betty Parris and that they have sent to Beverly for the Reverend Hale, known for his skill in discovering witches.

While Parris, fearful of any suspicion of witchcraft in his own household, is anxiously doubting the need for Hale, Rebecca and Francis Nurse enter with Giles Corey. Rebecca is comforting, old Giles is flippant about the illness of the girls. When Putnam insists that witches are at work in Salem, Giles accuses him of using a witch scare to defraud his neighbors of their land. John Proctor's entrance only brings this quarrel to a higher peak. (Abigail, though silent in the upper room, visibly reacts with excitement to John's entrance.) Rebecca reprimands the men for this untimely squabble in a house of illness, and calls them back to their senses. Giles departs with John.

They sing a psalm to beseech God's help. As the psalm proceeds, Betty begins to writhe on the bed and then with an unearthly shriek tries to fly out of the window. They rush to her side. In the midst of the commotion the Reverend Hale enters. He calms them with his air of authority and then methodically sets an inquiry under way. He soon learns that Tituba has played an important role in what has been happening, having also been present at the dancing. Ann Putnam asserts that Tituba knows conjuring. Tituba is sent for; at her entrance, Abigail, who has been under severe inquisition by Hale, lashes out to accuse Tituba of compacting with the Devil. Tituba, overwhelmed by the sternness of Hale and the malevolent intensity of Parris and the Putnams, finally confesses that she has been visited by the Devil, but denies that he has persuaded her into any wrongdoing—for a few moments she frightens Parris and the Putnams with a heartfelt fantasy of the hellish power to bring them harm that the Devil had offered her.

With Tituba's confession the spell over Betty is broken. All return to the psalm in great thanksgiving, while Abby envies the attention now being given to Tituba, hysterically repents her own compact with the Devil, and visibly receives an answer to her prayer for forgiveness and for a call to mark out others of the Devil's crew.
Act II

John Proctor returns from a day's planting to find Elizabeth listless and moody. In her mind the witch trials have become an aggravation of her domestic troubles, with Abby at the center of both. She insists that John expose Abby's fraud to Judge Danforth; his reluctance to do this convinces her that he still has a warm spot in his heart for Abby. John's self-defense is double: that he has no witness to what Abby told him, and that she will avenge herself by revealing John's adultery with her. And he is fed up with Elizabeth's sitting in condemnatory judgment upon him. She gently denies this but regrets the vanished sweetness of their love. Abby, she says, will not confess the lechery lest she damn herself. And what of those who suffer in jail because of John's silence? No, John must tear the last feeling for Abby out of his heart, or she will never give up hope of some day having him for her own.

Mary Warren enters furtively from her day at court as one of Abby's crew of witchfinders. She tells, breaking into tears, that the number of those arrested has tripled—and that Goody Osborn has been condemned to hang! She is truly troubled by this, and by her own part in it, but demonstrates how the mob excitement of the courtroom procedure turns her into an hysterical accuser even against her own will. When John threatens to whip her if she ever returns to that court she blurts out that Goody Proctor herself has been mentioned in court and that only Mary's defense of her prevented an outright accusation.

Elizabeth is sure that Abby is behind this and is once more pleading with John to get to the court when Reverend Hale and John Cheever enter with a warrant for her arrest: that very evening Abby has charged Elizabeth with employing a witch's poppet to kill her. John makes Mary acknowledge it is her poppet, but Hale, although deeply troubled by these new directions of the witch-hunts, feels that he must arrest Elizabeth for examination.

John is about to burst out wildly to prevent their taking Elizabeth away, but instead turns with intense but controlled passion upon Mary: she will tell her story in court even though it may provoke a charge of adultery from Abby and ruin both Abby and John completely—anything rather than that Elizabeth should be in danger for his sake.

Act III

Scene 1.

Abby, with a mixture of scheming but passionate love for John and a mystical belief in her mission, tries to persuade John to abandon Elizabeth and to join her in the holy work of cleansing the puritanically corrupt town. He will not listen to this, but instead pleads that she free the town from the curse of her foolish wickedness, and then threatens to expose her fraud. She defies him: now any dire fate that descends on Elizabeth will be of his doing.
Scene 2.
Judge Danforth's invocation in court reveals the strength and fervor of his conviction that God's will is working through him to cleanse the land of a plague of witches.

As court opens, Giles Corey accuses Thomas Putnam, in his greed for his neighbors' land, of having bragged of his role in the charges of witchcraft. Judge Danforth sends Corey to jail and torture for refusing to name his witnesses for this accusation. There is a great hubbub as Giles leaps at Putnam as the man responsible for the arrest of his wife and himself, and of Rebecca Nurse as well.

John Proctor presents Mary Warren's deposition that the entire crying-out against witches started only as an exciting game for the girls—and is a complete pretense and fraud. But Abby, he says, has continued the game in an effort to dispose of Elizabeth. Her encouragement to this arose from the adultery that took place between Abby and himself, which he is now confessing. When Elizabeth, ordinarily incapable of a lie, is brought in and fails to confirm John's confession; Abigail counterattacks, charging that Mary herself has turned witch. Mary, helpless and then hysterical, turns on John Proctor—accusing him of being the Devil's man who has forced her into trying to confuse and overthrow the court. All but the Reverend Hale close in on John Proctor with sadistic vindictiveness.

Act IV
Tituba and Sarah Good, crazed by the rigors of imprisonment, sing of the Devil and his broken promises to them. Abby comes into the prison courtyard; she has bribed the jailer to permit Proctor to escape. John, although broken by the months of prison and torture, scornfully rejects the freedom and love she offers him. Abby runs off weeping.

Hale, and then Parris, try to persuade Judge Danforth to postpone the executions of Proctor and Rebecca Nurse scheduled for that morning: Salem may break into open rebellion at the execution of such respected citizens. Danforth indignantly refuses, but agrees to ask Elizabeth to persuade her husband to confess.

John is brought in and left alone with Elizabeth. She tells him that Giles Corey has died, pressed to death rather than say aye or nay to the charge of witchcraft, but that many have confessed in order to save their lives. John reluctantly brings out his wish to confess—if it will not make her think ill of him for lying. Passionately she answers that it was her lie that doomed him—and that she wants him alive. Exultant, he shouts that he will confess to the charge of witchcraft.

Danforth, Hale, and Parris rejoice—for their various reasons—over John's confession, and Parris tries to persuade Rebecca, who has been brought in on the way to the gallows, also to confess. She refuses to damn herself with the lie. John is asked to sign his confession, that it may be exhibited before the town. But this is too much: he has deeply shamed himself by confessing, but he will not set his hand to the destruction of his own name—and the eternal shame of his sons. He tears up the document. In fury Danforth orders John and Rebecca to be led out to execution. Hale pleads with Elizabeth that she change John's decision while there is yet time. She refuses: "He has found his name and his goodness now—God forbid I take it from him."
Images and Texts about the Salem Witch Trials

A Modest Enquiry
Into the Nature of
Witchcraft,
AND
How Persons Guilty of that Crime may be Condemned; And the mean-
ed for their Discovery Discussed, both Negatively and Affirmatively,
according to Scripture and Experience.

By John Hale,
Pastor of the Church of Christ in Beverly,
A.M. 1697.

WARRANT FOR THE ARREST OF ELIZABETH PROCTOR
AND SARAH CLOYCE (APRIL 4, 1692):

There Being Complaint this day made (Before us) by Capt. John Walcott, and Lt
Natheniell Ingersull both of Salem Village, in Behalfe of their Majesties for themselves
and also for several of their Neighbours Against Sarah Cloyce the wife of Peter
Cloyce of Salem Village; and Elizabeth Proctor the wife of John Proctor of Salem
farms for high Suspition of Sundry acts of Witchcraft done or Committed by them
upon the bodys of Abigail Williams, and John Indian both of Mr Sam parris his
family of Salem Village and mary Walcott daughter of the aforesaid Complainants,
And Ann Putnam and Marcy Lewis of the family of Thomas Putnam of Salem
Village whereby great hurt and dammage hath beene donne to the Bodys of s'd
persons above named therefore Graved Justice.

You are therefore in theire Majest's names hereby required to apprehend and
bring before us Sarah Cloyce the wife of peter Cloyce of Salem Village and Elizabeth
proctor the wife of John Procter of Salem farms; on Munday Morninge Next being
the Eleventh day of this Instant April aboute Eleven of the Clock, at the publike
Meeting house in the Towne, in order to theire Examination Relating to the premesis
above'd and here of you are. not to faile Dated Salem April 8'th 1692

To George Herick Marshall of the County of essex
John Hathorne
Jonathan Corwin  Assists
The Deposition of Sam Parris, Nathaniel Ingersoll, and Thomas Putnam
[pictured below]

The Deposition of Sam: Parris aged about.39. years, & Nathanael Ingersol aged about fifty & eight years, & Thomas Putnam aged about fourty years all of Salem -

testifyeth & saith that John Indian, Ann Putman & Abigail Williams & others of the bewitched persons were severall times & grievously tortured at the Examination of Elizabeth Proctor wife to John Proctor of Salem Farmes before the Honoured Magistrates the 11th April. 1692. & particularly that Eliz: Hubbard was in a Trance during the whole examination unable to speak a word tho often called upon by s’d Magistrates, & also the said Abigail Williams & Ann Putman then testifys that they saw this Eliz: Proctor & her husband John Proctor several times afflicting of Bathshua Pope the wife of Joseph Pope of Salem Yeoman, at which times the said Bathshua Pope was seized with violent fits: & farther that the said Abigail Williams & Ann Putnam, both of them made offer to strike at said Eliz. Proctor, but when said Abigails hand came near to said Eliz: Proctor it opened (whereas it was made up into a fist before) & came down exceeding lightly as it drew near to said Proctor, & at length with open & extended fingers touche said Proctors hood very lightly, & immediately said Abigail cried out, Oh! my fingers, my fingers, my fingers burne, & Ann Putman took on most grievously of her head, & sunk down, as far as she could being held up by such as tended her.

- Nath: Ingatson and thom. Putman did on their oaths owne this their testimo­nies to he the truth be fore the Juriors of Inques this 30 of June 1692.
SIEGFRIED JERUSALEM
(tenor)
IN CONCERT

Renowned in Bayreuth circles for his masterful interpretation of German opera and art song, the great Wagnerian tenor makes a rare recital appearance at the Chan.

SATURDAY MARCH 17, 8:00pm

Tickets available at Ticketmaster [280-3311] or call the Chan Centre Box Office at 822-2697

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Upcoming Events

Masterclasses with Siegfried Jerusalem
March 12-14...............Old Auditorium
March 15......................Recital Hall
Student Concert
Admission: $5.00 for each class and student concert
Masterclass Pass: Admission to all Masterclasses and the Student Concert: $20.00
UBC music students: Free admission

A Concert of Operatic Excerpts
March 23 & 24
8:00pm...............Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
UBC Ensemble, UBC Choral Union, UBC Symphonic Wind Ensemble
Admission by donation

UBC Symphony Orchestra
April 5, 12:30pm
April 6, 8:00pm......Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
Free admission

Masterclasses with Dawn Upshaw
April 12, 12:00pm-2:00pm
Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
Admission: $10/$15 at the door

Opera Bon Bons
April 20 & 21, 8:00pm
April 22, 3:00pm.............Old Auditorium
Excerpts from Othello, Hamlet, Romeo and Juliette, Sir John in Love, and Faust
Guest directors: Irving Guttman and Mari Hahn
Admission by donation

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