

Announcements by Dorothy who introduces Jim

Greetings by Jim

\* Selections from Phantom of the Opera

Jim introduces ~~Pet McElroy~~

\* Funeral March of the Marionettes (excerpt)

● Good Evening

● Tonight we will be performing a presentation which is entitled Rock Meets Bach – a Horrortorio. With it, we will attempt to tell a tale of horror and adventure in Oratorio style, using music to tell the story. While an Oratorio does not usually have costumes, because we are approaching All Hallow's Eve we thought it appropriate to enhance the effect with costumes and other such festive accoutriments.

Since this is a story of Good versus Evil, we must have ghouls and goblins galore. These evil creatures are represented by the orchestra...

\* Dit Dit Deeeee!

● We must also have good guys, lest Evil be allowed free reign. Our heros are represented by the rock band Caruso

\* Fanfare

● Now that everyone is ready to proceed, let the Horrortorio begin!

\* Pastorale

● (voiceover) Our story takes place in a quiet country village, whose residents are not used ot anything more exciting than a Fall Harvest, nor anything more dangerous than fisticuffs between to tipsy townsmen. The village was, in a word, Peaceful.

● We look in on the only sad person in the town – our hero, Robert, a young man in love with the maiden Marianne who, because of her dreams of adventure and danger, is unresponsive to his efforts.

He begs her to come to him.

\* Marianne

- His pleas are to no avail, and he leaves her to her dreams of adventure.
- \* Avant Garde piece
- Robert, in his pain, thinks that perhaps Marianne is unreachable after all, and is torn between his love for her, and his bitterness at being rejected.

\* One of These Days

- Unbeknownst to Robert, other ears are listening to the heartbeat of Marianne's desires. The NIGHT DEMONS, always eager to bring any victim into their clutches, appear to her and promise her fulfillment and adventure unequalled by anything experienced by mere mortals.

They tell her of the joy of their nightly dance, which will release her from the confines of a mortal existence and free her soul to participate in an unending congregation of those devoted to excitement and adventure.

In reality, the dance of which they speak is the DANCE OF DEATH, which binds its dancers to a never-ending pain which can be denied only by the frenzied and hopeless actions of the DANCE.

Marianne, seduced by their evil promises, goes with them, believing their lies about the adventure that awaits. Robert, returning, arrives too late, and is held at bay by the Demon's evil enchantment.

Watching what transpires, he is helpless to prevent her from going with them.

\* In the Hall of the Mountain King

- Rousing himself from the demon's spell, Robert hurries to get help. The villagers seek Marianne with great fear, their horrified search driven by stories that they have heard of others entrapped by the demonic DANCE OF DEATH.

\* Night on Bald Mountain

- They search for days, but are finally forced to give up, knowing that the Dance of Death has claimed another victim.

Robert, his dreams destroyed, continues his search, even though he fears that it will be in vain.

- \* Scarborough Fair (with voiceover)
- Some may think that a funeral is a horrid event; one to be avoided unless compelled to attend. This may be true, but to the people of Robert's village, a funeral could help relieve the suffering of the living, by ritualizing the preparation for the burial. The use of Parsley, Sage, Rosemary, and Thyme as fragrant embalming herbs was part of this ritual.

To send a loved one to Scarborough, that is, to the graveyard, could be seen as part of the law of nature, thereby easing the pain of loss.

- \* Scarborough Fair continued... (vocal entrance)

Intermission

Announcements, etc.

- \* Toccata in d minor

Jim introduces McElroy

- \* Funeral March of the Marionettes excerpt
- To the outside world, many days pass. For Marianne, it is but a moment – a fleeting instant wherein the pleasures of the Dance could be enjoyed to the fullest.

THE DANCE – a macabre event where the ghosts, ghouls, and goblins would rise to participate in unspeakable rites – where the souls of their victims would become lost in the hypnotic reveries of the demented evil demons to whom they had surrendered themselves, for if a victim remains with this ghoulish fellowship for one minute more than a fortnight, then that unfortunate soul will be lost to the living, and will be held by the caprices of the Demons forever.

It was to this end that Marianne was drawing.

- \* Dance Macabre
- Disturbing rumors of the night-time revelries have reached Robert, and he sings of his misery.
- \* One Lonely Heart

- He vows to find her, either alive – or DEAD! In his nightly quest, he hears the echoes of the demonic festivities, and is spurred on by love and the meager, heart-felt hope that she is near.

One night, he approaches a hidden glade, and is horrified at the sight of the assembled group of demons, goblins, ghouls, and their entranced victims. His heart freezes, for at that moment, he sights his beloved, whirling in-mesmerized passion to the haunting music which, wven in his fear, beguiles him to join in the Dance.

- \* Dance Macabre with Marianne superimposed

- As he steps forward into the glade, the spell is broken and the assembled spirits and their victims disappear, leaving him standing alone.

His love is undiminished, and he vows to try again, but what of Marianne? What if she is already lost? He fears that even should he succeed in reaching her, she will not wish to return with him.

- \* Every Little Thing

- He returns to the village and, telling what he has seen, convinces his friends to confront the Demons, and to marshall their forces against evil.

Bringing what weapons they have, they arm themselves with holy artifacts and with devices and items known to have power against the children of the Night – garlic, wolfbane, holy water.

They march forth, ready to assail the demons – ready to do battle for the souls not yet lost to the demons' evil will.

- \* March to the Scaffold

- The demons are defeated, and having freed Marianne, the village celebrates as Robert assures her of his love.

- \* Stay With Me

- The End

- \* Encore piece – Clarinet Concerto