

School of the Arts

CONCERTS AT McMASTER presents

Richard Cunningham
& James Renwick

performing

Shadows: Songs for guitar and voice



Tuesday, October 25th, 2016 at 12:30 pm
Convocation Hall (UH 213)

Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, L8S 4M2
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Programme

Shadows *Songs for guitar and voice*

Let Not Cloris Think *John Danyel (1564 - 1625)*

The Time Of Youth *John Fethy (1530 – 1568)*

When Laura Smiles *Philip Rossiter (1568-1623)*

SHADOWS *John Rutter (b. 1945)*

Shadows *texts by Samuel Daniel (1562-1619)*

Gather Ye Rosebuds *Robert Herrick (1591-1674)*

Sonnet *Samuel Daniel*

The Epicure *Thomas Jordan (1612-1685)*

Sic Vita *Henry King (1592-1669)*

O Death, Rock Me Asleep *Anonymous (16th Century)*

In A Goodly Night *Anonymous (16th Century)*

Close Thine Eyes *Francis Quarles (1592-1644)*

Come Heavy Sleep *John Dowland (1563-1626)*
(Guitar solo)

Flow My Tears *John Dowland*

Come Again *John Dowland*

Programme Notes

Welcome to today's lunchtime recital. Today's programme could be entitled "Ancient and Modern" or "Love Songs, Old and New" or many other similar titles. We have decided to use the title of the one song cycle because the texts in it speak of the shadows of our minds and the concerns of the world, especially of young lovers. Youth in general, and especially the Springtime and a young man's thoughts of love and lust are common themes in the repertoire of songs for lute (or guitar) and voice. There is often, also, a theme of regret at having wasted one's youth or a theme of asking God for help to make our lives better.

John Rutter is an English composer, known mostly for his choral music. Born in London in 1945, Rutter received his first musical education at Highgate School. After taking a music degree at Clare College of Cambridge University, Rutter has had a tremendous career as a composer, arranger, choral conductor and record producer.

Just last year, Rutter announced his retirement from overseas conducting assignments, and his final concert was at Carnegie Hall in May 2015. He will continue to conduct and compose in Britain.

John Rutter has written only one song cycle for voice and guitar, and he originally envisioned it to be sung by a baritone. I think that you will agree with me, when you hear the work, that it suits a countertenor voice perfectly as well. The poetry is by 16th and 17th century English poets.

The remainder of the programme today was originally for voice and lute, the lute being the instrument for royal courts whereas the guitar was for folk music and other "common" forms of music. However, the guitar, especially in today's world, is a perfect replacement for a lute in a programme such as we have for you today. The first three numbers are lute songs typical of that found in royal courts around the turn of the 16th to 17th centuries.

After Rutter's song cycle, we finish with a solo guitar piece and two songs by the most famous lutenist of all time, **John Dowland**. *Flow My Tears* was published in his "Second Book of Songes" in 1600, and is perhaps Dowland's most well known lutesong. *Come Again* is from the "First Book of Songes" published three years earlier. Both songs are typical of Dowland oeuvre; thinly veiled allusions to sex, or unrequited love, which speaks to the style of the day.

CONCERTS AT McMASTER

2016/2017 Friday Evening Concerts
Convocation Hall (UH 213), Fridays at 8:00pm

MG3 (Montreal Guitare Trio) Guitar	October 21
Bud Roach Baroque Tenor, Guitar	November 25
Shoshana Telner & The Penderecki String Quartet Piano, String Quartet	January 27
Ensemble Caprice Baroque	February 17

2016/2017 Tuesday Lunchtime Concerts
Convocation Hall (UH 213), Tuesdays at 12:30pm

The Dundas Trio Voice, Organ, String Quartet	October 4
Richard Cunningham & James Renwick Voice, Guitar	October 25
Kirk Starkey Cello	November 22
Steve Cowan Guitar	January 24
Sonia Vizante, David Gerry & Shoshana Telner Violin, Flute, Piano	February 7
Troy Milleker & Naomi Barron Double Bass, Cello	February 28

Thank-you for your support of *Concerts at McMaster*