

Ensemble for the Romantic Century

presents

Toscanini : Nel mio cuore troppo di assoluto
Too much of the absolute in my heart

A theatrical concert presented in partnership with the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies at Columbia University

Wednesday, January 21, 2009, 8:00 PM
Pre-concert lecture, 7:00 PM
1161 Amsterdam Avenue

"We all carry within us our places of exile, our crimes, and our ravages. But our task is not to unleash them on the world; it is to fight them in ourselves and in others."
(Albert Camus)

Written by Eve Wolf

John Hellweg as Toscanini

The Escher String Quartet
Adam Barnett-Hart, violin
Wu Jie, violin
Pierre LaPointe, viola
Andrew Janss, cello

C.J. Camerieri, trumpet

Eve Wolf, piano

Pre-concert lecture by Harvey Sachs,
author of *Toscanini* and *Music in Fascist Italy*
editor of *The Letters of Arturo Toscanini*

Directed by Donald T. Sanders
Production and Costume Design by Vanessa James
Lighting Design by Judith M. Daitzman
Audio Design by Jessica Paz
Special Consultant, Harvey Sachs

Stage Manager, Eliza Laytner
Production Assistant, Rachel Borg
Italian Research Assistant, Julian Sachs
Graphic Design, Bobbi Melville and Matteo Castelli
Italian Technician, Fabio Meucci
Voiceover Artists, Robert Ian MacKenzie and Lorenzo Mascia

Eve Wolf and **Max Barros**, Artistic Directors
James Melo, Musicologist in Residence
Donald T. Sanders, Director of Theatrical Production

Special thanks

Allan Steckler, for permission to use Toscanini's rehearsal tapes
Arthur Fierro and the Estate of Robert Hupka, for permission to use Toscanini's portrait
Mt. Holyoke College Department of Theatre Arts for the use of properties and costumes

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New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. (DCA)

PROGRAM

PROLOGUE

*The Prologue of Act I is set in 1938. Toscanini, at the age of seventy-one, is already in exile and is rehearsing the NBC Symphony Orchestra, which David Sarnoff, the founder-director of RCA and NBC, had created especially for the Italian maestro a year earlier. The recorded examples are excerpts from rehearsal and live performances of **Aida** at Studio 8-H, Rockefeller Center, New York, with Herva Nelli (Aida), Eva Gustavson (Amneris), Richard Tucker (Radames), and Giuseppe Valdengo (Amonasro)*

ACT I

RECORDING	<i>Ohime' di guerra fremere</i> , from Verdi's <i>Aida</i>
Giuseppe Martucci	<i>Momento Musicale op. 57, no. 3</i> (1883)
Aldo Finzi	<i>Berceuse</i> for cello and piano (1920)
Richard Wagner (1857-59)	<i>Liebestod</i> , from <i>Tristan und Isolde</i> (trans. Franz Liszt)
Ottorino Respighi	<i>Antiche Danze ed Arie</i> , Suite 3 (1931) --Italiana: Andantino --Passacaglia: Maestoso
Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco	<i>Quintetto</i> for piano and strings (1932) --Andante --Lento e sognante

INTERMISSION

ACT II

RECORDING	<i>Gran finale</i> from Verdi's <i>Aida</i>
George Gershwin	Prelude no. 1 (1926) (trans. for trumpet and piano based on Heifetz arrangement)
Giuseppe Verdi	String Quartet in e minor (1873) --Scherzo
RECORDING	<i>O patria mia</i> , from Verdi's <i>Aida</i>
Guido Alberto Fano	Quintet in C major for piano and strings (1917)

--Adagio
--Finale

RECORDING

O terra addio, from Verdi's *Aida*