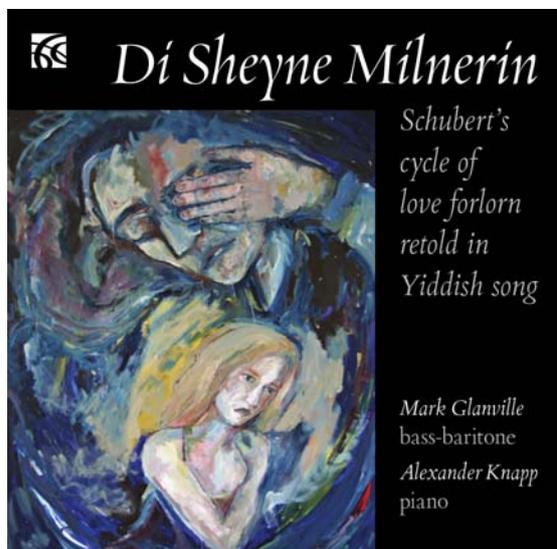


NEW CD RELEASE INFORMATION FOR PRESS/MEDIA



Artist(s): Mark Glanville (bass-bar)
Alexander Knapp (pno)

Title: Di Sheyne Milnerin
*Schubert's cycle of love forlorn retold
in Yiddish song*

Catalogue No: NI6191 [0710357619120]

Discs: Single CD/Standard Case

UK Dealer: £8.70

UK Release: 1st October 2012

This recording comprises a specially devised cycle of twenty songs from the Yiddish repertoire - only the second time a collection of Yiddish songs has been forged into a narrative cycle with a coherent dramatic trajectory. A stark contrast to Mark Glanville's Holocaust-focused programme, *A Yiddish Winterreise*, it explores and reveals different aspects of the Yiddish tradition. As in Schubert's original, *Die Schöne Müllerin* ('the beautiful miller girl'), from which it takes its name, it tells a story of unrequited love. Here, the Jewish hero, though also a miller, is an older man with more than a little of Don Quixote about him, prone to tip at his own windmills and women who fit his idealised notion of love. Does he ever actually make contact with Reyzele, the object of his affection, or does he commune with her only in his dreams? Whatever the case, his sense of pain at being rejected in favour of the thief (replacing the hunter of Schubert's cycle), who has stolen her from him, is the same. Nevertheless, interspersed among the expressions of tragic emotion may be found moments of joy, tenderness and humour.

Mark Glanville and Alexander Knapp both come from a Western Classical music background; and the songs are therefore not performed in the customary folk/popular style, but in the manner one might expect of a Lieder recital. The aim here - as in *Yiddish Winterreise* - is to introduce this wonderful music to as wide an audience as possible, especially one brought up listening to the Classical European repertoire, who may be unfamiliar with the Yiddish tradition.

Am Feierabend, from Schubert's *Die Schöne Müllerin*, is placed almost half-way through the cycle. The German text by Wilhelm Müller has been translated into Yiddish by Heather Valencia, and the title renamed *Nokh der Arbet*.

Arrangements and compositions by celebrated Jewish composers of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries have been included in this programme in order to extend and enhance the great Yiddish Art Song tradition, so keeping it alive and vibrant. Most are familiar masters of this genre.

Di Sheyne Milnerin was first performed at the Jewish Museum, London, in November 2010, and



received its American première at Symphony Space, New York, in February 2011.

Track/Repertoire Details

'Den milners trenn' (The Miller's Tears) *Text & music: Mark Warchawsky (1848-1907) arr. Janot S. Roskin [1884-1946] Op. 11 No 12*; 'Reyzele' *Text & music: Mordechai Gebirtig (1877-1942)*; 'Du shaynst vi die zun' (You shine like the sun) *Text: Isidore Lillian (1880-1960) Music: Ilia Trilling (1895-1947)*; 'Der nayrt sher' (The new dance) *Text & music: Traditional*; 'Dodi li' (My beloved is mine) *Text: Song of Songs 2:16/3;6/4:9,16 Music: Nira Chen (b1924)**; 'Tumba' *Text & music: Traditional**; 'Klipp klapp' *Text & music: Traditional (arr. Janot S. Roskin [1884-1946] Op. 14 no. 10)*; 'Bistu mit mir broygez' (Are you angry with me) *Text & music: Traditional**; 'Nokh der arbet' (After work) *Text: 'Am Feierabend: Wilhelm Müller (1794-1827), translated by Heather Valencia, Music: Franz Schubert (1797-1828), from Die schöne Müllerin, D795 (1823)*; 'Shma Yisroel' (Hear, O Israel!) *Text: Boris Thomashefsky (1868-1939) & music: Joseph M. Rumshinsky (1879-1956) arr. Paul Henning*; 'Himen' (Anthem) *Text: 'Der friling hot aroysgeshnelt zany propn' Abraham Sutzkever (1913-2010) & music: Alexander Knapp*; 'A sheyn lid hob ikh gezungen' (I have sung a beautiful song) *Text & music: Traditional, arr. Janot S. Roskin (1884-1946) Op. 12 No. 15*; 'Dem gonefs yikhes' (The thief's genealogy) *Text & music: Traditional**; 'Tsvey taybelekh' (Two doves) *Text & music: Traditional**; 'Vu iz dos gesele' (Where is the street) *Text & music: Traditional**; 'A gebet' (A plea) *Text: Joseph Rolnick (1879-1955) & music: Lazar Weiner (1897-1982) Six Yiddish Songs No. 3*; 'Ikh hob dikh tsufil lib' (I love you too much) *Text Chaim Tauber (1901-1972) & music: Alexander Olshanetsky (1892-1946)*; 'Ongenumen zikh mit tsar' (Filled with misery) *Text: A Reisen & music: Israel Schermann Op. 1 No. 3*; 'Es drimlen di lodns' (The Shutters are drawing) *Text & music: Traditional**; 'Di zun vet aruntergeyn' (The sun is setting) *Text: Moshe Leib Halpern (1886-1932) & music: Ben Yomen (1901-1970)**

All tracks sung in Yiddish except ^ is in Hebrew

*arranged by Alexander Knapp

The Performers

Mark Glanville read Classics and Philosophy at Oxford University before winning a scholarship to study singing at the Royal Northern College of Music. Whilst attending the National Opera Studio he made his debut with Opera North. Roles for that company include The King of Clubs (Love for Three Oranges), the King (Aida), Nourabad (Pearl Fishers) and Father (The Jewel Box). For Scottish Opera he has sung Commendatore (Don Giovanni), for Lisbon Opera, New Israeli Opera and Opera Zuid The King of Clubs, and for Opera Omaha Ferrando (Il Trovatore.) On the concert platform he has performed as Bass soloist with Lord Menuhin, Daniele Gatti, Pascal Tortelier, Sir David Willcocks and Skrowaczewski. Recordings include Donizetti's *L'Assedio di Calais* and *Anna Bolena*, Schubert's Mass in G and 'A Yiddish Winterreise.' In 2010/2011 his recital, 'A Yiddish Winterreise' was performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, Symphony Space in New York, The Chicago Cultural Center, The Purcell Room and Leeds Lieder Festival. A second recital, 'Di Sheyne Milnerin', was performed at Symphony Space in 2011.. He has been invited back to the Kennedy Center to perform two new programmes: 'A Jewish Romance' in 2013 and Byron's 'Hebrew Melodies' in 2014.

His memoir, *The Goldberg Variations*, was shortlisted for the Wingate Prize for Jewish Literature and the National Sporting Club Award. His journalism, specialising in opera and classical singing as well as Jewish literature and history, has appeared in The Times Literary Supplement, The Literary Review, The Jewish Quarterly, The Jewish Chronicle, Opera Now, The Singer and Classical Music Magazine. In 2007 he was awarded the Premio Lorenzo d'Arcangelo for musical journalism.



Alexander Knapp is a freelance musician, musicologist and ethnomusicologist. He graduated from Selwyn College Cambridge with MA, MusB, and PhD degrees in music, and has also been awarded ARCM, LRAM and HonARAM diplomas. From the late 1960s to the present day, he has published and lectured in the UK, USA, many parts of Western and Eastern Europe, Israel, Western Russia, Eastern Siberia, and China, on Jewish and related musics. Alex's set of *Four Sephardi Songs* (arranged for voice and piano) was published by Transcontinental in New York in 1992; and his *Elegy for String Orchestra* was published in Jerusalem in 1997. In 1998, his anthology of essays on Jewish music (translated into Chinese) was published by the Music Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Arts in Beijing. Among numerous other articles, he has contributed entries on aspects of Jewish art music to *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians (Second Edition)*. Current projects include several publications on the composer Ernest Bloch. Alex has been appointed to positions at Wolfson College Cambridge, and at Goldsmiths' College, Royal College of Music, and City University in London. From 1999 until taking early retirement in 2006, he held the Joe Loss Lectureship in Jewish Music at SOAS. As well as composing, arranging, conducting, broadcasting, and performing as pianist in the UK, European continent and USA, Alex has been involved as consultant and accompanist to cantors and choirs on several commercial recordings. Alex's musical arrangements for *A Yiddish Winterreise* and *Di Sheyne Milnerin*, programmes of Yiddish song devised by Mark Glanville, have been heard in many parts of America and the UK.

Further Information

Mark Glanville and Alexander Knapp will perform 'Di Sheyne Milnerin' at St. John's Smith Square in London on 6th October 2012.

Their previous CD release '*A Yiddish Winterreise*' was released in 2010 by Naxos.

Mark Glanville's style seems to me admirably restrained, allowing the emotion to be expressed from within the voice. The songs themselves textually imply more than they state and draw their melodies from the folk tradition of centuries. The accompaniments manage to be both creative and faithful to the idiom. (Gramophone May 2010/John Steane)

This journey lasts a potentially gruelling 80 minutes and Glanville was masterly in sustaining its technical and emotional demands. (Opera Now/Yehuda Shapiro)

All in all, Mark Glanville and Alexander Knapp succeeded in showing how a folk idiom such as Yiddish song may be adapted to the demands of a sophisticated aesthetic goal through inventive artistic arrangements and large-scale dramatic pacing. (MV Daily/Malcolm Miller)

More information and reviews in full can be found at www.yiddishwinterreise.com. The positive press generated led to Glanville and Knapp being invited to perform at the Kennedy Centre in Washington in 2011. They will be returning there in 2013 and 2014.

The new CD will be fully serviced to all UK classical music press and radio and key media overseas. Advertising will include major classical music magazines and publications.

Please address requests for review copies and/or interview to john@musicandmediaconsulting.com