

ARTIST'S MUSIC NOTES

Johan Helmich Roman was one of the most influential Swedish composers of his time, not only because of his numerous compositions, but also for his role in moving the music of the great composers from the royal court to public concerts in Stockholm. At the age of seven, Roman performed as a violinist for the court. At 16, he became a permanent member of the court orchestra. Sonata in g minor was arranged for Bellows and Brass by Eric Vaillancourt for the 2008-2009 season.

Pietro Deiro was well known on the US vaudeville circuit in the early 20th century. He recorded dozens of records for the Victor Talking Machine Company and established an accordion music publishing company known as Pietro Deiro Publications. Trieste Overture is one of his compositions from the New York period before WW II.

Arthur Pryor was arguably America's most important non-jazz trombonist of the early 20th century. He was revered during the acoustical recording era for his skills as both a bandleader/conductor and composer. Pryor, whose influences ranged from ragtime to European classical (especially waltzes) to 19th-century pop, was never a jazz musician, but his recordings were admired by people in the jazz world including Louis Armstrong. "Thoughts of Love" is one of Pryor's well known waltzes and is presented here in the version for trombone and piano.

Herbert L. Clarke was one of the great North American band leaders of the early 20th century. Also a superstar cornet soloist, Clarke wrote many etude and technical manuals for the

cornet and trumpet. Clarke spent a period of time in Ontario leading bands in the Huntsville area. "Sounds from the Hudson" is a showpiece from the Clarke repertoire and is presented tonight in an arrangement by Guy Few and Joseph Petric.

Ramon Pelinski was a professor of ethnomusicology at the Université de Montreal until he retired to Spain in the mid 1990s. The tangos performed this evening were originally written by Pelinski as duo arrangements for Joseph Petric and Guy Few. They were later adapted by Alain Trudel to include trombone for the Bellows and Brass 1998 Encore Atlantic tour.



"The Perfect Cake"

The soprano...Angelique a young widow suffering from melancholy and indigestion.
The mezzo...Dierdre - her confidante & servant
The tenor... Rinaldo - a poor but talented baker
The baritone... Dr Wholesome - a health guru

ACT 1

Since the death of her husband, Angelique has been struck down by unrelenting melancholy and persistent indigestion. She relates her woes in an aria to her servant Dierdre. As Angelique

is the recent inheritor of a vast wheat empire, Dierdre suggests a diversion – a competition to search for the creator of the perfect cake. Weeks later, in the ballroom of the manor house, the gala evening has arrived and the party is in full swing. Rinaldo enters as the winner of the baking contest. He sings the aria "The Perfect Cake". As the guests celebrate around Angelique and Rinaldo, their eyes meet over his cake and they fall in love.

Act 2

Despite the excitement of the competition, Angelique is still plagued by indigestion. Rinaldo, distressed by her declining health, appeals to a local health guru to come to her aid. We join the cast in the kitchen where Dr. Wholesome plans to reveal his magic cure, fortified flour! Angelique sings of "hope", Dierdre sings of "love"...Rinaldo sings of "happiness"... and Dr. Wholesome sings of "solutions". As the curtain falls, the final preparations are made for baking amidst much optimism.

Act 3

All is not as it seems. Dr Wholesome is the brother of Angelique's recently deceased husband and was the only other inheritor of the fortune. Having been passed over, he started the "Order of the Dark Wheat" and has been plotting his revenge! The fortified flour is actually seasoned with POISON! At another party, the healing cake is presented but when Angelique falls ill, suspicions are raised. The murderous plot is revealed and the villain forced to eat his own slice. As Angelique crawls into Rinaldo's arms, they sing "The Unbaked Cake" with sorrow that it was never fully consumed.

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