



ULISSE



MONTEVERDI

THE BROADWAY SYMPHONY/SEATTLE CHAMBER SINGERS

The 1988-89 concert season represents a hallmark for the Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers: the Singers' twentieth anniversary and the Symphony's tenth. They are celebrating by presenting a joint season of concerts that reflect these many years of collaboration. Monteverdi's opera *Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria* is indeed an appropriate beginning to this year because the Chamber Singers' very first programs (1968-69) were ones of early baroque music. Perhaps best known for their performances of oratorios, The Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers have included several of the best in this anniversary season: *The 1610 Vespers* by Monteverdi, *Messiah* and *Israel in Egypt* by Handel, and the *b-minor Mass* by Bach. On October 9th and 10th, BS/SCS will perform Beethoven's 9th Symphony in Meany Hall, the proceeds of which will benefit the Mark DeWolfe House for AIDS patients. The Broadway Symphony will perform three orchestral programs this season, including a reprise of *Road Ode* by Seattle Composer Huntley Beyer. Fans of the The Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers can look forward to the third annual Chamber Music Marathon and the "courtly" chamber music series both at the Olympic Four Season Hotel in Seattle. It will be a great year--join us!

GEORGE SHANGROW--CONDUCTOR

George Shangrow is entering his twentieth year as Conductor and Musical Director of the Seattle Chamber Singers, and his tenth year with the Broadway Symphony. He is also beginning his twentieth year as director of Music at University Unitarian Church. George is a frequent guest conductor for ensembles in the Northwest: the Seattle Symphony, both for their series on New Music, and for the Enjoyment of Music series; the Northwest Chamber Orchestra; the Portland Ballet, and the Wenatchee Valley Symphony. He enjoys a solid reputation as a lecturer on music, and as such, has been a regular presenter for Seattle Opera Guild Previews and Women's University Club, and he has recently joined the announcing staff of Classic KING FM Broadcasting. Shangrow is an acclaimed harpsichordist and pianist, and regularly presents series of chamber music and recitals with many of the Northwest's favorite soloists.

POLLY DETELS--DIRECTOR

Polly Detels is presently an Associate Professor of Music at East Texas State University where she teaches voice, diction for singers and English composition. She ran the ETSU opera program for six years, assembling credits in stage direction, set design and music direction. In 1984 she produced and directed ...*Ulisse* at ETSU, and had Maestro Shangrow conduct the performances. In addition to her talents as a director, she has written English singing translations for Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Donizetti's *Il Campanello* and Pergolesi's *La Serva Padrona*. As a singer and actress, Polly has had leading roles in *Guys and Dolls*, *The Boyfriend*, *The Consul*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Stories Told to a Lover* (by Huntley Beyer), *The Mikado* and others. She has considerable experience as a recitalist and oratorio soloist, including several appearances with The Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers.

The Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers
in association with
Seattle Central Community College Music Department
present

Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria

(The Return of Ulysses to His Homeland)

An Opera by Claudio Monteverdi

September 9, 10 and 11, 1988
Broadway Performance Hall, Seattle Washington

Cast
(in order of appearance)

Penelope	RUTH LIBBEY
Ericlea.....	ROSE E. BETZ-ZALL
Melanto	RANDI RAVITTS
Eurimaca.....	RONALD ALLEN
Nettuno.....	GARY JANKOWSKI
Phaeacian Sailors.....	PAMELA SILIMPERI JANET SITTIG ELIZABETH KENNEDY
Ulisse	STEPHEN WALL
Minerva	LESLEY CHAPIN
Eumete.....	ROBERT LEAVENS
Iro.....	PAUL KARATTIS
Telemaco	ROBIN HANSEN
Antinoo	GREG ABBOTT
Anfinomo	GINO LUCHETTI
Pisandro	RICHARD SCHEYER
Giunone.....	ELEANOR STOLL COP- HORROX

THE STORY OF THE OPERA

Act I

Scene i The Palace of Ulisse in Ithaca

Queen Penelope, mourning her long-absent husband Ulisse, is alternately angry and grieving as she implores his return. Ulisse's old servant Ericlea is inconsolable too as she cares for her master's great bow, unused since his departure for the Trojan War 20 years earlier.

Scene ii A room in the palace

Melanto, handmaiden to Penelope, awaits the arrival of her lover, Eurimaco. They enjoy an amorous interlude and plot to unite the queen with one of her suitors.

Scene iii By the sea

The rage of Nettuno, god of the sea, is heard. Angry with Ulisse for his arrogance during the Trojan War, he is even angrier with the Phaeacian sailors who have brought Ulisse home and left him on the shore of Ithaca. He resolves to punish them. Unaware of the god's intentions, the Phaeacians offer a lusty chorus, during which their ship is changed into a rock by the vengeful Nettuno.

Scene iv By the sea

Ulisse awakens on the rocky shore, but wonders if he is still dreaming. Unaware that he has finally reached home, he asserts his will to live, but curses the Phaeacians for leaving him in another hostile environment. Minerva, the goddess of wisdom, appears disguised as a young shepherd, who sings of the joy of youth. Ulisse learns from her that he has arrived at Ithaca and he is overcome with joy. Minerva discards her disguise and tells Ulisse what he will find upon his return to his palace: his Penelope, faithful after twenty years, and the shameless, dissolute suitors. She advises him to prepare a disguise before his return to court, and as he leaves to do so, she cautions mortals not to interfere in the affairs of the gods. When Ulisse reappears (disguised as an old beggar), he gladly accepts her offer of assistance.

Scene v The palace

Melanto begs Penelope to cast off her grieving, saying that the dead are displeased with the struggles of the living. Pained by the implication that Ulisse may be dead, Penelope refuses nevertheless Melanto's suggestion that she take a new consort.

Scene vi A pasture near the palace

The shepherd Eumete revels in the delights of nature and simplicity, comparing them favorably with the intrigues to be found at court. His reverie is interrupted by Iro, a gluttonous sycophant, who has attached himself to the palace festivities. Iro points out that the shepherd's charges make tasty meals. Eumete chases him off. While Eumete wonders about the fate of Ulisse, an old beggar man appears. Eumete shows him kindness and respect despite his tattered condition and offers him rest and safety. The stranger tells Eumete that Ulisse will surely return soon.

Scene vii The skies above Ithaca

Minerva brings Telemaco, Ulisse's son, home from a foreign campaign. Telemaco is amazed by the swift mode

of travel, but he is assured by Minerva that the gods always fly freely through the air on the wind.

Scene viii A pasture near the palace

Eumete is overwhelmed with joy at the return of Telemaco, and invites the stranger to join in the welcome. To their astonishment, the stranger says again that Ulisse will return soon. Telemaco dispatches Eumete to the palace with news of his arrival. Ulisse then reveals his true identity to Telemaco, who once convinced, fights off tears of joy. They agree that Telemaco will go off to the palace, while Ulisse prepares for his own return.

INTERMISSION (20 MINUTES)

ACT II

Scene i A great hall in the palace

Penelope entertains her three suitors at court. They urge her to take a new husband, offering persuasive arguments, but the queen resolves repeatedly never to love again. Eumete arrives with his message that Telemaco has returned, and that the return of Ulisse may also be at hand. The queen hears the news with mixed feelings; the suitors resolve to escalate their courtship. Eurimaco then sees an eagle pass overhead and all are alarmed by this peculiar omen. Nevertheless, the suitors prepare to offer gifts to Penelope.

Scene ii Outside the palace

Ulisse and Minerva discuss their strategy. Minerva promises the death of the three suitors. Ulisse, angry at the suitors' arrogance, also vows that they will be struck down.

Scene iii A great hall in the palace

The disguised Ulisse joins in the festivities, but is mocked for his ragged appearance. Eumete comes to his defense but is brutally dispatched by sadistic Antinoo, who then arranges a fight between Iro and the stranger for the court's amusement. After a hearty laugh at Iro's defeat, the suitors press the queen to choose among them by presenting their gifts, one by one. She seems at the point of making her choice between them, but suddenly decides (under Minerva's timely influence) to call for the great bow of Ulisse: the man that can string it will be her husband. When, after great displays of muscle and eloquence all the suitors fail miserably to string the bow, the stranger offers to try. He explains it is not to win her hand, but out of respect for her. The stranger is successful at once and, summoning Minerva, takes his revenge upon the suitors.

Scene iv The palace

All have left the scene of the massacre except the distraught Iro, who ponders a future without his benefactors to cloth and feed him. In a virtuosic outpouring of despair, he resolves to conquer his lust for food and drink by offering up his own body to quench the "appetites of the tomb".

Scene v The palace

Melanto, horrified by the destruction, wonders at the queen's strange mood: one of resignation and detachment. She urges her to be angry, but Penelope declares that by now, she cannot arouse anger or grief.

Eumete and Telemaco try to convince Penelope that the stranger is really Ulisse, but she refuses to listen.

Scene vi The heavens and the sea

Minerva searches the heavens for Giunone (Juno), queen of the gods, to enlist her help in convincing Nettuno that Ulisse has suffered enough and should be welcomed home at last. Giunone is sympathetic and agrees that Ulisse has wandered too long; she will intercede with Jove on Ulisse's behalf. The pardoning voice of Nettuno, coming from the depths of the sea, is proof that her request has been answered. Choruses from the heavens and the sea praise the mercy of the gods.

Scene vii The Palace

Eumete and Telemaco announce the arrival of Ulisse, who reveals himself to Penelope. Again she refuses to listen. Ericlea, who had helped bathe the stranger, had noticed a tell-tale scar. She knew at once that this was truly Ulisse, but swore to silence. But with Penelope's refusal to believe, Ericlea is moved to break her promise; she tells Penelope about the old scar of Ulisse's and that she herself has seen that same scar on the stranger--this is proof enough. to Penelope this is not sufficient. Then the stranger intervenes himself with the proof that finally does convince her: he describes in detail the woven silk which covers her bed, that it is a scene of the goddess Diana which only Ulisse and Penelope know about. The queen, at last her heart full of joy, welcomes Ulisse home.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The The Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers gives thanks to the following individuals and organizations, without whose help this production would not have been possible:

Robert Kechley, Huntley Beyer, and George Shangrow,
score orchestrations

Seattle Central Community College Music Dept.

Bess Field, theater arrangements

Carol Sams, chorus preparation

Charles R. Watts Co. "Construction Materials and Services" and Jim Kiley,
providing the material for the stage columns

The Sheepskin Station, providing the natural sheepskins

Linda Reynolds, properties consultation

Kristina Newman, harpsichord tuning

University Unitarian Church, rehearsal space

East Texas State University, vocal scores and production scheme

The Mountaineers Theater, stage properties

Piano and Organ Moving Company and Mikeal Alkire,
transportation of the stage columns

Robert Kechley, rehearsal accompanist

Seattle Opera

Seattle Repertory Theater

University of Washington Drama Department

Kay Hessimer, Jean Leavens, Helen Brooks, Costume Assistance

THE CAST

GREG ABBOTT--ANTINOO

The bass in the trio of suitors at Penelope's court is Greg Abbott. In last year's The Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers season, Greg sang the role of The Beast in the opera *Beauty and the Beast* by Carol Sams. He has been a popular soloist for several Northwest community and university ensembles including Pacific Northwest Chamber Chorus, Camarata, the University of Washington and various churches. Greg has also been a singer in the Seattle Opera Guild Preview Program.

RONALD ALLEN--EURIMACO

Ron Allen plays Eurimaco, struck with love for the young maid Melanto. Ron was a member of the Seattle Opera Regular Chorus, which recently won critical acclaim for its work in *Satyagraha* by Phillip Glass. He has also been an active member of Pacific Northwest Chamber Chorus and Seattle's Gilbert & Sullivan Society. He is presently studying with William Eddy.

ROSE E. BETZ-ZALL--ERICLEA

The aged servant, and once-upon-a-time nurse of Ulysses, Ereclia, is sung by Rose E. Betz-Zall. Rose holds a Master of Arts degree in Opera Performance from Temple University and she has sung in opera and operetta productions throughout the Puget Sound area. She has participated as a singer in the Seattle Opera Guild's Opera Preview Program, and has been an oratorio soloist with the Seattle Bach Choir.

LESLEY CHAPIN--MINERVA

Soprano Lesley Chapin sings the role of Minerva, the goddess of wisdom. Lesley is at home in both concert and musical theater repertory. This season she will be featured in *Boxiana*, a performance arts piece produced by On the Boards and *Allegro*, and as Giulietta in *Tales of Hoffman* at the University of Washington. Minerva is Lesley's second Monteverdi opera role; she sang the title role in the UW production of *The Coronation of Poppea*. Her other opera roles include Pamina in *The Magic Flute*, Magda in *La Rondine*, and Julietta in the American premiere of Martinu's opera of the same name. She has been a recitalist for the Battelle Foundation's Young Artist Series and was the recipient of the UW's prestigious Breichemin Scholarship.

ROBIN HANSEN--TELEMACO

Soprano Robin Hansen sings the role of Telemaco. Robin received her vocal training at Cornell University in New York, where she resided until 1984. While in New York, she was very active in productions of operetta, musical theater, and children's theater. Since coming to the Pacific Northwest she has been a district winner and regional finalist for the Metropolitan Opera Auditions, performed roles with Seattle's Gilbert & Sullivan Society and the Peadillo Players, and she is a performer in the Seattle Opera Guild Preview Program. In 1986 Robin founded the Tolt Valley Artist Series in which she presented a full-length recital. This season she will appear with the Boise Opera as The Queen of the Night in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*.

GARY JANKOWSKY--NETTUNO

If any one character is to blame for Ulysses' troubles in getting home, it's Neptune. This angry god of the seas is

sung by bass Gary Jankowsky. Gary graduated from Western Washington University and is presently a graduate student at the University of Indiana at Bloomington. In Bloomington he has performed roles in both complete operas and in scenes, and has been invited as a guest soloist for professional ensembles in Cincinnati and St. Louis. Prior to his move to Indiana, Gary was a regular member of the Seattle Chamber Singers.

PAUL KARAITIS--IRO

Iro, "Il Grand Mangetore" (the big glutton) is sung by Paul Karaitis. Paul has appeared with The Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers several times in the past, including two other opera productions: *Daddy's Money* and *Beauty and the Beast*, both by Carol Sams. He also sang the title role in BS/SCS's performance of the oratorio *Jephtha* by Handel. Paul is tenor soloist at temple Beth Am in Seattle and he has appeared in several Seattle Opera productions.

ROBERT LEAVENS--EUMETE

Robert Leavens, tenor, interprets the role of Eumete, old nature-loving shepherd and friend to Ulysses. Bob has enjoyed a long association with The Choir of the Sound; as tenor soloist, member of the ensemble and as associate conductor. He is the tenor and Musical Director for the early music vocal quintet Madrigalia and he has worked with several church choirs. In addition to opera and choral music, Bob has experience in musical comedy, having had roles in *Man of La Mancha*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Oklahoma*.

RUTH LIBBEY--PENELOPE

Ruth Libbey, who portrays Penelope, the steadfast queen of Ithaca, makes her opera debut with this production. Ruth has performed locally in recital and she has sung with The Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers as both a soloist and member of the ensemble since 1983. She is currently the alto soloist at Pilgrim Congregational Church in Seattle and is a student of Marianne Weltmann. Prior to her coming to Seattle, Ruth graduated from Reed College in Portland, Oregon where she studied Fine Arts and Philosophy. Ruth's theater experience includes everything from musical comedy to Shakespeare, and she completed an apprenticeship with Maine's professional Shakespearean repertory company, The Theater at Monmouth.

GINO LUCCHETTI--ANFINOMO

The High tenor "character" in the trio of suitors is Gino Luchetti. Gino is a member of the early music quartet Distant Mirror, and has been invited by many local churches to be a guest soloist. He has sung several roles with community theater companies and with the Gilbert & Sullivan Society. He is a past member of the Seattle Opera Chorus and was a soloist for the 1988 Tacoma Bach Festival.

RANDI RAVITTS--MELANTO

Melanto, sung by soprano Randi Ravitts, is in love and very anxious to have her queen feel the same wonderful emotion. Randi has performed extensively in the Puget Sound region, recently having sung the title role in Cornish Opera's production of *Treemonisha* by Scott Joplin. She is also active in the St. James Cathedral music programs: the Cathedral Choir, Women's Schola, and the Cathedral Girls Choir. Randi holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, graduating *magna cum laude* arts from Rockford College.

RICHARD SCHEYER--PISANDRO

The baritone component to Penelope's trio of suitors is Pisandro, sung by Richard Scheyer. Richard is a graduate of Hartford University. While there he sang many operatic roles including Figaro, both Mozart's and Rossini's; Schaunard in *La Boheme*; the Turk in *The Turk in Italy*; and Golaud in *Pelleas and Mellisande*. Richard also sang with Connecticut Opera and New Britain Opera Theater.

ELEANOR STOLL COP-HORROX--GIUNONE

The queen of the gods is sung by soprano Eleanor Stollcop-Horrox. She is a graduate of the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia, and has done post-graduate work at the University of Washington and Central Washington State University. In 1986-87, Eleanor lived in Colorado Springs where she performed as soloist with the Colorado Springs Chorale, Soli Deo Gloria, and the Colorado College Choir. The Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers is looking forward to her appearance as soprano soloist in the Beethoven 9th Symphony (Oct. 10 and 11), and in Handel's *Israel in Egypt* (May 20 '89).

STEPHEN P. WALL--ULISSE

Tenor Stephen Wall sings the title role of the opera. Stephen has appeared as tenor soloist with the Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers for several special events, including the *St. Matthew Passion* and Bach Cantata Sundays. He has also appeared as soloist with the Vancouver B. C., Spokane and Seattle Symphonies and the Northwest Chamber Orchestra. With Seattle Opera his credits include roles in *Tannhauser* by Wagner and *Salome* and *Elektra* by Richard Strauss. Stephen is presently a member of the voice faculty at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma. This Fall he will be touring Washington with the Bel Canto Ensemble in performances of Rossini's *Sins of My Old Age*. We can look forward to his solo performance with BS/SCS in the October 9 and 10 performances of the Beethoven 9th Symphony.



COSTUMES

Reba Utevsy, Coordinator
Geoffrey Roberts, Costumer
Guy Beuttler, Cutter
Laurie Medill, Stitcher
Sara Hedgpeth, Stitcher
Michael Murphy, Milliner
Joyce Degenfelder, Wigs

STAGE PRODUCTION

Kay Verelius, Producer
Allison Giesy, Stage Manager
Phillip Giesy
Jane Vosk
Harry Horrox

LIGHTING DESIGN

Donald E. Moore
Carolyn Flory
Mark Barrata
Bess Field

THE CHORUS

Carol Sams, director
Andrew Danilchik, Todd Easton, Tim Gojio
C. Jane Lund, Elizabeth Kennedy, Carol Kinney
Janet MacLean, Tom Nesbitt, Brian Russell
Jerry Sams, Pamela Silimperi, Janet Sittig

THE ORCHESTRA

Fritz Klein, *Violin I* - Deborah Kirkland, *Violin II*
Sam Williams, *Viola* - MaryAnn Tapiro, *Cello*
Allan Goldman/Jo Hansen, *Bass*
John Avinger, *Recorder*
Huntley Beyer, *Recorder and Oboe*
Robert Kechley, *Oboe and Synthesiser*
Matthew Dalton, *Trumpet I* - Gary Fladmoe, *Trumpet II*
Barbara Hudak, *Trumpet III*
James Hattori, *Trombone I* - Bruce Reed, *Trombone II*
William Irving, *Trombone III* - David Brewer, *Trombone IV*
George Shangrow, *Harpsichord*

SPECIAL EVENT

The The Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers present

BEETHOVEN'S SYMPHONY NO. 9

"the Choral Symphony"

featuring as soloists

Eleanor Stollcop-Horrox, Soprano

Mira Frohnmayer, Mezzo-soprano

Stephen Wall, Tenor

Norman Smith, Bass

also programmed: Beethoven's Choral Fantasia
for chorus, orchestra and piano solo
George Fiore, piano

Sunday, October 9 at 3:00 pm

and

Monday, October 10 at 8:00 pm

Meany Hall
Univeristy of Washington Campus

General Admission: \$12.00

Students and Seniors: \$8.00

Call 547-0427 for tickets

**Proceeds to Benefit
the Mark DeWolfe House for AIDS patients**

Broadway Symphony/Seattle Chamber Singers present
Claudio Monteverdi's
IL RITORNO D'ULISSE IN PATRIA
(The Return of Ulysses to His Homeland)
September 9, 10, 11, 1988
Broadway Performance Hall, Seattle

CAST

ABBOTT, GREG	ANTINOO Suitor of Penelope (Bass/Baritone)
ALLEN, RONALD	EURIMACO Love interest of Melanto (Tenor)
BETZ-ZALL, ROSE E.	ERICLEA Old maidservant of Penelope (Mezzo-sop.)
CHAPIN, LESLEY	MINERVA Goddess of wisdom (Soprano)
HANSEN, ROBIN	TELEMACO Son of Ulisse and Penelope (Soprano)
JANKOWSKI, GARY	NETTUNO God of the Sea (Bass)
KARAITIS, PAUL	IRO Court glutton (Tenor)
LEAVENS, ROBERT	EUMETE Old Shepherd, loyal friend of Ulisse (Tenor)
LIBBEY, RUTH	PENELOPE Faithful wife of Ulisse (Mezzo-soprano)
LUCCHETTI, GINO	ANFINOMO Suitor of Penelope (Tenor)
RAVITTS, RANDI	MELANTO Young maidservant of Penelope (Soprano)
SCHEYER, RICHARD	PISANDRO Suitor of Penelope (Baritone)
STALLCOP-HORROX, ELEANOR	GIUNONE Queen of the Gods (Soprano)
WALL, STEPHEN P.	ULISSE Trojan War hero & King of Ithaca (Tenor)

POLLY DETELS, Director

GEORGE SHANGROW, Conductor

KAY VERELIUS, Producer

REBA UTEVSKY, Costume Design