

# WIGMORE HALL

Tuesday 20 May 2025  
1.00pm

## Wandering Through Life: Words and Music

Angela Hewitt piano  
Anna Bonitatibus mezzo-soprano  
Donna Leon speaker

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) | Un moto di gioia K579 (1789)                                |
| George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)  | Verdi prati from <i>Alcina</i> HWV34 (1735)                 |
| Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)    | La gondoletta WoO. 157 (1816)                               |
| Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)       | Una voce poco fa from <i>Il barbiere di Siviglia</i> (1816) |



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## Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

### Un moto di gioia K579 A joyful stirring

(1789)

Lorenzo Da Ponte

Un moto di gioia  
Mi sento nel petto,  
Che annunzia diletto  
In mezzo il timor.

A joyful stirring  
in my breast  
foretells happiness  
in the midst of fear.

Speriam che in contento  
Finisca l'affanno,  
Non sempre è tiranno  
Il fato ed amor.

Let's hope all this worry  
has a happy end,  
for fortune and love  
are not always tyrants.

Di pianti, di pene  
Ognor non si pasce  
Talvolta poi nasce  
Il ben dal dolor.

From tears, from pain  
one cannot always escape,  
but sometimes good  
is born from pain.

E quando si crede  
Più grave il periglio  
Brillare si vede  
La calma maggior.

And when you believe  
the danger is greatest,  
calm is seen  
to shine the brightest.

## George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

### Verdi prati from *Alcina* Green meadows

HWV34 (1735)

Verdi prati, selve  
amene,  
Perderete la beltà.

Green meadows, lovely  
woods,  
you will lose your beauty,

Vagli fior, correnti rivi,  
La vaghezza, la bellezza  
Presto in voi si cangerà.

pretty flowers, rapid brooks,  
your charm and beauty  
will soon change.

Verdi prati, selve  
mene,  
Perderete la beltà.

Green meadows, lovely  
woods,  
you will lose your beauty,

E cangiato il vago  
oggetto  
All'orror del primo  
aspetto  
Tutto in voi  
ritornerà.

The beautiful object has  
changed,  
to the dismay of the first  
glance,  
then everything will  
return in you.

## Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

### La gondoletta

WoO. 157 (1816)

Antonio Lamberti

La Biondina in  
gondoleta  
L'altra sera gh'ho menà:  
Dal piaser la  
povareta,  
La s'ha in bota indormenzà.

La dormiva su sto brazzo,  
Mi ogni tanto la  
svegiava,  
Ma la barca che ninava  
La tornava a indormenzar.

Contemplando fisso fisso  
Le fatezze del mio ben,  
Quel viseto cussi slisso,  
Quela boca e quel bel  
sen:

Me sentiva drento in petto  
Una smania, un  
missiamento,  
Una spezie de contento  
Che no so come  
spiegar!

### The little gondola

The blonde girl in the  
little gondola  
the other night I guided,  
of pleasure the poor little  
one  
there in the boat fell asleep.

There she slept in my arms,  
every little while she  
awoke to me,  
but the ship that rocked  
put her back to sleep.

Contemplating intently  
the form of my beloved,  
that face so smooth;  
that mouth and that  
beautiful bosom.

I felt inside of my breast  
a restlessness, a  
powerlessness,  
a type of happiness  
that I do not know how to  
explain.

## Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Una voce poco fa from      A voice has just  
*Il barbiere di Siviglia*      echoed  
(1816)  
Cesare Sterbini

Una voce poco fa      A voice has just  
Qua nel cor mi risuonò,      echoed here into my heart;  
Il mio cor ferito è      my heart is already  
già      wounded,  
E Lindor fu che il piagò.      and it was Lindoro who shot.

Sì, Lindoro mio sarà,      Yes, Lindoro will be mine;  
Lo giurai, la vincerò.      I've sworn it, I'll win.

Il tutor ricuserà,      The tutor will refuse,  
Io l'ingegno aguzzerò,      I'll sharpen my mind.  
Alla fin s'accheterà      Finally he'll accept  
E contenta io resterò.      and happy I'll rest.

Sì, Lindoro mio sarà,      Yes, Lindoro will be mine;  
Lo giurai, la vincerò.      I've sworn it, I'll win.

Io sono docile,      I'm gentle,  
Son rispettosa,      I'm respectful,  
Sono ubbidiente,      I'm obedient,  
Dolce, amorosa,      sweet, loving,  
Mi lascio reggere,      I let be ruled,  
Mi fo guidar.      I let be guided.

Ma se mi toccano      But if they touch  
Dov'è il mio debole      where my weak spot is  
Sarò una vipera,      I'll be a viper,  
E cento trappole      and a hundred traps  
Prima di cedere      before giving up  
Farò giuocar.      I'll make them fall.