

## DOLCI BY THE BAY

### Concert No. 35

*Ted Rust, oboe and voice – Viva Knight, piano and voice*

#### SONATAS AND SONGS OF ALEC WILDER (1909-1980)

Wilder was best known for writing popular songs and for his concert pieces for wind instruments, including those recorded by Mitch Miller, Frank Sinatra conducting. His “Children’s Pleas for Peace,” responding to the Korean War, was performed at St. Mary’s College in 1975 with more than one hundred elementary children. Nine days later, the children wrote to Wilder expressing thanks. Wilder wrote back promptly:

“Dear wonderful members of the chorus (including those who had colds and couldn’t sing, and those who were supposed to sing and couldn’t for one reason or another): I received all of your letters and they made me so happy that I cried! I read every single one of them including the one from Billy Mellott who shook hands with me and Cathy Micheli who thought I was too shy to give her my autograph (it’s on the next page) and the girl who met me back by the chairs (Julie Waterman) and all those who wrote “PEACE” in big letters at the bottom of the letters. It’s the sweetest, kindest, nicest, happiest thing that’s ever happened to me and I thank you all from the top, the middle, and the bottom of my heart!!!” (quoted in Alec Wilder in Spite of Himself by Desmond Stone, Oxford University Press, 1996)



Photo by Louis Ouzer

#### PROGRAM:

“Blackberry Winter” (1976)

lyrics by Alec Wilder and Loonis McGlohon

**Sonata for English Horn and Piano (1954)**

Each sonata is in four untitled movements, characterized only by numerical tempo markings

I. ♩ = 104 (beats per minute) — II. ♩ = 48 — III. ♩ = 120 — IV. ♩ = 112

**Sonata for Oboe and Piano (1961)**

I. ♩ = 132 — II. ♩ = 60 — III. ♩ = 120 — IV. ♩ = 104

“Jam” (1960)

lyrics by William Engvik

**NEXT CONCERT: OCTOBER 17 AT AQUATIC PARK**