

An Homage To Marc Blitzstein
The Carriage Barn / Bennington College
6 June 1964 at 8:30 pm

Marc Blitzstein was born in Philadelphia in March 1902. He was in, his own words, a 'brat prodigy', playing the piano by ear at the age of three and making his first public appearance at the age of six. He attended the University of Pennsylvania from 1921 to 1923. Later he studied with Scalero, Silotti, Nadia Boulanger, Schnöberg. In 1933 he married Eva Goldbeck, who died in 1936. His major works include *Gods* (1926); *Piano Sonata* (1927); *Triple Sec* (1928); *Parabola and Circula* (1929); *String Quartet, Cain* (1930); *Stuffed Seaweed, Piano Concerto, The Harpies* (1931); *Serenade for String Quartet* (1932); *Variations for Orchestra* (1934); *Children's Cantata* (1935); *Chesapeake Bay Retriever, The Cradle Will Rock* (1936); music for Orson Welles's production of *Julius Caesar*, *I've Got the Tune*, *No For A Answer*, *The Spanish Earth* (1937); *Valleytown* (1940); *Native Land* (1941); *Night Shift* (1942); *Freedom Morning* (1943); *The Airborne* (1946); music for *Androcles And The Lion & Another Part Of The Forest* (1947); *Regina, The Guests* (1949); music for *King Lear* (1951); adaptation-translation of *The Threepenny Opera* (1952); *Reuben, Reuben* (1954); *This Is The Garden* (1957); music for *A Midsummer Night's Dream & The Winter's Tale* (1958); music for *Toys In The Attic* (1960); *Idiot's First, The Magic Barrel, Sacco and Vanzetti* (1963). He died in Martinique in January 1964.

- 1) What if a much of a which of a wind (E. E. Cummings)
Isabella Holden
- 2) Penny Candy, from No For An Answer (1937)
Charles Caffall
- 3) Then, from The Magic Barrell (1963)
Joan Boepple
- 4) Scenes from Regina (1948)
Wendy Erdman, as Regina
Joan Maxham, as Alexandra
Isabella Holden, as Birdie
Carol Peckham, as Addie
Steven Bick, as Horace
Ellen Taussig accompanying

Intermission

- 5) Scenes from Juno (1957)
Holland Taylor, as Juno
Nancy Ostheus, as Mary
Steven Bick, as Boyle
- 6) Scenes from The Cradle Will Rock (1937)
Richard Blake, as Clerk & Reporter
Steven Bick, as Larry Forman
Moss Cohen, as Harry Druggist
Lee Richmond, as Yasha
Peter Snider, as Dauber
Frederick Koenig, as Mr Mister
Anne Waldman, as Mrs Mister
Charles Caffall, as Dr Specialist
Meredith Leavitt, as Ella Hammer
Reed Wolcott, as Moll
Jane McCormick, Julie Snow, Loren Siegel, Meredith
Leavitt, Carey Maynard, Patricia Tate, Simone Juda, Marilyn
Sibley, Nancy McCormick, Anne Waldman, Sheila Diamond,
Nancy Ostheus, Joan Boepple, Robin Childs, as Chorus
Deborah Chaffee accompanying

The production has been staged & directed by Reed Wolcott. The stage managers were Carol Peckham & Nancy Ostheus. Sound was arranged by Carla Maxwell & David Krohn. Lights were arranged by John Sundstrom, Peter Simon, Greta Ehrlich, Holland Taylor, Tim Tarnay. Production assistants were Rima Gitlin & Susan Stowers. The faculty advisor was Claude Fredericks.

Thanks for cooperation is extended to: Ann Abel, Frank Baker, Leonard Bernstein, Miss Helen Coates, The Crossett Library, Mrs Edward Davis, Christopher Davis, Rose Davis, Lee Fowler, Sally Donaldson, Helen Harvey, Bernard Malamud, Nina Pelikan, Mary Kelley, Naomi & Nick Rhoads, Suzanne Robertson, Alice Ruby, Bert Salwen, Shirley Stanwood, Rebecca Stickney, Mrs Lisa Tate.

The Cradle Will Rock is used by the courtesy of Tams-Witmark (inc) & 'Then' by courtesy of Mr Bernstein. The overtures from Juno & Regina are from Columbia recordings and that of Mr Blitzstein's voice from a Spoken Arts recording.

A fund has been established in the memory of Marc Blitzstein to give an annual grant to a composer, lyricist, or librettist. Contributions, which are tax free, may be sent to The Marc Blitzstein Memorial Fund (inc) at 330 West 72 Street, New York 23.