

PHILADELPHIA CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

a life more beautiful

PREVIEW
NOTES

Curtis on Tour

Eric Owens + Singers from Curtis Opera Theatre

Sarah Fleiss, *soprano*; Lucy Baker, *mezzo-soprano*; Joseph Tancredi, *tenor*

Eric Owens, *bass-baritone*; Miloš Repický, *piano*; Ting Ting Wong, *piano*

Sunday, December 4 – 3:00 PM

Perelman Theater, Kimmel Center

PROGRAM INCLUDES

Neue Liebeslieder, Op. 65

Johannes Brahms

Born: May 7, 1833, Hamburg, Germany

Died: April 3, 1897, Vienna, Austria

Composed: 1869-74

Duration: 25 minutes

Both collections of *Liebeslieder* (Love-Song) waltzes – Op. 52 and Op. 65 were immediate hits, and a significant source of Brahms's personal wealth. They consist of eighteen songs in the original set and an additional fifteen in the second. They pay homage both to the fantastically popular Vienna "Waltz King," Johann Strauss, Jr., and to Franz Schubert, who had died in 1828 leaving many of his works unpublished. The *Neue Liebeslieder*, Op. 9 (New Love-Songs) were composed just a few years after the first, in response to their popularity. This set has a darker tone: instead of little birds and forest moonlight, the lyrics tell of boats drifting, wrecked on the ocean of love; of cheating lovers; of dark eyes taunting, bewitching, destroying. The music, too, is less playful and more complex.