Please note that not all pages are included. This is purposely done in

order to protect our property and the work of our esteemed composers.

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A Note from the Composer

Though I had in mind for some time the thought of preparing concert versions of arias from the six operas for which I have written the music, it was my association with baritone William Stone and Bruce Kimmel of Bay Cities, Inc. which prodded me to get on with the work. To guide the singer in interpreting the arias, the following will perhaps be helpful.

"It's a Good Time Is Springtime" is sung by John Proctor in Act II of *The Crucible* when he returns home for supper after a day of planting. "I Am John Proctor" is from the final scene of the opera in which John refuses to sign a confession to save himself from being hanged.

Sung before the curtain rises on the final act, Pantaloon's "Ballad" is a symbolic telling of the whole story of *He Who Gets Slapped*. It foreshadows the action in which Pantaloon prevents the marriage of Consuelo to the lecherous Baron and sacrifices his own love for her in order to bring about her marriage to Bezano, her handsome young partner. From the opera *Abelard and Heloise* "Condemn Not, Oh Woeful Man" is sung by Abelard's staunch friend Denys when Bernard, Abelard's jealous arch-rival, solicits Denys' collaboration in bringing Abelard to trial for heresy.

Claudia Legare takes place in Charleston, South Carolina at the end of the Civil War. "Lament for Aunt Renie" describes the quiet passing of George Lowndes' devoted aunt who was a victim of the devastation of the War. In "The South Must Industrialize" Colonel Blagden describes Orlando Beaumont's radical prescription for reviving the economy of the South.

In the last act of *Minutes Till Midnight* Emil Roszak, a famous nuclear physicist, has returned to his laboratory after a meeting with the National Security Council at which he has been asked to direct a project to develop a vastly powerful new weapon. "Oh,Cosmos, With Your Myriad Stars" expresses his deeply troubled state of mind.

In the comic opera *Lady from Colorado* the buffo-desperado, Jack Spaniard, struts the stage first as a macho bad man in "Law and Order" and then in "State Senator, Jack Spaniard! Why Not?" as a wildly ambitious politician who envisions a great and totally corrupt career for himself in a new role now that Colorado has gained statehood. Cecil Moon, who ultimately dashes Spaniard's dreams by defeating him in the elections, proclaims his patriotism in "I Hail This Land." Jeff Stafford, the old miner, is full of nostalgia and an old man's sadness as he sings "I Ride Along."

On the compact disc issued by Bay Cities, Inc., William Stone accompanied by Thomas Warburton have beautifully realized the intentions of the librettists and myself in their interpretations. It was a great artistic experience to work with them.

- Robert Ward

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These arias are recorded by William Stone, baritone and Thomas Warburton, pianist on Bay Cities Classical CD, No. BCD 1029.

It's a Good Time Is Springtime



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I Am John Proctor



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31 minutes

Words by BERNARD STAMBLER

Music by ROBERT WARD



CONDEMN NOT, OH WOEFUL MAN

from Abelard and Heloise



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LAMENT for AUNT RENIE from the opera

CLAUDIA LEGARE



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THE SOUTH MUST INDUSTRIALIZE

from Claudia Legare



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