About Gluntarna

by Gunnar Wennerberg
In English: The Boon Companions

Here you will find information about the 30 duets for two male voices and piano describing student life in Uppsala about 1850. These duets are called Gluntarne, or in modern Swedish: Gluntarna.

They were written (text as well as music) by Gunnar Wennerberg (1817-1901). Originally a schoolmaster he soon became quite famous for his Gluntarne and other music(mostly sacral), which gave him a cultural and eventually a political position. He chaired the committee that organized Sweden's National museum, he served in the Swedish parliament and was a cabinet minister for several terms. After he retired he served as the Governor of the county of Kronoberg.

Wennerberg's musical compositions were mainly written for duets, trios and male choruses, although as a university student, he wrote cheery songs. In later life his songs reflected patriotic and religious themes.

In Minnehaha Park in Minnesota there is a statue of Gunnar Wennerberg. There is no information about Wennerberg on the statue except for his name, and even that is difficult to read. You can find pictures here: **Galleri**

Gluntarna are translated into English under the titel: The Boon Companions. See **Translations**.

Even the music can be found on this home-page.

There are many recordings with the Gluntarna, four of them sung in English: The boon companions (Gluntar på engelska):

III. Uppsala is Tops

IV. On the castlehill by moonlight

XII. Magister's unsuccessful serenade

XIV. Glunten in search of a touch