

BANBURY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

(Guest Leader: Stephen Bingham)

presents

**“A FESTIVAL OF
ENGLISH MUSIC”**

with

JULIAN LLOYD WEBBER

(solo cello)

***Conductor:* PHILIP SHAW**

on

THURSDAY, APRIL 26th at 7.30 pm 1993

in

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BANBURY

A ROYAL FANFARE

ARTHUR BLISS

This fanfare was composed for the wedding of H.R.H. Princess Margaret in Westminster Abbey, May 6th, 1960, by the then Master of the Queen's Musick.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

CORONATION MARCH: CROWN IMPERIAL

'In beawtie beryng the crone imperiall'

WILLIAM WALTON

(William Dunbar, 1465-1520)

1937 was the Coronation year of George VI and the B.B.C. commissioned Walton as well as other British composers, to write a work for the occasion. This was the "Crown Imperial" Coronation march, a glittering piece of pageantry in which the composer paid homage to Elgar, whose work he admires greatly. It was first performed on May 9th, 1937 and repeated in Westminster Abbey before the actual ceremony on Coronation Day, May 12th.

ST. PAUL'S SUITE

GUSTAV HOLST

The Suite was written in 1913 for the orchestra of St. Paul's Girls' School where Holst was music-master. It is one of Holst's happiest works and fully demonstrates his love of the folksong idiom. The Jig reflects the influence of the Morris Dance tunes he had recently been arranging for military bands. There are occasional suggestions of the later "Planets Suite", and the tune in the Intermezzo was later used in "The Perfect Fool". The Finale is almost identical with the "Fantasia on the Dargason" at the end of the Second Suite for Military Band.

A NOYSE OF MINSTRELLS

GORDON JACOB

Round O for Orchestra

Christmas celebrations in a Country House

'Amongst all the pleasures provided, a noyse of minstrells and a Lincolnshire bagpipe was prepared; the minstrells for the Great Chamber, the bagpipe for the Hall; the minstrells to serve up the Knight's meate and the bagpipe for the common dancing.'

1608, Robert Armin (quoted by William Sandys d. 1874)

In Jeremiah Clarke's 'Choice Lessons for the Harpsichord or Spinett' (1711) the word Rondo is englished into Round O, signifying a dance in which the refrain is repeated many times, the repetitions being separated by contrasted sections executed by smaller groups. This plan has been followed here by Gordon Jacob.

The work is dedicated to, and was first performed by, Ralph Nicholson and the Croydon Youth Orchestra on the occasion of their 25th anniversary on July 18th 1970.

INTERVAL

FANTASIA ON 'GREENSLEEVES'

R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

The late Ralph Vaughan Williams was, during his life, not only England's most distinguished composer, but England's most distinguished collector of folk tunes. In 1929, he produced an opera called "Sir John in Love", based on Shakespeare's "Falstaff", in which he incorporated, according to his own estimate, about fifteen minutes of folk songs. The opera, unfortunately, has been but rarely heard since, but one of the folk songs, 'Greensleeves' by name, provoked a storm of response. Vaughan Williams arranged a 'Fantasia' for orchestra based on the tune, and incorporated another folk song, 'Lovely Joan', as a middle section.

CONCERTO FOR VIOLINCELLO AND ORCHESTRA

EDWARD ELGAR

Elgar has two sides to his character – a militant splendid side, and one which was deeply meditative. To the first belonged the Marches of Pomp and Circumstance wherein he felt he had fulfilled his function as a national composer and as a Master of the King's Musick. To the second belonged the chamber music – the violin sonata, string quartet and piano quintet, three uneven but grossly underrated works, and his final masterpiece, the "Violoncello Concerto in E minor, Op. 85".

This is a fairy tale, full, like all Elgar's larger works, of intimate passages, and although unaffectedly classical in its language in form it is unlike any other concerto. Its orchestration is as unworldly as it is masterly. It is concentrated on the special task of throwing into relief a solo instrument which normally lies below the surface of music. Brilliant orchestration is thus out of the question; but there is no lack of subtle and beautiful tone colour inexhaustively varied by the simplest means.

A short introduction for the 'cello leads to an indolent sequential theme on violas repeated by the 'cello. The clarinet then presents the main theme which blossoms out into a marvellous flowering and forms the basis of the first movement.

The second movement is a lively scherzo and begins with a semiquaver figure of repeated notes which soon gathers speed. After briefly touching a second theme in the remote key of E flat, this impish little movement scurries back to its main theme and vanishes with the detonation of a burst bubble.

The serene slow movement is a single broad melody and leads into the introduction to the finale. 'It is a free rondo with a mischievous second subject slightly suggestive of dignity at the mercy of a banana skin' (Tovey). It is spaciouly developed on a large scale with many and varied episodes. A complete surprise awaits us towards the end in a new slow theme of romantically abstruse harmony and full of pathos. Yet another fresh theme rises to a climax of passion and after referring to earlier items, leads into the main theme of the finale and comes to a spirited and abrupt end.

SUITE: THINGS TO COME

ARTHUR BLISS

The music from which this suite of six movements is formed was written in 1935 for H. G. Wells's film 'Things to Come'. In this film the author envisaged our present civilisation, destroyed by a world war, and showed a saner and finer world built on the ashes of the old.

1. BALLET FOR CHILDREN

The film opens with a children's party at Christmas time. Among the toys are tin soldiers, trumpets and drums.

2. ATTACK

The enemy attack from the air without warning.

3. PESTILENCE

After years of fighting a pestilence ravages mankind.

4. RECONSTRUCTION

A new hope is born.

5. MACHINES

New and powerful machines build the new world.

6. MARCH

JULIAN LLOYD WEBBER is one of the most exciting and creative young talents before the public today. His many recordings and television and radio appearances have brought a new audience to the cello.

He has appeared with many of the world's finest orchestras, including the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, with whom he performed a new concerto which the celebrated Spanish composer Rodrigo wrote for and dedicated to him. With a long list of L.P.'s to his credit already, including the world premiere recording of Benjamin Britten's Third suite for solo cello, he is currently involved in a series of records of the major repertoire for cello and orchestra.

Few personalities in classical music are better known to television audiences than Julian Lloyd Webber.

The range of his appearances has taken in not only, for example, a programme with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, but also a series of shows with jazz violinist Stephane Grappelli, and invitations on to many chat shows, including "Parkinson" and "Russell Harty".

BANBURY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

First Violins

S. Bingham (Guest Leader)
L. Farbrother
J. Baohe
A. Bharali
L. Bharali
G. Kent
B. Thomas
J. Titley

Second Violins

G. Walker
C. Chapple
A. Dodwell
D. Golby
J. Gardner
R. Gebbels
D. Hunter
J. Hunter
E. Mortimer
M. Saunders
A. Waite
B. Yelloly

Violas

L. Smith
H. Adam
D. Bolton King
T. Kilbey
M. Saye
S. Shield

'Cellos

A. Thom
R. Atkinson
L. Caperon
H. Copeman
C. Gainey
B. Hodson
S. Jakeman
J. Preece
P. Sutcliffe

Basses

P. Chandler
E. James
S. Riley

Flutes

R. Townsend
S. Blanch
C. Oliver

Piccolo

A. Parris

Oboes

A. Cottman
R. Jordan

Clarinets

J. Chadwick
M. Graver
C. Taylor

Bassoons

C. Gray

Horns

D. Simpson
E. Harre
C. Reid
M. Saunders
M. Taylor
M. Wood

Trumpets

R. Barnett
R. Auld
L. Whale

Trombones

M. Hill
P. Macey
M. Saunders

Tuba

A. Prickett

Timpani

I. Hood

Percussion

N. Gray
S. Maidlow
G. Shorter
K. Wood

Harp

J. Webb

C. Pawley

*Our grateful thanks are due to all our Patrons for their continued support.
Anyone wishing to join the orchestra, or become a patron should contact the Hon. Secretary,
Lawrence Farbrother, Longleat Close, Banbury.*