ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

STANBRIDGE HALL, BANBURY SCHOOL

Tuesday, 1st February, 1972

BANBURY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Leader: Lawrence Farbrother

Conductor CHRISTOPHER BOCHMANN

Violin MICHAEL BOCHMANN

The National Federation of Music Societies, to which this Society is affiliated, gives support towards the cost of this Concert with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain

PROGRAMME

The Queen

Overture: Hansel und Gretel

Engelbert Humperdinck

Humperdinck was of that generation of opera composers which came directly and heavily under Wagner's influence: Humperdinck himself was even Wagner's assistant for a short time. Without reacting against this influence, he managed to create an original work in Hansel und Gretel by moving from mythology to fairy-tale. First performed in 1893, this opera was an immediate success and is still frequently performed at Christmas-time. The overture opens serenely with the prayer theme — the main theme of the opera — which later gives way to the dances which characterise the children's world.

Violin Concerto in D Op. 61

Ludwig van Beethoven 1770 - 1827

Allegro ma non troppo Larghetto Rondo

Beethoven's Violin Concerto was written in 1806, (shortly after the fourth piano concerto and the fourth symphony) for Franz Clemont, leader of the orchestra of the Theater an der Wien. At its first performance it was considered long-winded, which resulted in its neglect until Joseph Joachim began to play it again in the 1840's. The gigantic proportions of the first movement are matched by the gravity and monumental character of the thematic material, of which the opening timpani strokes are the most important. The second movement is a set of variations with a reduced wind section (only clarinets, bassoons and horns) and muted strings, which leads straight into the finale whose rondo refrain quickly disperses the intensely serious nature of the slow movement. The cadenzas to be played tonight are by Joseph Joachim, not only a virtuoso violinist, but a composer in his own right.

Allegro non troppo Andante moderato Allegro giocoso Allegro energico e passionato

Brahms' last symphony, composed in 1895, was received coldly at its first performance even by the composer's friends. His enemies, of whom there were many especially in the Wagnerian camp, considered it at its best "Art without inspiration." It is, however, the most personal and serious of his symphonies and now holds a position of great popular esteem. The orchestration is subdued and avoids flamboyance. The most unusual feature of the work is its last movement which is a passacaglia or set of variations on a theme of Bach — like solidity and mystery, given out at the beginning on trombones — the traditional instruments of the underworld.

Programme notes by C.B.

The committee are very grateful to Messrs. Haydn Heard for their help with Box Office and publicity.

THE BANBURY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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THE ORCHESTRA

First Violins

Power Ltd.

A. H. Cheney, Esq.

R. G. Cheney, Esq.

Lawrence Farbrother (Leader) William Spicer Harry Wilks (Deputy Leader) Susan Newton Geoffrey Kent Keith Smith Haydn Heard Joyce Higgins Susan Thomas Trevor Kilby Edward Richardson

Second Violins

Gillian Walker Hilary Gray Lilian Wyncoll Christine Thomas John Ladlow Winifred Dodwell Clair Higgins Arthur Kent Clive Glossop Lily Rose Angela Hawkins

Violas

May Suttie Susan Wightman Robin Stammers A. Douglas Rose Elspeth Tucker

Cellos

Phylis Travis Robert Gilchrist Walter Cheney Stephen Jakeman Stuart Lockett Judith Wynne

Basses

John Suttie John Pound

Flutes

Jennifer Willy Watson Harris Griselda Lessard

Oboes

Jane Marshall Ann Beauchamp H. E. Sargent

Clarinets .

Julie Thomas Lilian Clark

Bassoons

Catherine Simpson Robert Eccles Sharon Wynne

Horns

Donald Simpson John Barnet Nicholas Spice Ian Leckie

Trumpets

Robert Auld Ray Phipps Ron Barnett

Trombones

Patrick Carthew John Greaves Mark Turnbull

Timpani Tony Saggers

Precussion Audrey Boas

There are vacancies in most departments of the orchestra. Inquiries may be made to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Wilks, 7 Queensway, Banbury.

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