

The Banbury Symphony Orchestra

Saturday 17th November 1990

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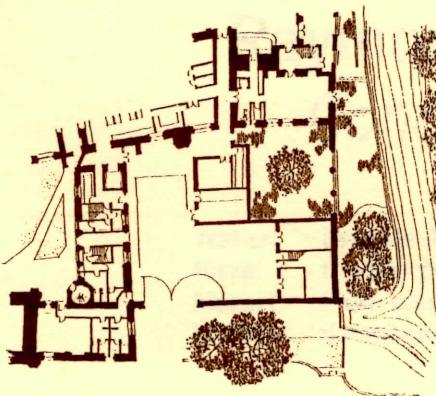
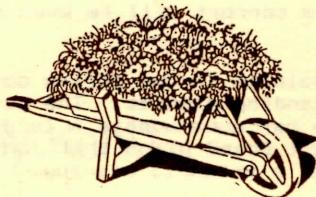
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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to our new season of four concerts. Raymond Head, our conductor, has chosen the music for its variety and interest. We have invited excellent soloists to each of our concerts.

Tonight we are pleased to welcome the flautist Paul Chapman, who will be playing Mozart's Flute Concerto No.1. The orchestra has very much enjoyed rehearsing with him.

On December 1st we are giving a concert programme especially for children. We are performing The Snowman, with Graeme Garden, a famous member of the Goodies, as the narrator. The Snowman was a great success when we performed it five years ago, and we hope that this year's concert will be even more popular.

The soloist in our spring concert on March 17th is John Lill, an outstanding pianist. The concert will be held in Deddington Church which can accommodate a larger audience, and the beautiful Steinway Concert Grand piano that John will be playing. We hope you will join us for a splendid evening.

Thanks to your enthusiastic support, the orchestra is going from strength to strength. We hope you will enjoy this season's concerts as much as we will enjoy playing for you.

Sincerely,

Rene Tuthill.

The Banbury Symphony Orchestra

(Leader - Geoffrey Kent)

Paul Chapman

Flute

Raymond Head

Conductor

Walton - Prelude Richard III

Ravel - Pavane pour une infante defunte

Mozart - Flute concerto No. 1

Mahler - Symphony No. 1 (last movement)

St. Mary's Church, Adderbury.

William Walton (1902-1983)

Prelude: Richard III

The English composer Walton was born in Oldham, and at the age of sixteen won a scholarship to Oxford University. But as a composer he was largely self-taught. He first became famous with the witty 'Façade' music, which was followed by other masterpieces including 'Belshazzar's Feast', two symphonies and several concertos that are standard works throughout the world. In 1954 he composed, at Laurence Olivier's request, the film music for an adaptation of Shakespeare's play 'Richard III'. The prelude depicts the Coronation of Edward IV.

Ravel (1875-1937)

Pavane Pour Une Infanta Défunte

This is one of Ravel's most enduring masterpieces. Originally, it was written for piano in 1899 but Ravel orchestrated it in 1910 for small orchestra. Like much of his music it looks back to the 17th and 18th century, to the time of Couperin and Rameau. This is evident in its simple outlines and clear textures. The pavane was an Italian court dance of the 17th century that became all the rage in Europe. Ravel's unusual title with its reference to a deceased child refers to the custom of the 17th century Spanish Court to perform a solemn ceremonial dance at a time of mourning.

Mozart (1756-1791)

Flute Concerto No. 1 in D K.313

Allegro maestoso Adagio non troppo Tempo di Menuetto

In December 1777 while Mozart was at Mannheim he received a commission from a Dutch flute player to compose three short concertos and two flute quartets. In fact Mozart only wrote one truly original flute concerto (the one played tonight) while the other K.314 was a re-working of an oboe concerto. The third concerto was never written probably because Mozart had never been paid for the work he had already written. Mannheim was a great musical centre with the best orchestra in Europe, famous for its clarity, sparkle and dramatic qualities. From it Mozart learnt some of the musical tricks which are heard in the concerto; dramatic contrasts, beautiful orchestration, dazzling scales. In Mannheim he also fell in love with Aloysia Weber, and this may account for the work's high spirits and tenderness.

INTERVAL

Refreshments are available in Church House, over the road from the church.

Gustav Mahler (1860-1911)

Symphony No.1 in D (Titan)
(Last movement)

Mahler is now such an established composer that it is difficult and salutary to remember that only twenty years ago his music was hardly known at all. His reputation as a great symphonist is now beyond doubt and his genius fully recognised. This has also been recognised by the general public who flock to concerts all over the world whenever his music is played. It is easy to see why. Mahler's music evokes the most intense expressions of anxiety, which alternate with rapt, lyrical tranquility. In this his music seems to mirror our own times, and feelings. The first of ten symphonies was begun in 1885 and finished in 1888. It is a spiritual autobiography of a tortured soul (this last movement was originally titled 'From the Inferno to Paradise') who after great trials reaches a glorious resting place. In its entirety the work lasts one hour, but this last movement can stand on its own and gives a good résumé of the work's moods and conflicts.

Notes by Raymond Head

PAUL CHAPMAN

Paul Chapman studied music at Sheffield University between 1966-70 before going to the Royal College of Music where his teacher was Christopher Hyde-Smith. Thereafter he became a freelance player in London, playing many times with the London Mozart Players. In 1975 he was given a Principal Post at the English National Opera and moved to the Hong Kong Philharmonic in 1985. He has now returned. For many years he has been interested in the Alexander Technique and now trains Alexander teachers and has his own private practice.

RAYMOND HEAD

Raymond Head studied the piano with Alice Goosens in London and with Jean Churchill at Dartington College of Arts; composition with Roger Smalley and Edwin Roxburgh and harpsichord with Mary Potts, Cambridge. He has worked in Italy as a *répétiteur* for Hans Werner Henze and appeared as an accompanist in the U.K. and Italy. For his researches into the music of Gustav Holst he was given a Holst Foundation Award, and others from the British Academy and Yale. As a conductor he has appeared at St John's Smith Square and for the National Trust. He has published a book on the subject of East-West influences and has lectured widely. His programme 'Indian Airs' was broadcast by the BBC last year.

BANBURY SYMPHONY CONCERTS 1990-1991

Saturday, 1st December, 1990, St. Mary's Church, Adderbury, 4.00 p.m.

CHILDREN'S CONCERT

Capriccio Espagnol - Rimsky-Korsakov
The Snowman - Howard Blake
(narrator Graeme Garden, treble solo Marcus Vallance)
'Tis a Gift to be Simple - Copland
Grand Durbar March - Foulds
Christmas Carols

Saturday, 22nd June, 1991, St. Mary's Church, Adderbury, 7.30 p.m.

(Sponsored by BRITISH ALCAN EXTRUSIONS LIMITED)

Copland - Fanfare for the Common Man
Koechlin - Au Loin (1st U.K. performance)
Richard Strauss - Four Last Songs
 soloist: BETHAN DUDLEY
Elgar - Enigma Variations

SPONSORSHIP

These concerts cost far more to produce than can be recouped by sale of tickets. We should be most grateful to receive offers of Sponsorship for future concerts.

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THE BANBURY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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Geoffrey Kent
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Sue Blanch
Hester Oliver

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Elizabeth Gilchrist

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Mandy Barton
Rosie Houldsworth

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Alice Palmer

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We are most grateful to our Patrons for their support.

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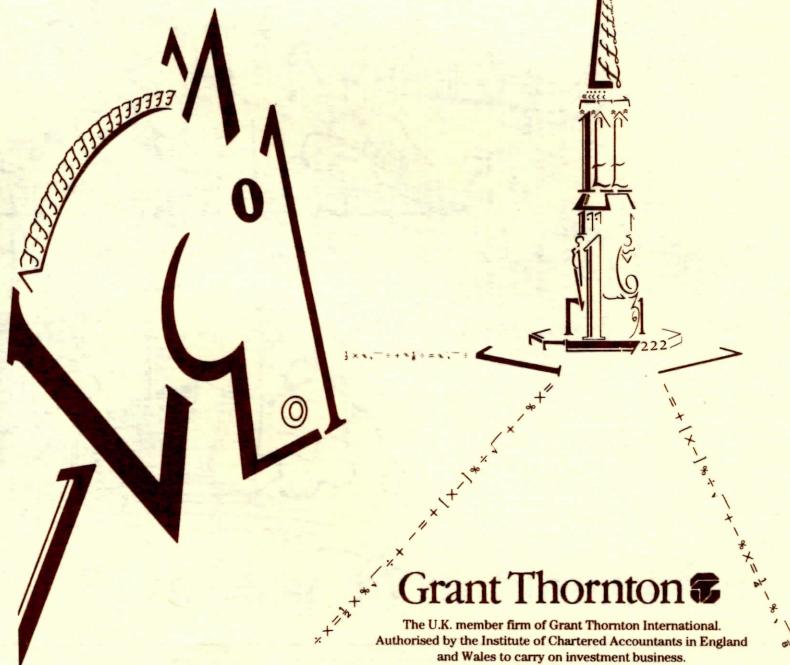
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We are most grateful to the Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Mary's Church, Adderbury, for their permission to use this beautiful church for our concert.

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