

Havering  
Concert  
Orchestra

Programme



HAVERING CONCERT ORCHESTRA

SUNDAY MARCH 18TH 1984 - 8.00 p.m.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, HORNCURCH

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**Overture 'The Barber of Seville'**

**Rossini**

(1792-1868)

It is a curious fact about Rossini's career that after finishing 'William Tell' (his thirty-sixth opera in nineteen years), he simply renounced this frantic piece of work and wrote practically nothing except the 'Stabat Mater' during the remaining forty years of his life. However, nobody who has had the pleasure of eating a 'tournedos Rossini' or seen a picture of the plump composer in his later years can doubt that he had quite an enjoyable semi-retirement.

The original overture to 'The Barber of Seville' was not a success and has been lost. The twenty-four-year-old composer replaced it with the overture to his opera 'Elizabeth, Queen of England', which in its turn had been borrowed from one of his previous, even more obscure operas.

In this modified form, 'The Barber of Seville' was staged at Bologna in 1816, and is now frequently performed throughout the world.

**Piano Concerto No.1 in B<sup>b</sup> minor**

**Tchaikovsky**

(1840-1893)

SOLOIST: JEFFREY LAGUE

Deeply wounded by the criticisms of Nikolay Rubinstein who declared this work to be 'unplayable', the young Tchaikovsky declared: 'I won't alter a single note; I shall print it exactly as it is now!'

A few years later, Rubinstein found it to be less unplayable than he had thought and started giving performances of it.

His criticisms are not entirely unjustified, in fact, as a great deal of the music is rather awkwardly written for the keyboard, compared with certain other virtuoso concertos. It is, of course, one of the most famous in the repertoire.

There are three movements:-

1. Allegro non troppo e molta maestoso  
- Allegro con spirito
2. Andantino semplice - Prestissimo  
- Tempo primo
3. Allegro con fuoco

Having played concertos by Mozart, Macdowell, Moszkowski and Liszt with the HCO, tonight Jeffrey Lague adds Tchaikovsky to the list. We are delighted to have him with us again.

### INTERVAL

## Symphony No. 5 in C minor

Beethoven  
(1770-1827)

1. Allegro con brio
2. Andante con moto
3. Allegro
4. Allegro. Presto

Beethoven's dates set him at the end of the 'Classical' period in music, which gave us the masterpieces of Mozart and Haydn and numerous other late 18th Century composers, and at the beginning of the 19th Century 'Romantic' era which produced Berlioz, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Liszt and later such arch-romantics as Wagner and, of course, Tchaikovsky.

It was a time when the repercussions of the French Revolution had inspired in the minds of many new thoughts of freedom and equality. Beethoven foresaw the imminent liberation of all mankind, and with it the emancipation of the art of music from the bonds of the Classical structure and decorum.

Perhaps his most significant musical utterances are in the symphonic moulds inherited from those who developed them - Haydn with his 104 symphonies and Mozart with his 41 - but Beethoven developed and expanded the schema of the symphony and produced nine large-scale works in this medium, even adding a choir and soloists for the last movement of the ninth.

The fifth symphony has four movements, the third of which leads into the finale. It is vivid and immediate music, comprehensible to all, far and away transcending analytical programme notes...so I'll refrain from writing any.

ROBERT FERGUSON

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## **Havering Concert Orchestra**

CONDUCTOR

ROBERT FERGUSON

LEADER

SARA CAVALIER

The HCO is an enthusiastic and friendly group of local players of all ages which continues to expand its membership and repertoire under the spirited direction of Robert Ferguson.

Membership details may be obtained from the Hon Sec, Richard Ellis, 14 Elgin House, Cameron Close, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 5BU. Telephone Br. 217105.

The Orchestra wishes to thank Havering Arts Council for financial assistance, and you, the public, for your continued support.

Robert Ferguson is the resident conductor of the Havering Concert Orchestra, and lives in Emerson Park, Hornchurch.

He studied at the Royal College of Music with Cyril Smith and as a pianist has appeared in the Purcell Room, Wigmore Hall and the Royal Festival Hall. He is also an adjudicator and examiner.

His piano duo with Christopher Kite performs throughout the country and has also visited Ireland.

They have done several recordings and live recitals for the B.B.C.

## **HCO at the QUEEN'S**

THE HAVERING CONCERT ORCHESTRA

continues its 1983/4 season of concerts  
(exclusively at the Queen's Theatre) on

SUNDAY JUNE 17TH 1984

Gershwin      -    An American in Paris  
Ravel           -    Pavane  
Elger           -    Pomp and Circumstance Marches  
(Subject to alteration)

**MUSIC FOR THE PEOPLE OF HAVERING**

