

Havering Concert Orchestra

Programme

HAVERING CONCERT ORCHESTRA

SUNDAY JUNE 17TH 1984 - 8.00 p.m.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, HORNCURCH



Tonight, the Havering Concert Orchestra offers you a programme of light classics: one of Mozart's best-loved overtures, two tuneful symphonies, and a couple of Johann Strauss's most famous concert items.

Overture: The Marriage of Figaro

Mozart
(1756-1791)

Some say you can boil an egg in the duration of this short, bubbling prelude to Mozart's comic opera. Certainly it only lasts four or five minutes, but it must be one of the most perfect products of the human mind - exquisitely proportioned, deft and immaculate in every detail.

The opera was written in Vienna, and was first performed in 1786 with such success at the first and succeeding performances that the emperor had to prohibit encores.

Symphony No. 5 in B flat major

Schubert
(1797-1828)

Music flowed from Schubert's pen like wine from a vineyard. He wrote more music per hour of his life than almost anyone, except possibly Purcell: six hundred songs, ten symphonies, large amounts of beautiful chamber music, fat volumes of pieces for solo piano and piano duet, and much more.

Obviously, not all of this work is of equal stature, and surrounding the frequent masterpieces are large numbers of works which are not performed now,

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including no less than fifteen operas, at least seven of which are complete enough to be performable.

Schubert used to be thought of as a second Beethoven, but cut down in his prime before achieving his full potential. These days, fewer people think of him that way, and although he died very young, only a year after his hero Beethoven, his music seems to be valued increasingly for its own magical qualities and Viennese lightness of touch.

The fifth symphony was written and received its first performance in 1816 in Vienna. It was played by an orchestra which had grown out of the Schubert family's quartet, and the first performance took place in the house of the conductor.

There are four movements:

- 1 Allegro
- 2 Andante con moto
- 3 Menuetto: Allegro molto
- 4 Allegro vivace

Interval

Symphony in C major

Bizet
(1838-1875)

Bizet is best known for his opera 'Carmen' and last November, the HCO performed the prelude to that melodious and dramatic piece. Tonight, we are playing this charming symphony which Bizet wrote at the ripe old age of seventeen.

In his exuberance, he forgot (or did not realise) that the timpani part ought to adhere to the harmonies being played by the rest of the orchestra, or remain silent. In performances nowadays, the frequent accidental clashes the composer wrote (using the only two notes available to him) are corrected.

The symphony was written in a month in 1855, and received its first performance eighty years later, long after the composer was dead and buried.

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There are four movements. The second contains a long haunting oboe melody, and the third is a Scherzo with a contrasting Trio.

- 1 Allegro vivo
- 2 Adagio
- 3 Scherzo: Allegro vivace
- 4 Allegro vivace

Blue Danube Waltz

Tritsch-Tratsch Polka

Johann Strauss
(1825-1899)

To round off our concert, we are playing two pieces by the younger Johann Strauss.

He was a prolific composer of light music, especially waltzes, but also quadrilles, polkas and marches. Later in life, he wrote quite a number of operettas of which the most successful are 'Die Fledermaus' and 'Der Zigeunerbaron' ('The Bat' and 'The Gipsy Baron').

Known as the 'Waltz King', Strauss brought the glitter and hedonism of nineteenth century Vienna to his five hundred musical compositions.

The 'Blue Danube' was written in 1867, and the Tritsch-Tratsch polka a little earlier in 1858.

Robert Ferguson

Robert Ferguson 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 they have done several recordings and live recitals for the BBC.

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.

If you are interested in joining the orchestra, we would be pleased to hear from you. A waiting list is maintained for most sections, but vacancies do arise from time to time, and extra players are occasionally required.

For more details, please ring the Hon Secretary, Richard Ellis, on Brentwood 217105, or write to 14 Elgin House, Cameron Close, Brentwood, CM14 5BU.

The HCO would like to thank Havering Arts Council for providing financial guarantees for this concert.

Thank you for your continued support.

HCO at the QUEEN'S

THE HAVERING CONCERT ORCHESTRA

commences its 1984/5 season of concerts
(exclusively at the Queen's Theatre) on

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11TH 1984

Walton	- Crown Imperial
Elgar	- Serenade for Strings
Handel	- The Water Music
Mendelssohn	- 'Scottish' Symphony
Tchaikovsky	- '1812' Overture
	with special effects

MUSIC FOR THE PEOPLE OF HAVERING

