

Havering
Concert
Orchestra

Programme

HAVERING CONCERT ORCHESTRA
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 20TH 1983 - 8.00 p.m.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, HORNBURCH



Overture 'Carmen'

Bizet

Bizet's opera about Carmen, a gypsy girl who works in a cigarette factory, and her tragic fate at the hands of Don José who loves her but whom she rejects, is one of the most famous in the repertory. Its poor reception at its première in Paris in 1875 hastened the composer's death. Our concert starts with the opera's short prelude.

Arias for Soprano and Orchestra

Mozart

We are very fortunate tonight to have as our soloist Elizabeth Wood from Cambridge. She will be singing four arias.

1. 'Chi sa, chi sa' K.583

This aria, in which a heroine ponders the coolness of her suitor and what on earth could have caused it, was originally inserted in an opera of the day entitled 'The Goodhearted Churl'.

2. 'Vado, ma dove?' K.583

This aria was slotted into the same opera - an odd but not uncommon practice of Mozart's era. The hapless woman, full of self pity, laments the uncertain course of her love.

3. 'Nehmt meinem Dank' K.383

Mozart wrote this for Aloysia Weber with whom he fell in love when she was seventeen and he twenty-two. Later he became her brother-in-law. Accompanied by quiet pizzicato strings, it is a charming song of farewell.

4. 'Non so piu'

To finish in a lively mood, Elizabeth Wood sings Cherubino's famous aria from 'The Marriage of Figaro' in which the youth describes his palpitations and constant thoughts of love.

Night on the Bare Mountain

Mussorgsky

This dramatic piece had a confused genesis to say the least, and the version of it which we are playing is the one most frequently performed.

Rimsky-Korsakov, acting as musical executor for Mussorgsky after the latter's death, spent two years fashioning the piece as a concert item from the existing material whilst adding as little as possible of his own. It was a difficult task to hit upon the right structure, key-scheme and scoring, but most musicians find the result more satisfactory than the original more rambling music.

It was written as part of Mussorgsky's unfinished opera 'Sorochintsy Fair' and represents a nightmarish witches' sabbath. It ends with the sound of the village church bell bringing the dawn and the dispersal of the evil spirits.

INTERVAL

Symphony No.9 in C Major

Schubert

1. Andante. Allegro ma non troppo
2. Andante con moto
3. Scherzo
4. Finale. Allegro vivace

Schubert wrote his 'Great' C Major Symphony in the last year of his life. That the composer managed to throw himself into feverish creative activity, which resulted in this and other masterpieces, is remarkable considering that at the time he was bickering with publishers and facing acute financial problems.

'Great' is an appropriate epithet for a symphony not only of such obvious weight and stature, but also of such enormous length.

The work received its first performance which Mendelssohn conducted, after eleven years had elapsed. It was enthusiastically greeted by Schumann who wrote a review of the work in terms of the highest possible praise, comparing the composer with Beethoven.

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

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 where they will make a return tour later this year.

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 MARCH 18TH 1984

Rossini - Overture 'The Barber of Seville'
Tchaikovsky - Piano Concerto No. 1
Beethoven - Symphony No. 5

MUSIC FOR THE PEOPLE OF HAVERING

