

Havering
Concert
Orchestra

Programme

HAVERING CONCERT ORCHESTRA

SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 1986 - 8 pm

QUEEN'S THEATRE, HORNCHURCH



PROGRAMME 20p

OVERTURE "CALM SEA AND PROSPEROUS VOYAGE" MENDELSSOHN (1809-1847)

A pair of poems by Goethe provided the inspiration for this overture which was written in 1828. According to his sister, Mendelssohn wished to avoid the usual form for overtures and wanted the work to stand as two companion pieces. Consequently it consists of two separate sections based on verses entitled "Calm at Sea" (Adagio) and "The Breeze" (Molto allegro vivace).

The overture depicts a ship becalmed, the first stirrings of the wind and the final triumphant Maestoso of a voyage successfully accomplished.

PIANO CONCERTO IN A MINOR

**GRIEG
(1843-1907)**

SOLOIST: JEFFREY LAGUE

The piano concerto, Grieg's most enduring concert work, was composed in 1864 when Grieg was 21. Grieg was not attracted by the popular vogues in romantic composition and, indeed, separated composition from orchestration as two discrete activities; he largely re-worked the orchestration in the last two years of his life. No-one

would dream today that the delicate anticipation of the first movement's lyrical second subject, now played by the 'cellos, was once played by the trumpets!

Grieg did not draw inspiration from the complex orchestral fashion of his day, but drew his colour from Norwegian folk music. No actual folk tune appears in the concerto, but Halling rhythms are incorporated into the finale.

Grieg did not make any innovations in this concerto, and as a model for it, used Schumann's concerto which is in the same key. Another influence was provided by Liszt who played the concerto straight through including the orchestral parts, and made several suggestions. Despite this, the concerto remains very much in Grieg's own style and justly deserves its continuing popularity.

We are pleased to welcome Jeffrey Lague as our soloist tonight, who has performed many virtuoso concertos with the orchestra on previous occasions

INTERVAL

SYMPHONY NO 9 IN E MINOR
"FROM THE NEW WORLD"

DVORAK
(1841-1904)

Dvorak's last and most popular symphony was composed between January and May 1893 when he was director of the National Conservatory of Music in New York. It was first performed on 16th December 1893, at a New York Philharmonic Society concert at Carnegie Hall conducted by Anton Seidl, and has remained in the concert repertoire ever since.

Whilst there has been much discussion as to the American content of the music, Dvorak himself insisted

that he had written only in the spirit of national American melodies.

Examples may be found in the flute tune resembling the spiritual "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" in the first movement. Other highlights include the slow and sad theme of the second movement which is an original melody, contrasting with the two woodwind themes whose origins may be found in Dvorak's sketches for his opera "Hiawatha".

A fast, lively and rhythmical scherzo and triumphant finale round off a romantic and melodic symphony.

HCO AT THE QUEENS THEATRE

MARCH 8TH 1987

Strauss Die Fledermaus Overture
Vivaldi Double Cello Concerto
Vaughan Williams Folk Song Suite
Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue (Soloist Robert Ferguson)

ROBERT FERGUSON

Robert Ferguson is the resident conductor of the Havering Concert Orchestra.

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 made 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, the Secretary will be delighted to provide you with further details.

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Committee Members: Paul Kelly, Francis Hider, Richard Ellis, Gillian Foan, Jenny Robinson, Lesley George. Stan Vanlint, Robert Ferguson, Sara Cavalier

THE ORCHESTRA WOULD LIKE TO THANK HAVERING ARTS COUNCIL FOR THEIR CONTINUING FINANCIAL AND GENERAL SUPPORT

HCO MAILING LIST

The HCO operates a free mailing list, sending out details and advance booking forms before each concert. If you would like to be included, please complete one of the green forms enclosed in this programme, or ring the Secretary above.

