

Havering
Concert
Orchestra

Programme



and Havering College of Adult Education
present a Concert by the

Havering Concert Orchestra

QUEEN'S THEATRE Hornchurch

SUNDAY 17TH MARCH 8.00PM 1991
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OVERTURE: 'THE YEOMAN OF THE GUARD'

SULLIVAN
(1842-1900)

Arthur Sullivan was born and also died in London. As a boy he sang in the Chapel Royal choir, and at twenty his music from Shakespeare's "Tempest" was performed at the Crystal Palace and he became instantly celebrated. His music includes orchestral works, oratorios, songs, part-songs, anthems, hymn tunes and so on. Some contemporaries felt he was wasting his talents in his highly successful collaboration with the satirical librettist Gilbert. Their long series of operettas started in 1875 with "Trial by Jury" and ended with "The Grand Duke" in 1896. An unnecessary quarrel, apparently about the carpet in the Savoy Theatre (which had been built to put on their work) caused a seven year interruption to their joint endeavours.

"The Yeoman of the Guard" was written in 1888 and we start tonight with the lively and tuneful overture.

PIANO CONCERTO IN A MAJOR K.488

MOZART
(1756-1791)

1. Allegro 2. Adagio 3. Allegro Assai

The Orchestra is delighted to welcome Julie Edwards as tonight's solo pianist, especially as she is playing a work by Mozart, whose bicentenary we celebrate this year.

Whilst composing his opera "The Marriage of Figaro", Mozart put aside time to write no less than three piano concertos. This particular one was completed in March 1786.

Some may regard this work as the epitome of the entertaining, decorative style associated with the Classical concerto. Behind the charming glitter and formal decorum, however, there is an increasing vein of melancholy which surfaces particularly in the poetic slow movement. The piece became highly esteemed in the Romantic era.

There are three movements, the first one including a Cadenza by the composer himself. The orchestration is sparing, with little brass and no oboe.

"THUNDER AND LIGHTNING POLKA"

J. STRAUSS
(1825-1899)

The orchestra's kitchen department, as it is sometimes known, adds the thunder and lightning in the form of bass drum and cymbals, in this the 324th opus of the younger Johann Strauss.

(Continued overleaf)

"THUNDER AND LIGHTNING POLKA" (Continued)

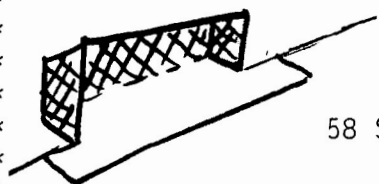
The first performance was by the Strauss family orchestra -
- conducted by the composer on February 16th 1868 at the
Hesperus Artists Ball at Vienna's Diana Saal. The Polka
was then titled "Sternschnuppen", or Shooting Stars, rather
than the later "Unter Donner und Blitzen".

Johann Strauss is, of course, not to be confused with his
father, Johann Strauss or his nephew Johann Strauss, and not
with his brothers Joseph and Eduard! To all of these, history
has been rather less kind. And Richard Strauss, the great
composer, is from an entirely different gene pool

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SYMPHONY NO.8 IN G MAJOR, OPUS 88

DVORAK
(1841-1904)

1. Allegro con brio
2. Adagio
3. Allegretto grazioso
4. Allegro ma non troppo

Like Beethove, Dvorak produced nine symphonies. The ninth and final one, "The New World", full of tragic home sickness, was written during a three year stay in New York in the 1890's. We are performing tonight the previous symphony, written during a spell of great creative fluency in 1889 and chosen for us by Geoffrey Pink, a member of our 'cello section.

At the end of August 1889, Dvorak was jotting down ideas for the piece and his composition sketch was finished by end of September. The scoring was done in Prague and completed by November of the same year. By this stage in his career, Dvorak had become famous throughout Europe, though his peasant origins had been humble enough. He started as a butcher's boy but his interest in music was aroused by his father's zither playing and visits of itinerant bands to his village. Brahms recognised and encouraged his talent. The eighth symphony was presented to Cambridge University as his "exercise" when Dvorak was awarded an honorary doctorate in 1891. There are four splendid and tuneful movements.

*
* Our Autumn Concert takes place on Sunday 24 Nov *
*
* Programme to include the following items *
*
* "In the Steppes of Central Asia" - Borodin *
* Overture "Di Ballc" - Sullivan *
* Piano Concerto No. 2 - Chopin *
* and pieces by Johann and *
* Eduard Strauss *
*

THE ORCHESTRA

First Violins

Martin White
Celia Rhodes
Arthur Gaubert
Gabrielle Scott
Katie Hilton
Yvonne Simmons
Katie Ghent
Colin Foan
Sarah Cavalier

Second Violins

Paul Kelley
John Phillips
Jenny Robinson
Glen Somerville
Karen Williams
Stan Van Lint

'Cellos

Graeme Wright
Mark Rallis
Geoffrey Pink
Karl Sees
Brendan O'Connor
William Brooks

Violas

Vic Bradnam
Francis Hider
Christine Hider
Isobel Shepherd

Double Basses

Pam Amos
Elouise Paul

Flutes

Gillian Foan
Joan Luck

Oboes

Charles Hilton
Peter Kelton-Groves

Clarinets

Carole McLean
Mike Youings

Bassoons

Geraldine Smith
Mark Flanders

Trumpets

Robert Getting
Steven Geere

Horns

John Ward
Caisten Williams
Gill Bird
Mark Foreman

Trombones

Keith Pollitt
Keith Bleasdale

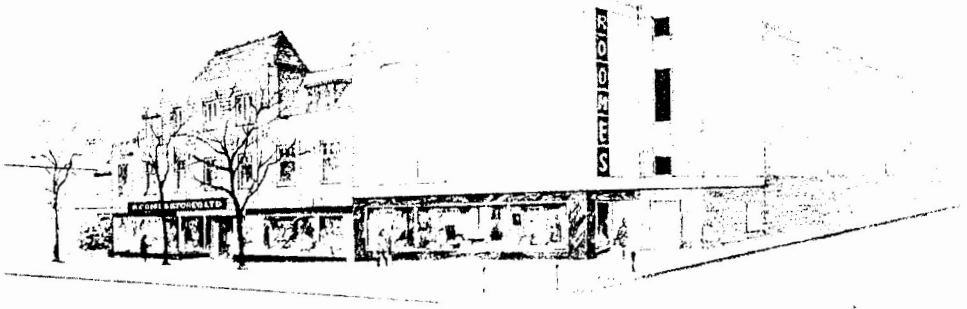
Percussion

Janice Flanders

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MUSIC BOX - NEWS FROM THE HAVERING CONCERT ORCHESTRA

In the second of our short biographies about members of the Orchestra, we feature Graeme Wright, a hard-working and perceptive member of the orchestral committee who is our principal cellist.

Born in Billericay, 27 years' ago, he showed an early aptitude for music, taking up the cello at the age of 10. He subsequently developed his orchestral playing in the Havering Youth Training Orchestra - which has proved a useful grounding for several younger members of the HCO. Graeme received his secondary education at St Edward's Comprehensive School, Romford. It was here that he took the decision to teach his favourite subject - music. He then attended teacher training college for 2 years before taking up the post of music teacher at a Dagenham Comprehensive School.

Among his hobbies, Graeme numbers visits to the opera and listening to classical music. Although not an active participant in sport, he nevertheless enjoys cricket and snooker. Stretching his leisure time even further, he finds time to play in another local orchestra, the Brentwood Philharmonic, whilst further afield in the musical sphere he contributes to the activities of the Friends of Covent Garden.

Demonstrating his interest in travel, Graeme recently went on a coach tour of Europe, visiting Germany, Austria, Italy and France, broadening not only his own horizons but those of the children fortunate enough to come under his educational care.

As a fitting coda to this glossary of musical achievements, it can be said that Graeme is also an accomplished pianist - he started playing at the age of 6 - a skill which further enhances his value to school and society.

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Conductor
Leader

Robert Ferguson
Martin White

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're interested in joining the Orchestra, I shall be delighted to provide you with further details. I very much look forward to hearing from you.

Karen Williams
Hon. Secretary
74 Harwood Avenue
Hornchurch
Essex Tel: 04024 75401

Thanks to the Havering Arts Council and College of Adult Education for their financial and general support. Special thanks to all those members of the Orchestra and its supporters without whose help tonight's concert would not have been possible.

