



Conductor - Bill Brooks
Leader - Donna Schooling
Soloist - Jenny Ewington, Soprano

STRAUSS & FRIENDS CLASSICAL SPECTACULAR

Sunday 19 November 2006 at 7.30pm
Queen's Theatre, Hornchurch

www.hcoweb.co.uk

Registered Charity Number: 1076663

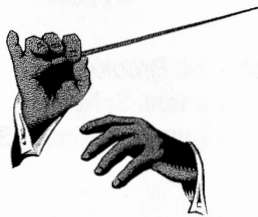


STANLEY HEWING

The Orchestra would like to dedicate this concert to Stanley Hewing, a stalwart member of the first violins, who sadly passed away earlier this year



The Havering Concert Orchestra would like to thank the Upminster Floral Art Society for providing the floral arrangement at this evening's concert. The Upminster Floral Art Society meets in the New Windmill Hall, Upminster on the third Wednesday of each month. If you would like further details, please contact 01708 224219



BILL BROOKS (Musical Director) has lived in Havering for most of his life being educated at Hornchurch Grammar School and from there going on to study at the Royal College of Music. After teaching for a short time in Oxfordshire, Bill returned to Havering where he taught Music at Gaynes and Sanders Draper Schools. During this time he conducted the Havering Youth Training Orchestra, a number of whom play in the Concert Orchestra, and for twelve years was conductor of the Upminster Bach Society. Bill left Havering to take up the post of Head of Music at West Hatch High School in Chigwell from where he retired in July 2004. He is still very involved in local music making. As well as being a member of the Concert Orchestra, Bill is Musical Director of St. Andrew's Church, Hornchurch.

DONNA SCHOOLING (Leader) has spent the majority of her musical career helping to create music in Havering. Initially leading her school orchestras, she then joined and led both the Havering Youth Sinfonia and the Havering Youth Orchestra. On leaving school she joined the Havering Concert Orchestra. Outside of her musical activities Donna is an IT Project Manager for Lloyds TSB.

Tonight's soloist

JENNY EWINGTON

Soprano

Jenny grew up in a musical family and studied violin, piano and flute; she sang in amateur shows and school choirs. Later, while working full-time in the City, Jenny gained her Licentiate Diploma at Trinity College of Music, London. She studied with Dorothy Richardson, (Guildhall School of Music) and with Elizabeth Hawes, MBE (Trinity College of Music, London.)

Jenny sings with, arranges for, and directs a close harmony trio, 'The Hummingbirds' who perform popular music from 1930s and 40s.

She is much in demand as a soloist in repertoire from 16th century to modern times. Jenny also runs a busy teaching practice in Woodford Green, where she lives.



Tonight's Programme

Johann Strauss, the Younger (1825 – 1899)

Die Fledermaus Overture

The eldest son of Johann Strauss, and not intended by his father for a career in music, Johann Strauss the younger nevertheless established an unrivalled reputation throughout the second half of the 19th century as a composer and purveyor of light Viennese music, involving his two younger brothers in the management and direction of dance orchestras that performed both in Vienna and abroad. He was known in his lifetime as the "Waltz King" because of his revolutionary elevation of the waltz from lowly peasant dance to sparkling entertainment for the royal Habsburg court.

The younger Johann Strauss wrote some sixteen operettas between 1871 and 1897. Of these the best known is *Die Fledermaus* (The Bat), characteristic in plot and music of Vienna at its most light-hearted. Other operettas are more familiar from dances derived from them, although *Der Zigeunerbaron* (The Gypsy Baron) remains second in order of popularity to *Die Fledermaus*.

Franz Lehár (1870 – 1948)

Meine Lippen, sie küssen so heiß (*Kiss my lips and your heart is aflame*)

from *Giuditta*

Soprano: Jenny Ewington

Franz Lehár, in operetta the true successor to Strauss, was the son of a Hungarian bandmaster. *Giuditta* realised for the composer an outstanding ambition, staged, as it was, at the Vienna Staatsoper in 1934, making use of the full resources of the house. With a libretto by Fritz Löhner and Paul Kepler, the opera-operetta deals with the love of Giuditta, tired of her husband Manuele, for the army captain Octavio. She goes with him, when his regiment is posted to North Africa, and they live together in happiness until Octavio's duties call him away.

Giuditta now becomes a dancer in a night club, where she attracts many rich customers, as is clear from *Meine Lippen, sie küssen so heiß* (*Kiss my lips and your heart is aflame*). She prospers in her new profession, while Octavio eventually deserts from the army. By the time that they meet again he is a night-club pianist, while she continues as a successful dancer.

Franz Schubert (1797 – 1828)

Symphony No 8 (The Unfinished) *Allegro moderato – Allegro con moto*

The son of a schoolmaster who had settled in Vienna, Franz Schubert was educated as a chorister of the imperial court chapel and later qualified as a schoolteacher, briefly and thereafter intermittently joining his father in the classroom. He spent his life largely in Vienna, enjoying the company of friends, but never holding any position in the musical establishment or attracting the kind of patronage that Beethoven had twenty years earlier. His final years were clouded by illness, as the result of a syphilitic infection, and he died in 1828, leaving much unfinished.

The Unfinished Symphony of Schubert was written in 1822, but no addition was made to the two movements of the work. Other symphonies of the eight more or less completed include the Great C major Symphony and the charming and classical Fifth Symphony. His various Overtures include two "in the Italian style."



Franz von Suppé (1819 – 1895)

Dichter und Bauer (Poet and Peasant) Overture

Franz von Suppé was born in Dalmatia in the town of Spalato, now known as Split, in Croatia, in 1819, the son of a Belgian father in the service of the Austrian government, and a mother from Vienna. He was christened, with a certain extravagance, Francesco Ezechiele Ermenegildo and bore the title Cavaliere and the surnames Suppé Demelli. In Vienna, where he moved with his mother after his father's death in 1835, he was to be known more simply as Franz von Suppé. There he studied music, taking lessons from Mozart's pupil Ignaz von Seyfried, who found him a position at the Josefstadt Theater, for which he wrote score after score, later moving as Kapellmeister to the Theater an der Wien.

It was through the influence of Offenbach that true Viennese operetta was created, an early example being Suppé's *Das Pensionat* in 1860. By 1865 Suppé had established himself at the Carltheater, the old Leopoldstadt Theater of Mozart's time, and it was there that he had some of his greatest successes, that were to bring him the freedom of the city of Vienna and enough money to buy a

Franz Lehár

Vilja – Lied from Die lustige Witwe (The Merry Widow)
Soprano Jenny Ewington

Lehár followed his father's example as a bandmaster before winning success in Vienna with what was in fact his eighth attempt at operetta, *Die lustige Witwe* (The Merry Widow), first staged at the Theater an der Wien in January 1905. The libretto was by Victor Leon and Leo Stein, based on a French original by Meilhac, Offenbach's collaborator. The plot concerns the widow of the title, Hanna Glawari, relict of a rich Pontevedrin banker, and the endeavours of the Pontevedrin envoy to Paris, Baron Zeta, to keep her fortune for Pontevedro by compelling a junior diplomat, Danilo, to marry her, before her money goes to some French husband.

Johann Strauss, the Younger

Laughing Song
Soprano Jenny Ewington

The famous aria from the second act of *Die Fledermaus*.

Johann Strauss, the Younger

Unter Donner und Blitz (Thunder and Lightning Polka)
An der schonen blauen Donau (The Blue Danube Waltz)

Dance music by the younger Johann Strauss includes waltzes, polkas, quadrilles, marches and other works. Among these the most familiar remains *An der schönen, blauen Donau* (The Blue Danube), originally a choral waltz-sequence. Strauss, like his father, was extremely prolific as a composer, writing several hundred dances in various forms.

Johann Strauss, the Elder (1804 – 1849)

Radetzky March

The elder Strauss established his reputation as a composer of Viennese waltzes in 1830 by conducting at the "Sperl," a popular dance hall in the Leopoldstadt. There he was idolized to the extent of becoming known in the musical world as "the Austrian Napoleon." In 1834 he was appointed bandmaster to the 1st Vienna Militia Regiment and the following year was made director of the imperial court balls. He embarked in 1833 on the first of his many European tours, visiting London in 1838. Of his 18 marches, the *Radetzky March* became particularly popular. Strauss's complete works, including waltzes, galops, polkas, quadrilles, and other dances, were published by his son Johann the younger in 1889.

The Orchestra

1st Violin

Donna Schooling
Margaret Collins
Kathryn Andrews
Gabrielle Scott
John Hawkins

2nd Violin

Paul Kelly
Colin Foan
Dorothy Todd
Stan VanLint
Karen Williams
Jenny Robinson

Viola

Francis Hider
Bruno Handel
Sue Rowley

Cello

Graeme Wright
Kathryn Irvine
Alan Musgrove
Mark Rallis
Jeannie Bevan
Jessie Cooke
Brendan O'Connor

Double Bass

Robert Veale
Chris Reeve

Flute

Ankie Postma
Joan Luck
Gill Foan

Oboe

Leigh Thomas
Rita Finnis

Clarinet

Jacky Howlett
Mike Youings
Julie Petherick

Bassoon

Jane Chivers
Katy Hilton

Horn

Jamie Merrick
Andrej Lipkin
Andrew Barnes
Andrew Coombe

Trumpet

Guests

Trombone

Chris Hoepelman
Guests

Timpani

Amanda Foan

Percussion

Georgina Thomas
Leigh Thomas
John Morris

The orchestra would like to thank the guest players who have joined us tonight and welcome all the new members that have joined the orchestra this term – enjoy yourselves tonight!

The Havering Concert Orchestra was originally formed from the Upminster Philharmonic Orchestra during the 1930s when in 1954 Eric Coles, a professional violinist, approached the Principal of the Hornchurch Evening Institute, Cyril Cooke, with the objective of forming an adult amateur orchestra. This resulted in the founding of the Hornchurch Evening Institute Orchestra. Following a concert coinciding with the formation of the Greater London Council the name was finally changed to the Havering Concert Orchestra.



About the HCO

Are you a keen musician?

Under the direction of our conductor, Bill Brooks, we continue to expand our membership and our repertoire. We always look forward to welcoming new members – especially string players.

Rehearsals are held at Upminster Infants School, St Mary's Lane, Upminster on Wednesdays at 7.30pm, during term time.

How to Contact the HCO

If you are interested in being added to the mailing list, joining the orchestra or just giving us your valued opinion

Either...



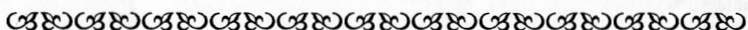
Contact Jane Chivers on 01708 389138 or hco@btinternet.com, or



Speak to any member of the orchestra during the interval, or



Visit our website at www.hcoweb.co.uk



Our next Concert

**Saturday 17 March 2007 at
Hall Mead School
Marlborough Gardens, Upminster**

***Brahms – Symphony No 1
Dvořák – Carnival Overture
Grieg – Peer Gynt Suite No 1***

Admission: £8

Tickets at door or telephone 020 8220 5147

We look forward to seeing you then