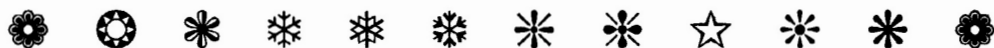

**Havering
Concert
Orchestra**

Programme



*Havering Arts Council and Havering Adult
College present*

**THE HAVERING CONCERT
ORCHESTRA**

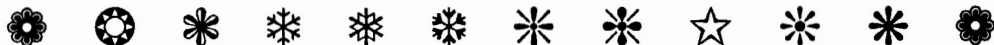
at the

**QUEEN'S THEATRE,
HORNCHURCH**

**Sunday 3rd December 1995
8pm**

**Conductor/Soloist
Leader
Guest Conductor**

**Robert Ferguson
Catherine Cheshire
Jeffrey Lague**



Overture '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 for 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 from the work.

Rhapsody in Blue

**George Gershwin
(1898-1937)**

Robert Ferguson is playing the piano solo in Gershwin's famous and ever popular "Rhapsody in Blue" We are also very happy, once again, to welcome our long-standing friend Jeffrey Lague to the rostrum as guest conductor for this item.

It was Paul Whiteman, the bandleader, who suggested that Gershwin, at the age of twenty-five, might compose something on a larger scale than musical comedy scores. Gershwin didn't take him seriously and was surprised to read in the New York Tribune that "George Gershwin is at work on a jazz concerto." The date of its first performance was just over a month later.

The composition was sketched down in a great hurry for two pianos, with suggestions for the orchestration jotted in. One of Whiteman's band arrangers expanded it for dance-band and later symphony orchestra. At the triumphant first performance, whole pages of the piano solo part were empty, apart from the instruction "Wait for nod!"

It is a splendid, extremely tuneful piece, with virtuoso solo passages and a rhapsodic style linking contrasting sections. Tonight brings a rare opportunity to hear this lovely work, and it is our privilege and pleasure to welcome Jeffrey Lague, once again, as our soloist.

- INTERVAL -



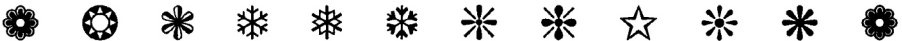
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Symphony No. 2 in D Opus 73

**Brahms
(1833-1897)**

"I have played over the music of that soundrel Brahms.

What a giftless b*****! It annoys me that this self-inflated mediocrity is hailed as a genius".

Tchaikovsky's diary entry of 1886 now seems inexplicable to music lovers and much of Brahms' music is standard concert repertoire throughout the world. This is the first time the Havering Concert Orchestra has performed one of his four great symphonies, although we have played other works, such as the "Academic Festival Overture."

Whilst composing the piece, Brahms joked to friends that he was writing a very tragic symphony but the prevailing moods are happiness and tranquility and a great sense of spaciousness. The second movement, with its long-drawn melodies, is darker in mood than the rest and the third has exquisite lyrical charms, as well as lightness of touch. Composed in 1878, when Brahms was forty-five, there are four movements:

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

Catherine Cheshire

Catherine Cheshire was born in 1966 in Nottingham and began playing the violin and piano at the age of 9. Educated at Wakefield Girls' High School and at Bretton Hall College in West Yorkshire, she is a qualified primary school teacher, specialising in music.

In 1988 Catherine began teaching in Upminster. She joined the Havering Concert Orchestra and the Connaught Players, the latter being a chamber orchestra in Loughton. She is also a member of the Brentwood Philharmonic Orchestra.

In 1990 she became music teacher at a Junior School in Romford and began leading the HCO at this time. Catherine lives with her husband in Brentwood.

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The Orchestra

First Violins

Catherine Cheshire
Jenny Sheppard
Donna Schooling
Sarah Brooks
Yvonne Simmons
Gabrielle Scott
Colin Foan
Katherine Andrews
Nora Wilson
Celia Rhodes

Second Violins

Paul Kelly
John Phillips
Jenny Robinson
Glenn Somerville
Dorothy Todd
Stan VanLint
Karen Woolfe
Michael Power

Violas

Vic Bradnam
Francis Hider
Sue Norris
Karen Williams

Cellos

Graeme Wright
Ruth Tyler
Geoffrey Pink
Mark Rallis
Brendan O'Connor
Tony Wright

Double Bass

Robert Veale

Flutes

Gillian Foan
Joan Luck
Ankie Postma

Oboe

Judith Roads

Clarinets

Brian Luck
Claire Adams
Jackie Howlett
Mike Youngs

Saxophones

Leigh Thomas
Maria Thomas

Bassoons

Jane Chilvers
Mark Flanders

Trumpets

Tim French
Douglas Waterson

Trombones

Keith Bleasdale
Andrew Bearman
Chris Hoepelman

Tuba

Sue Murrell

French Horns

Jamie Merrick
Jennie Birch
John Ward

Percussion

Janice Flanders
Georgina Thomas
Guest

Robert Ferguson

Robert Ferguson was born in London where his early musical training was at the Guildhall School of Music. His piano playing at the Royal College of Music gained him the Hopkinsol Gold medal, presented by the Queen Mother, plus the Dannreuther Prize.

His concerto debut was at the Royal Festival Hall in 1973, and his London solo recital debut was a well-reviewed concert on 20th Century piano music in the Purcell Room in 1975. His piano duo debut with Christopher Kite was at the Wigmore Hall in 1973 and they have appeared numerous times on the South Bank to critical acclaim.

As well as the HCO, Robert has teaching commitments at the Perse School for Girls in Cambridge and the Anglia Polytechnic. He has been an enthusiastic adjudicator at various competitive festivals and his work as an examiner has taken him worldwide, including Ireland, Jersey, the Orkneys, Shetlands, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore.

Jeffrey Lague

Jeffrey Lague has been a regular soloist with the HCO for the past 10 years. He divides his time between his homes in Essex and Brighton and has given recitals all over the south of England. Besides piano, he also studied composition at the Royal College of Music.

As well as a good friend, he has also conducted the HCO on three previous occasions. He studied this particular branch of performing under the well-known musician and broadcaster, Bernard Keefe.

The HCO is an enthusiastic and friendly group of local musicians which continues to expand its membership and repertoire under the spirited direction of Robert Ferguson.

If you know anyone who is interested in joining the Orchestra (minimum standard Grade 6 or above), please contact the General Secretary:

Karen Williams
74 Harwood Avenue
Hornchurch
RM11 2NU Tel: 0181 788 7766 (office) 01708 706795 (eves)



HCO at the Queens:

**Our next oncert is on the 31st March 1996.
Programme to include:**

**Unfinished Symphony - Schubert
'The Wasps' Suite - Vaughan Williams
'Kol Nidrie' - Bruch (with 14 year-old soloist
Benjamin Birtle)**



My personal thanks to the continued and dedicated hard work all HCO members and supporters and you, the audience, without whom this evening would not have been possible.

