

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

THE BUTTERY BANBURY SCHOOL

Tuesday 24th June 1980

BANBURY

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Leaders: Lawrence Farbrother

&

Stephen Bingham

Conductor

PHILIP SHAW

STEPHEN BINGHAM - VIOLIN

The National Federation of Music Societies, to which this Society is affiliated, gives support towards the cost of this Concert with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain.

The Orchestra acknowledges Financial Assistance from the P.F. Charitable Trust, and General Foods Limited.

The National Anthem

CARNIVAL OVERTURE, OPUS 92

Dvorak

The original title of Dvorak's exuberant *Carnival* overture was *Life*. It was the second of a trio of overtures entitled *Nature, Life and Love* which were united by a recurrent musical theme of Nature and which were intended to illuminate a different aspect of "Nature and her powers for good and evil". In his search for a title Dvorak, unable to find the right words to express what had already been expressed more precisely in music, finally settled on the titles: *In Nature's Realm, Carnival* and *Othello*. The Overture follows the traditional pattern (of symphonic first-movement form) except for a poetic slow section which Dvorak introduces before his central "development section". It opens with a brilliant orchestral tutti, a driving, whirling series of melodies, which could well suggest either a carnival scene or, more symbolically, the hurly-burly of life.

CONCERTO FOR VIOLIN AND ORCHESTRA No. 1, G MINOR OP. 26

Bruch

Prelude : Allegro moderato. Adagio. Finale : Allegro energico

Max Bruch is remembered today chiefly as the composer of this G minor Violin Concerto. Yet he was also a brilliant conductor, a famous pedagogue, and a well known composer with three symphonies, three operas, over a dozen choral works, chamber music, songs and a variety of works for solo instrument with orchestra including two violin concertos, the *Scottish Fantasy* for violin and orchestra, and his *Kol Nidre* for cello and orchestra.

Bruch started his career as a child prodigy and was only 19 when he began jotting down ideas for his G Minor Concerto. Not until 1866 was it completed and given its first performance. After further changes, the version of the *Concerto* we know today was dedicated to Joachim, who was the soloist at its first performance in 1868 with Bruch conducting.

INTERVAL

SYMPHONY NO. 1, C MINOR, OPUS 68

Brahms

Un poco sostenuto; Allegro. Andante Sostenuto.

Un poco allegretto e grazioso. Adagio; allegro non troppo,
ma con brio.

Brahms early friends and admirers (like his admirers today) felt that he was a born symphonist. Brahms was only 21 when Robert Schumann wrote to their mutual friend Joachim: "But where is Johannes? Is he flying high or only under flowers. Is he not yet ready to let drums and trumpets sound? He should always keep in mind the beginning of the Beethoven symphonies; he should try to make something like them. The beginning is the main thing; if only one makes the beginning, then the end comes of itself."

But Brahms held back. "I shall never write a symphony," he said "You have no idea how the likes of us feel when we hear the tramp of a giant like *him* behind us." By *him* Brahms meant Beethoven. To a composer as reverent as Brahms, the works of Beethoven could be a crushing heritage. It is thought that the germ of the First Symphony dated from 1855. However it was not until 1876 that the work was completed and given its first performance on November 4th with Brahms in the audience. A few days later he himself conducted the Symphony at Mannheim.

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There are vacancies in most departments of the orchestra.
Inquiries may be made to the Hon. Secretary, Mr H. Wilks,
17 Oakland Road, Banbury, Telephone 3966 or The Conductor,
Banbury School, Telephone 51451.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 28th June 1980

Music for Mid-Summer, Polyphonic
Music Group at Broughton Castle.

Tuesday 8th July 1980

Banbury School Summer Prom.

Saturday 18th October

Banbury & District Music Society
present Banbury Symphony Orchestra
with Jonathan Snowden (flute) and
Susan Drake (Harp)