## ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

The College Theatre Tuesday, 31st May, 1966

# BANBURY Symphony orchestra

Leader: Harry Wilks

(The National Federation of Music Societies, to which this society is affiliated, supports this concert with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain)

CONDUCTOR: NOEL DE JONGH

CLARISSA MELVILLE (Flute)

Programme One Shilling

#### **PROGRAMME**

Overture, La Clemenza di Tito

W. A. Mozart (1756-1791)

La Clemenza di Tito was Mozart's last Opera, composed in a great hurry in 1791, the year of his death. Although the libretto is somewhat starchy and stilted, and in spite of the haste in which it was composed, Mozart's musical inspiration never falters. The Opera is all too seldom heard but the overture from it has found a regular place in the Concert Hall.

Suite No. 2 in B minor for Flute and Strings

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Overture: Grave—Allegro—Lentement Rondeau Sarabande Bourrée I and II Polonaise with Double

Menuet Badinerie

Bach wrote most of his secular instrumental music while he was at Cöthen, where he was Kapellmeister from 1717 until 1723, and it is generally believed that the four orchestral Suites were written in this period.

Like the other Suites, the B minor is in two main parts: an Overture in the French style and a series of dance movements. The Overture consists of a vigorous Fugue, with concerto-style episodes, sandwiched in between two slow and rather solemn sections characterised by the customary "dotted" rhythm. The dance movements which follow are lighter and shorter and well contrasted. One of the features of the work is the part given to the solo flute: virtuoso passages are particularly effective in the *Double* of the Polonaise (a variation played by the flute over the Polonaise theme in the bass) and in the sparkling and playful Badinerie which concludes the work.

Andante Napolitana Espanola Balalaika

Stravinsky's two Suites for small orchestra were written between 1917 and 1925 and were arranged by him from his two sets of piano duets for pupil and teacher. In the second set, the teacher plays the top part while in the first set, which became the Suite No. 1, the pupil takes the top part, as can easily be seen in the "five-finger" character of many of the tunes in the treble register in the Suite. At this time, Stravinsky's musical activities were centred around Paris (he became a French citizen in 1934) and there is much in the music of the Suites that is suggestive of Poulenc, Milhaud and Les Six, and even of that eccentric, Erik Satie. The music is of slight proportions with simple, almost naive melodies, transparent orchestral texture and rhythmic vitality. There is more than a touch of dry humour and of the unexpected.

#### **INTERVAL**

Symphony No. 9 in C major

F. Schubert (1797-1828)

Andante—Allegro ma non troppo Andante con moto Scherzo: Allegro vivace Allegro vivace

The 9th Symphony in C major, now generally known as *The Great*, was Schubert's last major work, written only six months before his untimely death at the age of just thirty-one years and nine months. At first, it was discarded by orchestral players as too difficult and the score lay undisturbed for ten years until it was discovered by Schumann, who arranged the first performance under the baton of Mendelssohn in 1839.

The problems of the work and its "heavenly length" presented difficulties to performers and listeners alike, but in time it became recognised as one of the greatest symphonies in the entire repertoire. Thus Schumann's prophecy was borne out that "the Symphony has a greater influence on us than any other since Beethoven. There is no fear that it will be forgotten or overlooked, it bears within it the seed of eternal youth."

The Committee are very grateful to Messrs. Haydn Heard for their help with Box Office and publicity.

### THE BANBURY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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#### THE ORCHESTRA

First Violins Harry Wilks Leader

Susan Goodway Lawrence Farbrother Angela Hawkins Geoffrey Kent David Meadows Andrea Piggott

Andrea P

**Second Violins** 

Howard Simpson John Mathieson Maryke Jones Christine Thomas Eric Thomas Gilian Walker Sally Warwick

Lilian Wyncoll

Violas

William Spicer Graham Nicholson A. Douglas Rose John Overton May Suttie 'Cellos

Alice Hutchinson Walter Cheney Robert Gilchrist Stephen Jakeman

**Basses** 

Nicholas Dytham John Suttie

**Flutes** 

Elisabeth Gilchrist Jill Sutton

Oboes

Malcolm Rowson Peter Acock

Clarinets

Derek Williams Christopher King **Bassoons** 

Roger Hellyer Robert Eccles

Horns

Richard Hartree Clive Davis

Trumpets

Robert Auld Richard Steed Ray Phipps

**Trombones** 

Jack Morris Mostyn Tilley Andrew Murray

Tympani

**Arthur Hutchings** 

There are vacancies in most departments of the orchestra. Inquiries may be made to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Wilks, 7 Queensway, Banbury.

# FAREWELI CONCERT **BANBURY** CONDUCTOR

M<sup>R.</sup> Noel de Johgh bade farewell as conductor of the Banbury Symphony Or-chestra at last night's concert in the College Theatre. He is taking up a teaching appointment in Scotland.

It was a pity that the hall was only half full for a performance which saw the players give their most am-bitious programme under his guidance.

At the close, he was presented with a set of scores of works he has performed with the orchestra.

Mr. W. Spicer, of the string section, who made the presentations, said they could not have reached the standard they have over the past three years without his help.

### Never flagged

Last night's presentation was near faultless, with works by Mozart, Bach, Stravinsky and Schubert.

In Bach's Suite No. 2 in B Minor for Flute and Strings, the solo flautist was Clarissa Melville The strings and brass sections with Mr Michael Sargeant's organ accompaniment played well and provided the right background.

The second half of the programme was devoted to Shubert's Symphony No. 9 in C Major - known to the professionals as the endurance test.

For 55 minutes the full orchestra played the four parts and never once did they flag to round off a most successful era for Mr. de Jongh.

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