

**GORTON  
PHILHARMONIC  
SOCIETY**

127th Year

**ORCHESTRAL CONCERT**

**MANCHESTER TOWN HALL**

**FRIDAY 15th MAY 1981 7.45p.m.**

Programme .

Conductor John Crosdale  
Leader John Wilson  
Soloist Sally Jane Pendlebury  
(Cello)

The Two Pigeons (by request)

MESSAGER

Andre Charles Prosper Messager was born at Montluçon in 1853 and died in Paris in 1929. He was a pupil of St Saens and became well-known for his light operas and operettas although few of these are now performed. He gained a wide reputation as a stage conductor and from 1901 to 1905 he was in charge of music and stage management at Covent Garden. This was followed by a similar position at the Paris Opera. His ballet music for "The Two Pigeons" is the most popular of his works still to be played. Part of the suite achieved recent fame as the signature tune for the BBC programme "Home Ground".

## PROGRAMME

Overture - "The Hebrides" MENDELSSOHN

This overture, also known as "Fingal's Cave" was inspired by Mendelssohn's visit to the Isle of Staffa in the Outer Hebrides. Whilst at the island he jotted down a few notes of a theme, which later grew into this much-loved concert overture. It is in Sonata form in the key of B minor. There are three clearly defined sections: the opening depicts the movement of the waves, ever growing in intensity, the second section represents the storm, and the third section the calm. At the end of the work the key changes to the more triumphant D major and the work closes with a gentle arpeggio on flute.

Suite from "Carmen" BIZET

Georges Bizet was born in Paris in 1838 and died there in 1875. He won the Prix de Rome for composition whilst a student at the Paris Conservatoire but he struggled for a long time to gain recognition as an opera composer. "Carmen" was a setting of the story by Prosper Merimee, and was not well received at its first performance in 1875. The composer died a few weeks later, not knowing that it was to become a favourite with opera audiences worldwide.

Cello Concerto in C major HAYDN

Franz Joseph Haydn was born in 1732 and died at Vienna in 1809. He was one of two musical sons born in a wheelwright's cottage in Rohrau. He graduated from the local choir school to Vienna, and once his voice broke, he began to take pupils. After a spell as Musical Director to a local nobleman he gained a position with the highly influential Esterhazy family. This gave him an orchestra, choir and solo singers with which to work, and a great incentive to compose. His output of concerti was considerable (20 Piano Concerti, although only 2 survive; 9 for violin, 6 for cello, although not all were published, 1 for double bass and 15 miscellaneous). The cello concerto which we are to hear tonight is the most well known of his string concerti to the modern audience and represents a valuable addition to the solo repertoire for the cello.

Symphony No. 94 "The Surprise" HAYDN

Haydn was a great symphonist and always especially well received on his visits to London. Indeed Oxford University made him an honorary Doctor of Music. His Salomon symphonies were written especially for performance in London. Haydn is frequently known as "The Father of the Symphony" for his development of the classical symphony form, and of the orchestra. Tonight we are to hear the second movement of one of the most famous symphonies. It is called "The Surprise" because there is a loud chord for full orchestra which follows the second quiet repeat of the main theme. The middle section of the movement is in the contrasting minor key and the whole movement is in the form of a set of variations. The nickname "The Surprise" was, incidentally never used by Haydn himself.

Selection "The Sound of Music" ROGERS

We close our programme tonight with a selection of melodies from one of the best-loved of post war musicals (prior to its London revival). It tells the story of a young nun who leaves her convent to become governess to the Von Trapp family whom she later helps to escape from Nazi occupied Austria.

### SALLY JANE PENDLEBURY

Sally Jane Pendlebury, who lives in Didsbury, was born in Cambridge in 1963 and had her first cello lessons from Dorothea Campey at the age of seven. She gained a place at Chethams School of Music at the age of eight where she was taught by the American cellist, Gayle Smith, herself a pupil of Casals. Sally Jane is presently a first year pupil at the Guildhall School where she is taught by the Bulgarian cellist and Rostropovitch pupil, Stefan Popov. At the age of 14 she won a scholarship to study with the World Youth Symphony Orchestra at Interlochen, U.S.A. and later in the same year won a place in the newly formed European Community Youth Orchestra with whom she has since toured extensively. In 1979 she was invited to become a member of the Snape Maltings Training Orchestra. She made her first concerto appearance with the N.W. Youth Chamber Orchestra directed by Emanuel Hurwitz in 1979.

### INTERVAL

(15 minutes)