

GORTON
PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

125 th year



ORCHESTRAL
CONCERT

STOCKPORT TOWN HALL

FRIDAY

28th September 1979

7.45 pm.

Programme 5p



FRIDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 1979

Conductor John Crosdale
Leader Margaret Rarity
Soloist Maria Jagusz (Soprano)

PROGRAMME

Overture - PRINCE IGOR BORODIN

Alexander Borodin was born in St. Petersburg in 1833 and died there in 1887. By training, he was firstly a scientist, becoming Professor of Chemistry in St. Petersburg and later founding a medical school there for women. He was always interested in music and after meeting Balakirev, he became a member of the group of Nationalist composers known as "The Five". Prince Igor was his only opera and he wrote his own libretto. He died before it was completed, but Rimsky-Korsakov undertook the task of editing it, aided by Glazunov and it was premiered in 1890. The first London Production was in 1914. Although the opera is still performed, it is famous mainly for its sparkling overture and for the ever-popular Polovtsian Dances.

KARELIA SUITE SIBELIUS

Jean Sibelius was born in Finland in 1865 and died there in 1957. After studying in Helsinki, Berlin & Vienna he returned home to Finland and at the age of 32 was awarded a government pension for life which enabled him to concentrate solely on composition, and Karelia, in South Finland, is the area where the national legendary song-poems were best preserved. It was also the area where Sibelius spent his honeymoon in 1892, the year before the suite was composed. The work is in 3 movements, Intermezzo, Ballade & Alla Marcia.

Songs - NON SO PIU COSA SON (Marriage of Figaro) MOZART

FAIREST ISLE PURCELL

DIDO'S LAMENT (Dido and Aeneas) PURCELL

CHANSON DE MATIN ELGAR

Edward Elgar was born at Broadheath, near Worcester, in 1857 and died in Worcester in 1934. He came from a musical background and at first earned his living as a violin teacher in the Worcester area. He loved composing, however, and although initially he found little success in England, his work was readily accepted in Germany at the turn of the century. He finally achieved success in his beloved England, mainly through performances at the 3 Choirs Festivals. This short item which we are to hear this evening is a very early venture into orchestral music, being Opus 5, but it has always remained a firm favourite of the light music repertoire.

THE SKATERS' WALTZ

WALDTEUFEL

Emil Waldteufel was born in Strasbourg in 1837 and died in Paris in 1915. He was chamber musician to the Court of Empress Eugenie during the third French Republic, but is remembered primarily as a composer of waltzes, of which, the Skaters' Waltz (Les Patineurs) is probably his most popular.

INTERVAL

(15 Minutes)

THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR

NICOLAI

Karl Otto Ehrenfried Nicolai was born in Konigsberg in 1810 and died in Berlin in 1849. He achieved his main success in Italy and Germany in the field of opera. Few of these have remained popular but one notable exception is the Overture to "The Merry Wives of Windsor", based on the Shakespearean tale, and much loved as a sparkling orchestral showpiece.

Songs - VERDI PRATI (Alcina) HANDEL

GIPSY SONG (Carmen) BIZET

HABANERA (Carmen) BIZET

SUITE - PINEAPPLE POLL

SULLIVAN/MACKERRAS

Sir Charles Mackerras was born in New York in 1925 to Australian parents. He trained as an oboist at Sydney Conservatoire but in 1946 he came to England where he soon made a reputation as an opera and ballet conductor. He has always been known as a skilful arranger and "Pineapple Poll" is a ballet set to Mackerras' arrangements of themes by Sir Arthur Sullivan, mainly taken from the Savoy Operas.