

**GORTON
PHILHARMONIC
SOCIETY**

130TH YEAR



CONCERT

STOCKPORT TOWN HALL

SATURDAY 8TH DECEMBER, 1984

7.30 p.m.

Conductor Colin Touchin
 Leader Ros Wood
 Manchester Girls Choir Conductor - Delia Maunder
 (Ladies Section) Accompanist - Helen Sprackler

PROGRAMME

The National Anthem

A Children's Overture Op. 17

Roger Quilter
 (1877 - 1953)

Educated at Eton and Frankfurt, Quilter's best works were some distinguished and distinctive songs, especially settings of Shakespeare. He wrote an opera, some chamber music, and incidental music for the theatre as well as this evergreen favourite (dedicated to the composer's brother Percy) which quotes many well known and some lesser known nursery rhymes: 'Girls and Boys come out to play'; 'Upon Paul's steeple stands a tree'; 'Dame, get up and bake your pies'; 'I saw three ships'; 'Sing a song of sixpence'; 'There was a lady loved a swine'; 'Over the hills and far away'; 'The frog and the crow'; 'The frog he would a-wooing go'; 'Baa! Baa! Black sheep'; 'Here we go round the mulberry bush' and 'Oranges and lemons'.

Mary, Queen of Heaven

Colin Touchin
 (1953-)

This setting of an anonymous 15th century poem for girl's voices and orchestra was written for and first performed by Loreto Grammar School, Altrincham, at their Speech Day in the Free Trade Hall in 1980. It is an appropriate Christmas piece, extolling the beauty and virtue of the mother of Christ.

Manchester Girls Choir

Domine Non Sum Dignus
 Come, Dark-eyed sleep
 Autumn
 O Waly Waly
 The Keel Row

Tomas Luis De Victoria
 John Clements
 Edmund Rubbra
 arr. Christopher le Fleming
 arr. Percy Fletcher

Matinees Musicales

Gioacchino Rossini
 (1792-1868)

1. March 2. Nocturne 3. Waltz 4. Pantomime
 5. Moto Perpetuo (Solfeggi e Gorgheggi)

In 1936 and 1938, Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) adapted and orchestrated several pieces by Rossini for the GPO Film Unit, for whom he also wrote the famous 'Night Mail' film score. These pieces, named 'Soiree Musicales', became a suite used by Antony Tudor for a ballet in 1938. In 1941, after being introduced in America to Lincoln Kirstein, Director of the American Ballet Company, he was invited to write some more, so he added a second suite, 'Matinee Musicales'; the result was a ballet called 'Divertimento' choreographed by Balanchine. The title of the fifth piece of the 'Matinees' refers to the vocal exercises - scales and trills.

INTERVAL (15 minutes)

Soirees Musicales

Rossini - Britten

1. March 2. Canzonetta 3. Tirolese 4. Bolero
 4. Bolero 5. Tarantella

Concert Overture 'Froissart' Op. 19

Edward Elgar
 (1857 - 1934)

This overture, Elgar's first large-scale work for full orchestra, was composed in 1890 to a commission from the Three Choirs Festival, Worcester. No other composer in England at the time could handle so skilfully the resources of the orchestra, and later in his life, Elgar acknowledged both its accomplishment and its youthful weaknesses by describing it as 'shameless in its rude young health'. There is a quotation prefacing the score: 'When Chivalry lifted up her lance on high from a conversation in Sir Walter Scott's 'Old Mortality' about the historian Jean Froissart's chivalrous qualities, and also the title of a poem by Keats. It is full of high spirits, preventing its total eclipse by the greater works which followed, and the long development section reveals much colour in the orchestration and imagination in the treatment of the typical Elgarian noble themes.

Manchester Girls Choir

This little light of mine
 All under the leaves
 Star Carol
 The Nativity Carol
 De Virgin Mary had a baby Boy

arr. Walter Ehrlich
 arr. Imogen Holst
 John Rutter
 John Rutter
 arr. Thomas Slesinger

Carols for all

Once in royal David's city
 See amid the winter's snow
 O Come, all ye faithful

The Manchester Girls Choir was formed in 1961 by the late Arthur Rooke under the auspices of Manchester Education Committee, and consists of three groups:- under 12's, juniors and the ladies section.

The choir has had success in many major musical competitions including two first prizes and several second and third places at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod. In 1975 they were the winners in the B.B.C. 'Let the people sing' contest, and represented Great Britain in the international rounds.

Over the years the choir has made visits abroad to Switzerland, Norway, Belgium, Holland, and Arezzo in Italy where they won a prize at the Concorso Polifonico.

Since the death of Arthur Rooke in 1976, the choir has been conducted by Delia Maunder ably assisted by their accompanist Helen Sprackler.

CONCERT DATES for 1985

Friday 15th March	Stockport Town Hall - Romantic Night
" 10th May	Manchester Town Hall - English Night
" 26th July	Stockport Town Hall - Summer Serenade
" 18th October	Stockport Town Hall - Popular Night
Saturday 7th December	Stockport Town Hall - Christmas concert