



GORTON
PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

124th year

FESTIVAL
CONCERT



STOCKPORT TOWN HALL

SATURDAY
9th DECEMBER 1978
at 7.30 p.m.

Programme 5p

Conductor John Crosdale
Leader David Usher
Soloist Peter Donohoe

PROGRAMME

Overture 'Oberon' Weber

Carl Maria von Weber (1786-1826) was born near Lubeck. He began his musical career as a chorister at Salzburg Cathedral and by the age of thirteen he had written his first opera. Although this was never performed, his later works in this field established him as one of the founders of the Romantic school of opera.

Oberon is a fairy tale with a libretto by Blanché, and was first produced in London in 1826. Weber, who came to London for the production, regrettably died of consumption there eight weeks later. The overture to this opera has remained a firm favourite with concert audiences ever since.

Capriol Suite Peter Warlock

Peter Warlock was the pen name of Philip Heseltine who was born in London and died - probably by his own hand - there in 1930. He composed mainly songs and chamber music, and this suite of short pieces for full string orchestra is typical of his delicate style.

Under his real name, he published books on music and also edited Elizabethan lute songs.

Concerto for Piano and Orchestra
No. 2 in F Minor Op. 21 Chopin

Frédéric François Chopin was born in Poland in 1810. He was of mixed Polish and French parentage and spent his life between Warsaw and Paris where he died in 1849.

He was a gifted pianist and as a composer, produced a new repertoire for pianists consisting of a wide range of pieces for solo piano and two concerti. This, the second of the two consists of three movements.

INTERVAL (15 minutes)

A Children's Overture Quilter

Roger Quilter was born in Brighton in 1877 and died in London in 1953. He studied in Germany and made his name as a composer of light music, songs and incidental music for the theatre. This overture, composed in 1920, is an enchanting arrangement for full orchestra of many of the best known nursery rhymes.

Rhapsody in Blue Gershwin

George Gershwin was born in Brooklyn in 1898 and died in Hollywood in 1937. He became famous as a jazz pianist and came to real prominence in 1924 with the work we are to hear this evening. This was an attempt by Gershwin to reconcile the world of jazz and the world of the concert hall. It was originally a work for solo piano but was later orchestrated by Ferde Grofe who, for a time was pianist and arranger for the Paul Whiteman orchestra.

Suite - 'The Nutcracker' Tschaikowsky

Peter Ilyitch Tschaikowsky was born in Viatka in 1840 and died in St. Petersburg in 1893. Although his first career was in the Russian Civil Service, he gave this up to study music at the St. Petersburg Conservatoire under Anton Rubinstein. His music has long been popular in the west mainly due to its wealth of melody and brilliant orchestration and the ballet 'The Nutcracker' based on the fairy tale is one of his most well-loved works. Only four of the many movements are being played and they are - March, Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy, Dance of the Mirlitons and the Trepak.

Carols

God rest you merry, gentlemen.

Shepherds Farewell

Hark, the Herald Angels sing.

O come, all ye faithful.