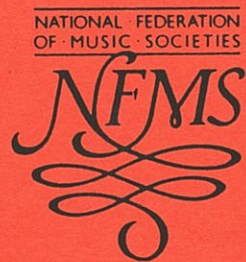


1991

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**Wolverhampton
Symphony
Orchestra**

CONCERT

13-7-91

PROGRAMME

72

WOLVERHAMPTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

CONCERT IN WALSALL CENTRAL METHODIST HALL

SATURDAY, JULY 13th, 1991

PROGRAMME

- Overture di Ballo - Sullivan
- London Suite for Orchestra - Eric Coates
- i) Covent Garden (Tarantelle)
 - ii) Westminster (Meditation)
 - iii) Knightsbridge (March)

Interval

- Symphony No. 1 in E minor - Sibelius
- i) Andante ma non troppo, vivace
 - ii) Andante
 - iii) Scherzo, allegro
 - iv) Finale (quasi una Fantasia)

Conductor - Philip Brooke
Leader - Martyn Blythe

Overture di Ballo - Sullivan

Arthur Sullivan is certainly best known for his collaborations with William Gilbert, though many are unaware of his contribution to English music away from operetta. He wrote grand opera, oratorio and much incidental music to, among others, Shakespearean plays, but certainly the Savoy operas are his most well known works. The Overture di Ballo shows all the characteristics that one would expect from Sullivan, and would be ideally suited preceding any light operetta.

After a brief and unusual introduction there follows a dance-like tune mainly on the first violins with some delicate accompaniment on the horns. The tempo quickens in a section where we hear three main subjects that are developed freely until the arrival of the gallop which brings the piece to a resounding conclusion.

London Suite - Eric Coates

Although a country man by birth, Eric Coates spent much of his life in London - a city that he loved. The London Suite is the better known of the two suite he dedicated to the city, and was the first of his works to earn him international fame.

The Tarantelle describes the bustle in the now defunct vegetable market at Covent Garden and appropriately includes the old English tune "Cherry Ripe".

"Westminster" is a reflective portrait of the Abbey, and its calm and thoughtful melody is supported by the chimes of Big Ben. The solo 'cello in this movement is played by Richard Painter.

"Knightsbridge" is a lively march best known as the theme tune to the B.B.C.'s radio programme "In Town Tonight". Knightsbridge is the home of the Horseguards Barracks and this is reflected in the jaunty martial aspect of the march.

Symphony No. 1 in E minor - Sibelius

- i) Andante ma non troppo, vivace
- ii) Andante
- iii) Scherzo, allegro
- iv) Finale (Quasi una Fantasia)

Jean Sibelius was born at Tarastehus in Finland in 1865, and died in 1957 aged ninety-one. He studied in Helsinki and then in Berlin and Vienna. He found in his strong national feeling the inspiration for practically all his work though his catalogue contains a number of works that are lightweight and of little import. However, the first of his seven symphonies cannot be included among that list.

The first movement opens with a solo clarinet and timpani roll. This theme is whipped up in an Allegro that sees complex and at times magnificent development. This tense movement gives way to a gentle melody on muted strings with horn accompaniment in the second movement. A fugato woodwind passage leads to an equally calm second subject which again is treated to free development. An agitated increase in tempo leads to a brief recapitulation of the first subject, which concludes the movement.

The third movement is a lively scherzo with a slower trio section. The unusual move of announcing the main subject on the timpani typifies the mood of an uncharacteristic but worthy movement.

The grand opening of the fourth movement gives way to a woodwind passage leading to a lively allegro where the new theme is passed freely amongst the sections of the orchestra. Another wonderful theme is announced in the andante section and the remainder of the movement is a superb development of these themes which brings this magnificent symphony to a close.

Philip Brooke

Philip Brooke B.Ed. Hons. (Mus)

A native of Yorkshire, Philip has settled in the Midlands following higher education in the area. As a pianist he trained under Eileen Charlesworth, one time concert pianist to Malcolm Sargent, and has performed regularly across the nation. Philip often performs locally as a baritone and is the Musical Director of the Walsall Gilbert and Sullivan Society. A schoolmaster at Hydesville Tower School in Walsall, Philip was appointed resident conductor of The Wolverhampton Symphony Orchestra last year. This is his third major concert with the Orchestra, and he looks forward with anticipation to many future collaborations.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

WSO's next concert will be on **Thursday, October 17th, 1991** in the Masonic Hall, Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton, when it is planned to present a programme featuring works by Mozart. We look forward to seeing you there!

WOLVERHAMPTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Musical Director - Philip Brooke

Leader - Martyn Blythe

First Violins

Katalin Beke
Jim Chugg
Christopher Eldridge
Colin Elton
Margaret Friar
Susan Hopkins
Della Lawrence
Jennifer Lewis
Vanessa Owen
Jayne Price

Second Violins

Michael Clement
Sarah Fletcher
Jonathan Geitner
Ken Hawkins
Roland Hayter
Maria Mulligan
Linda Murray
Margaret Myatt
Jenny Walton
Philip Ward

Violas

Sharon Bayley
David Cope
Sheila Freeman
Louise McCarthy
Louise Moss
Philip Turley

'Cellos

Margaret Bell
David Castle
Glyn Davies
Peter Gosling
Sheila Moore
Richard Painter
Sylvia Ulrich

Basses

David Charlesworth
Br. Godric
Christopher Seddon

Flutes

Diana Manasseh
Hannah Cowie

Oboes

Richard Anderson
Jenny Jackson

Clarinets

Diana Cotterell
Lynn Sargeant

Bassoons

Brian Shepherd
Douglas Servant

Horns

Percy Cotterell
Stuart McCourt
Julia Burton
Robin Hopper

Trumpets

John Bettey
Michael Garbutt
Cliff Parker

Trombones

Paul Reid
Morris Buchanan
Don Howard

Tuba

David Castle

Timpani

James Hood

Percussion

Michael Servant