



Wolverhampton
Symphony
Orchestra

CONCERT

13/5/95.

PROGRAMME

WOLVERHAMPTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

CONCERT IN CENTRAL HALL, WALSALL

SATURDAY, MAY 13TH, 1995

PROGRAMME



Prince Igor Overture Borodin
Piano Concerto Grieg

Interval

Symphony no. 2 Sibelius



Piano - Kate Shipway
Conductor - Mike Darke
Leader - Martyn Blythe

Prince Igor Overture - Alexander Borodin (1833-87)

Prince Igor is an opera written by Borodin to his own libretto. Despite working on it on and off between 1869 and his death in 1887, he left it unfinished. Rimsky Korsakov and Glazunov completed and orchestrated the opera and it was Glazunov who realised this version of the overture. Five main themes are featured and, after a slow and contemplative opening, the work is a spirited and highly enjoyable curtain raiser.

Piano Concerto in A minor - Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

1. *Allegro molto moderato*
2. *Adagio*
3. *Allegro moderato e molto marcato*

Composed in 1868, this has been one of the most popular works in the piano repertoire for more than a century. It appears to have been modelled after Schumann's concerto in the same key and, in its turn, has left its own mark on several later works, including the original version of Rachmaninov's first concerto. It has become, in a sense, the archetypal romantic concerto and its opening is one of the most famous excerpts of classical music. Indeed, Grieg found himself unable to repeat his success and, despite working on a second concerto, in B minor, found himself constantly returning to update his earlier masterpiece, submitting the final alterations to his publisher just six weeks before his death.

Kate Shipway was born in Bristol and studied flute and piano from the age of eight. After winning a place at the Birmingham Conservatoire she studied piano with Frank Wibaut and performed in masterclasses given by, amongst others, Peter Donohoe. Following many performances as soloist and accompanist, Kate has performed the Poulenc Double Piano Concerto and given several performances of the Shostakovich Piano Concerto no. 1. After reaching the semi-finals of the 1991 Radio Two Young Musician of the Year competition and graduating from the Conservatoire with a BA (Hons) degree Kate worked as accompanist on the Yehudi Menuhin Live Music Now scheme and taught in the Midlands until 1993. She now works in London as rehearsal pianist for the Royal Ballet School with whom she will be performing in July at the Royal Opera House.

Symphony no.2 in D, Op. 43 - Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

1. *Allegretto*
2. *Tempo andante, ma rubato*
3. *Vivacissimo*
4. *Finale (Allegro moderato)*

It is always tempting to regard Sibelius's symphonies as being shaped by the rugged landscape of his native Finland and there are indeed some austere moments in this work such as the bleak opening to the second movement. The second symphony is one of his warmer, more melodious works, however, perhaps as a result of his recent return from a trip to Italy. With its rich abundance of tuneful themes, often evolving from short fragments, it remains one of his most enduringly popular works. As the symphony progresses, there is an accumulation of ideas which carries the work forward like a massive underlying current. The last movement is linked to the third movement scherzo by a bridge passage, where the horns introduce the three note figure which dominates the finale. Although there are a couple of rises and falls in the music, there is an immense build up to the climax in which grand statements are made against swirling scales in the lower strings and the woodwind.

M.D.

Our next concert:
A FAMILY SUMMER CONCERT
7.00pm, Saturday 8th July 1995 at Codsall School
Overture Hansel & Gretel - Humperdinck
London Suite - Coates
Clog Dance from La Fille Mal Gardée - Herold
Greensleeves - Arr. Vaughan Williams
Capriccio Espagnol - Rimsky Korsakov
Peer Gynt Suite no. 1 - Grieg

Wolverhampton Symphony Orchestra is registered charity no. 1040991 and is a member of the National Federation of Music Societies.

WOLVERHAMPTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Leader - Martyn Blythe

First Violins

Katalin Beke
Susan Bellingham
Michael Clement
Margaret Friar
Allison Jackson
Jo Jordan
Richard Lane
Jennifer Lewis
Sarah Westwood

Violoncellos

Margaret Bell
Glyn Davies
Helen Hawkins
Rachel Henley
Sheila Moore
Sylvia Ulrich
Maggie Wenham

Bassoons

Jill Sparke
Doug Servant

Horns

Percy Cotterell
Hazel Whitefoot
Robin Hopper
Maurice Hopper

Second Violins

Sara Birchall
Barbara Bostock
Ken Hawkins
Margaret Myatt
Fiona Overton
Jenny Walton
Philip Ward

John Mason
Jennifer Moore
Naomi Turner

Flutes

Krista Bromley
Jane Coxon

Oboes

Richard Anderson
Chris Anderson

Clarinets

Diana Cotterell
Lynn Sargeant

Trumpets

Jeremy Cross
Tony Bayliss

Trombones

Chris Manasseh
Ben Sedgwick
Don Howard

Tuba

Mike Griffiths

Timpani

Peter Morley

Violas

Sharon Bayley
David Cope
Sheila Freeman
Dilys Lane
Philip Turley
Paul Westwood