


**Making
Music**
THE NATIONAL FEDERATION
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PROGRAMME



**Wolverhampton
Symphony
Orchestra**



WOLVERHAMPTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

CONCERT
AT
KING'S SCHOOL, WOLVERHAMPTON

SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER 2002

PROGRAMME

Overture to The Nutcracker Tchaikovsky
PavaneFauré
Symphony in CBizet

INTERVAL

Siegfried Idyll Wagner
Capriccio Italien Tchaikovsky
Trepak from The NutcrackerTchaikovsky

Conductor - Rachel Hyde

Leader - Ros Rayner

WOLVERHAMPTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Wolverhampton Symphony Orchestra is a fully independent amateur orchestra formed in 1973 by a group of keen amateur players. The idea behind the formation of the orchestra was to satisfy a need for local players to prepare to as high a standard as possible interesting works for public performance, and this is still the primary aim of the orchestra today. Membership of the orchestra when at full strength is of the order of 50 players and is drawn from keen competent amateur musicians, students and teachers of music in Wolverhampton and the surrounding areas.

The orchestra meets on a regular weekly basis throughout the academic year and produces on average four public concerts a year. It has been invited on several occasions to perform major choral works with local choral societies, in 1999 performing Beethoven's Choral Symphony to commemorate its Silver Jubilee. The orchestra regularly engages as soloists professional musicians of national and international reputation, as well as local young players of outstanding promise.

The repertoire of the orchestra spans from the seventeenth to the twentieth century, although a symphony orchestra of this type will tend to concentrate on works from the nineteenth century. The orchestra has performed a large number of symphonies by Beethoven, Brahms, Dvorak, Mahler, Schubert, Sibelius, Tchaikovsky etc. Earlier works are represented by Albinoni, Bach, Boyce and Handel, whereas twentieth century composers whose works have been

performed include Barber, Copland, Joubert, Shostakovich, Stravinsky, Meirion Williams (a former musical director of the orchestra) and Rory Freckleton (a former member of the viola section).

The orchestra is managed by a committee consisting of the Musical Director and leader, plus members elected by the orchestra. It is financed through concert receipts and by an annual subscription paid by the members. It is also affiliated to the National Federation of Music Societies.

Rachel Hyde

Rachel Hyde was born in 1977 and began lessons on her first musical instrument at the age of 7. By the age of 14 she had discovered that she had limited patience when playing one instrument and therefore was busy playing piano, cello, percussion and drum-kit, French-horn and trumpet. At 15 she was given her first opportunity to conduct, having already decided that this was where the real interest in performance lay whilst on an orchestral tour of Eire. Rachel rapidly began to acquire conducting experience, and is currently Musical Director and Principal Conductor of Sandwell Sinfonia and Wolverhampton Symphony Orchestra, as well as having acted as MD for a variety of Musical Theatre companies, including Brierley Hill Amateur Operatic Society, Mayhem and Oldbury Rep.

She has conducted works ranging from Baroque classics to romantic masterpieces such as Brahms Symphony No.1, Sibelius 2nd Symphony, Tchaikovsky Symphony No 4 and Scheherzade by Rimsky-Korsakov. She particularly enjoys

working with soloists, having conducted concerto performances including the Beethoven and Bruch violin concertos, the Mendelssohn D minor Concerto, Weber's first Clarinet Concerto and the 2nd Horn Concerto of Mozart. Rachel remains an active instrumentalist, playing for Chandos Symphony Orchestra, Clent Festival Chamber and the Midland Youth Orchestra among others. Rachael was appointed conductor of Wolverhampton Symphony Orchestra in July 2000, and looks forward to guiding the orchestra in its musical future.

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840 - 1893)

Tchaikovsky was born in the mining town of Votkinsk, where his father was chief inspector of mines. The family moved to St. Petersburg when Tchaikovsky was eight. The Nutcracker is often performed around Christmas time and tonight the orchestra will begin with The Overture and end the concert with the lively Russian Dance - Trepak. The third Tchaikovsky piece - Capriccio Italienne - is a series of themes from folk songs, composed in 1880.

Gabriel Urbain Fauré (1845 - 1924)

Fauré was born in the Ariege district in the south of France, the son of a village schoolmaster. He was a pupil of Saint-Saëns. Faure held various posts as organist in Paris and was professor of composition at the Conservatoire. He wrote music of high quality throughout his life, despite becoming very deaf. The Pavane was written in 1887 and is dedicated to the Countess Greffulhe, a patron of Parisian society. It is

essentially a light essay in nostalgia - Fauré himself described it as "elegant ... but not otherwise important."

Georges Bizet (1838 - 1875)

Bizet was born in Paris, the son of a singing teacher. He entered the Conservatoire at the age of ten and had some lessons from Gounod. Bizet composed his only completed symphony in 1855, when he was only seventeen. It was never performed in his lifetime - indeed the first performance was not until 1935. The symphony is classical in form and general texture. It opens with an Allegro vivo in tripartite sonata-allegro form and an Adagio that brings a winning oboe solo and a central fugal section. There is a perfectly formed scherzo and trio and a finale that gives a foretaste of Carmen in the opening of its principal subject.

Richard Wagner (1813 - 1883)

- Quartet: Ros Rayner
- Terri Bethel
- David Cope
- Jo Bell

Wagner was born in Leipzig the son of a civic clerk, who died a few months after his son's birth. The Siegfried Idyll was composed for Wagner's wife, Cosima, for her birthday on Christmas Day 1870. They had married the previous summer. "A series of domestic confidences" is how Ernest Newman described the Siegfried Idyll. And so it is - a quiet hymn, a simple song of thanksgiving for the affections that bind us one to another.

WOLVERHAMPTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Violin 1 Ros Rayner Jessica Barnett Barbara Bostock Lindsay Buster Violetta Davis Jo Jordan Sharleen Samuels Rhiannon Taylor	Cello Jo Bell Margaret Bell Glyn Davies Sheila Moore Julie Robertson Angela Rowe	Flute Diana Manasseh Louisa Mills Jane Eminson	Horns Percy Cotterell Robin Hopper Sara Robertshaw Richard Waring
Violin 2 Terri Bethel Michael Clement Ken Hawkins Susan Johnston Krystle Reid Philip Ward	Double Bass Helen Andrews John Mason	Cor Anglais Rachel Orotayo	Trumpets Chris Cumming Robin Doulton John Saunders
Viola David Cope Alain Anderton Sharon Bayley Steve Hugh Philip Turley	Oboes Richard Anderson Rachel Orotayo	Clarinet Di Cotterell Lynn Curtis	Trombones Lawrence Hopper Linda Washington
	Bass Trombone Don Howard	Tuba Becky Heywood	Timpani Debbie Childs
	Bassoon Jill Sparke Doug Servant	Percussion Tom Peverelle James Souter Sarah Brown	

WOLVERHAMPTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
2002 – 2003

Tchaikovsky – Fantasy Overture Romeo & Juliet
Saint-Saëns – Cello Concerto (soloist Robert Cracknell)
Beethoven – Symphony No. 5

Bridgnorth Leisure Centre
22nd March 2003

Saint-Saëns – Danse Macabre
Saint-Saëns – Bacchanal from Samson & Delilah
Frank – Chasseur Maudit
Berlioz – Symphony Fantastique

Wolverhampton Grammar School
12th July 2003

(Please note that the above details are provisional)



Wolverhampton Symphony Orchestra
is affiliated to the
National Federation of Music Societies
which represents and supports
amateur vocal, instrumental and
promoting services throughout the
United Kingdom

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