



Tilford Bach Society



Farnham Sinfonia

Conductor - Matthew Taylor
Leader - Sophie Langdon

Supported by Con brio
The Humphrey Richardson Taylor
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Programme

Jean SIBELIUS (1865 - 1957) *Andante Festivo*

This short work for strings from 1922 is very much in Sibelius's public style. It is also one of the very few pieces that he conducted and recorded which in itself testifies to the high regard that he had for the work. Its rich harmony and resplendent sonority make it an ideal concert opener.

Joseph HAYDN (1732 - 1809) *Symphony No.83 in G minor 'The Hen'*

Allegro; Andante; Menuetto; Vivace

No.83 is the second of Haydn's so-called 'Paris' symphonies which were commissioned by the wealthy aristocrat and music lover Count d'Ogny and played there to great acclaim. Though Haydn was unable to relinquish his Kappelmeister duties in Esterhazy to hear the performances live, he was delighted when he found out that Marie Antoinette attended the concerts and enjoyed the symphonies.

Though most of the names given to Haydn symphonies, ('Surprise', 'Clock', 'Drum Roll', 'Bear', 'Philosopher' etc) were not supplied by the composer, they are usually derived from some unusual and amusing musical imagery. The title 'Hen' refers to the insistent clucking figure first introduced on the oboe in the opening movement. The following Andante, though showing some of Haydn's most gloriously lyrical music still has time for some surprises and one of its best jokes. It is followed by a high spirited Minuet and one of his most infectious finales.

Cyril LLOYD (born 1950) *Sinfonietta (World Premiere)*

Scherzo; Lullaby; Market at Marrakesh; Fugue

We are delighted to perform the world premiere of Cyril Lloyd's Sinfonietta this evening. The composer has provided the following note -

'The first movement is subtitled Country Fun Fair. The main themes given to the woodwinds depicting the Fair is presented in various keys. The fluctuating episodes which suggest the straggling public at large are given to the strings. At the end both parts are fused together for the animated and celebratory final part. After such an exhilarating outing the children are exhausted on their return home. A soothing lullaby is needed. This provides the main slow movement of the work.

Next come 'The Market at Marrakesh', a lively intermezzo, where the composer recalls his holidays in North Africa. Consequently, there is some use of African modes. The finale is a Fugue which culminates in a triumphant statement of the Love Theme which pervades the entire Sinfonietta.'

INTERVAL

Drinks are free but donations to costs are much appreciated

Poul RUDERS (b. 1949) Lullaby for Yodit

('The Sweetest Woman I never knew')

This exquisite little miniature by leading Danish composer Poul Ruders, is one of nearly 100 string orchestra pieces written at the request of Martin Anderson, Founder of Toccata Classics to be an in memoriam to his partner Yodit Teke who died tragically of cancer in 2015 at the age of 41.

Franz SCHUBERT (1897 - 1828) Symphony No.5 in B flat

Allegro; Andante; Minuet; Allegro

This symphony was written when Schubert was only nineteen and played in Vienna by the school orchestra which his father directed. Sadly, like most of Schubert's symphonic works and a number of the great chamber works, the Symphony No.5 never received a professional performance or any recognition during Schubert's short life and it was only during the second part of the 19th Century that the symphony started to be circulated.

Though there are a few parallels with Mozart's Fortieth, a work he must have played frequently as a violinist in his father's orchestra, Schubert's Fifth Symphony is nonetheless a work of striking individuality which already exudes a lyrical warmth that is completely his own. All of the slow movement, the central part of the Minuet and the second theme in the finale demonstrate this clearly. Of all his symphonies, No.5 is the most intimate and the one that seems closest to chamber music in style which is one of the reasons it works so naturally when played with smaller forces.

It would be difficult to think of a greater Symphony written by any teenage composer.

Programme notes by Matthew Taylor

Farnham Sinfonia

Violins

Sophie Langdon (leader)
Vernon Dear
Juliet Taylor
Emily Hinchliffe
Anna Dryer- Beers
Sarah Wormell-Evans
Elizabeth Barker
Stephanie Nemirra

Violas

Lucy Hill
Leonie Anderson

Cellos

Judith Fleet
Jayne Spencer

Bass

Lucy Rundell

Flute

Susan Milan

Oboes

Karla Powell
Anna Durance

Bassoons

Daniel Emson
Bartosz Kwasecki

Horns

Matt Head
Alex Willett

TBS & Farnham Sinfonia are most grateful to the Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust without whose generous support this concert would not be possible.

Matthew Taylor

Matthew Taylor is a composer and conductor who lives in Farnham. He studied composition with Robin Holloway at Cambridge University and later at the Guildhall and the Royal Academy. He later studied with Leonard Bernstein and received tuition from George Hurst and Vilem Tausky. He also received special encouragement from Robert Simpson whose music and outlook became a crucial influence in these earlier years.

Exposure to Beethoven symphonies at a very young age provided the initial stimulus for Matthews' desire to compose which was soon followed by a lifelong fascination with the music of Schumann. Matthew has also been strongly drawn to Scandinavian civilisation and Nordic culture as a whole, particularly the music of Sibelius and Nielsen.

He has appeared as Guest Conductor with the English Chamber Orchestra, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, and the City of London Sinfonia. His compositions have been performed by the BBC Symphony Orchestra. He has been Artistic Director of the Malvern Festival, amongst others, and is Music Director of LSE Orchestra and Junior Academy Sinfonietta.

Sophie Langdon

Sophie Langdon is one of Britain's leading violinists. She has appeared as soloist with many major orchestras including the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra, and the Berlin Radio Orchestra. She broadcasts regularly for BBC Radio 3, has appeared at most of Britain's music festivals, and is a familiar figure on London's concert platforms. Her CD recordings include the Ethel Smyth Concerto for violin and horn on the Chandos label, and two volumes of Spohr violin and harp music with harpist Hugh Webb on the Naxos label – both of which were released to critical acclaim.

Next Farnham & Tilford Concerts

Saturday 28 October: 7-30pm

United Reformed Church South Street, Farnham, GU9 7QU

Atea Wind Quintet

JS Bach: Goldberg Variations, plus other pieces

Saturday 18 November 7-00pm

Tilford Church GU10 2DD

JS Bach: Christmas Oratorio

Joanne Lunn; Robin Blaze; Bradley Smith; Andrew Mahon

Pegasus Choir

London Handel Orchestra

Conductor Adrian Butterfield

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