

SATURDAY 30TH MAY

7.45PM

JOINT CONCERT WITH THE EDINBURGH BACH SOCIETY

MOZART

Symphony No 39 in Eb (K543)

MOZART

Requiem (K626)

Rosemary McKercher *soprano*
Anne Lewis *Alto*
Steven Griffin *tenor*
Dominic Burns *Bass*
NeilMantle *conductor*

Greyfriars' Church

We always enjoy our annual collaboration with The Edinburgh Bach Choir. After our successful ROSSINI and BRUCKNER programme with them last season, we now turn our attention to MOZART'S best loved Choral work, his Unfinished Requiem. Much ink has been spilled over the last two hundred years concerning the exact circumstances of its composition and the nature of the contributions of the other musicians variously called in by MOZART'S widow Constanze to complete the work.

No such problems occur in the case of the sunny Eb major Symphony which completes the programme. This one of the final great trio of of symphonies composed in the astonishingly brief period of seven weeks in the summer of 1788.

TICKET INFORMATION

*August, November, February
and May Concerts:*

£6.50

£6.00 concessions

£4.00 schoolchildren

Edinburgh Bach Choir Concert

£8.00

£6.00 concessions

Available from:

The Queen's Hall 0131-668 2019

The Usher Hall 0131-228 1155

The King's Theatre 0131-220 4349

Assembly Rooms 0131-220 4349

and Members of the Orchestra

*Tickets for the August Performances are also
available from:*

The Festival Fringe Office 0131-226 5138

ROSSINI
CONCERTS 1997 - 98

ST CUTHBERTS CHURCH

GREYFRIARS CHURCH

Welcome to our 1997 -98 season of concerts!

We open our 1997-8 season with our annual MAHLER Concerts. This year it is the turn of the Seventh Symphony. Even in these days of frequent MAHLER performances, this remains probably the least played and recorded of the cycle.

Sinfonia offers you therefore, a rare opportunity to experience this mighty work live. We are sure you will agree with us that this neglect is totally unfair after all, the music critic of The Times Education Supplement referred to our earlier performance of this work as "An Important Event by any standards"!

For our November concert we whisk you off to Russia for an evening of unashamed romantic indulgence with three popular masterworks. It is an especial pleasure to welcome Richard Beauchamp to appear with us again after too long an interval, this time in RACHMANINOV'S ever popular PAGANINI Rapsodie. Many composers have written variations on PAGANINI'S famous theme, but surely none more successfully than SERGEI RACHMANINOV.

The other major work in the programme is TCHAIKOVSKY'S Fifth Symphony. Arguably, his most loved symphony, melodic invention abounds in a never ending flow of romantic warmth. An evening not to be missed-do join us!

The capacity audience which heard ELGAR'S Second Symphony at our 25th Anniversary concert in November 1995, will require no prompting in making a diary note for our forthcoming performance of his First Symphony. The premiere of this work in 1908 caused an absolute sensation - so much so that it received over one hundred performances in its first year of life. Our concert offers you a fascinating opportunity to compare the ELGAR with another great British symphony of the first quarter of the century - VAUGHAN WILLIAMS evocative London Symphony. Many years and several symphonies later, he confessed to a friend "The London Symphony is past mending - though with its faults, I love it still - indeed it is my favourite of my family of six". (At the time of writing, three more symphonies were still to come) An evening of nostalgia for past times.

We are always interested in 'feed back' from you our supporters, and from information received, it is clear that our performance of BEETHOVEN'S beautiful 'Pastoral' Symphony was a highlight of our 1996-7 season for many listeners. This season we continue our survey of BEETHOVEN symphonies with the tremendously exciting seventh. Very different from its immediate predecessor, this work was referred to by WAGNER as the 'Apotheosis of the dance'.

Inspired by the sight of the ruined Holyrood Chapel by moonlight, MENDELSSOHN'S 'Scottish' Symphony is almost a 'local work'! The great German composer loved Scotland and was a frequent visitor. Whether he visited Greyfriars we cannot be sure, but his spirit may well be hovering during our concert! John Peacock has been our Principal Clarinet since 1984. We are delighted that he is to be featured in WEBER'S virtuoso first Clarinet Concerto.

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL CONCERTS

SUNDAY 24TH AUGUST 5.00PM
MONDAY 25TH AUGUST 8.00PM

MAHLER

Symphony No 7
"Song of the night"

Neil Mantle *conductor*

Greyfriars' Church

SUNDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 7.45PM

BORODIN

Overture ' Prince Igor '

RACHMANINOV

Rapsodie on a Theme of Paganini

TCHAIKOVSKY

Symphony No. 5 in E minor opus 64

Richard Beauchamp *Piano*

Neil Mantle *conductor*

Greyfriars' Church

SUNDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

7.45PM

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

' A London Symphony '

ELGAR

Symphony No1 in Ab major opus 55

Neil Mantle *conductor*

Greyfriars' Church

SUNDAY 3RD MAY

7.45PM

MENDELSSOHN

Symphony No 3 in A minor "Scottish"

WEBER

Clarinet Concerto No 1 in F minor

BEETHOVEN

Symphony No 7 in A major

John Peacock *Clarinet*

Neil Mantle *Conductor*

Greyfriars' Church