

STRATHFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Saturday, MAY 5TH 1984.

P R O G R A M M E

Overture to the Ballet "The Creatures of Prometheus"  
Op. 43 BEETHOVEN

Concerto for Oboe and String Orchestra in C minor  
MARCELLO  
(arr. Phillip G. Reay)

SOLOIST - Fiona MacMillan

I N T E R V A L

Symphony No.1 in B<sup>b</sup> major, Op.38 "Spring Symphony"  
SCHUMANN

BRUCE NELSON

Bruce studied piano with Gordon Watson at the N.S.W. State Conservatorium of Music for three years, taking oboe as second study under Pauline Strait. Oboe became his major interest and while completing a teaching course in piano he completed L.T.C.L. for oboe after four years study.

Bruce is extensively involved in local orchestras and in teaching at Riverview College and Ravenswood Girls School. Bruce is a regular teacher with Tamusca Association and is involved with the National Music Camp and Sydney Youth Orchestras.

He is now furthering his studies on oboe with John St. George and specialises in Suzuki piano tuition at his home in Roseville. Bruce is travelling in August 1984 to England and Europe to further his studies on oboe.

CONDUCTOR, Rita Fin

Rita Fin received her initial training at the New South Wales State Conservatorium of Music, where she majored in 'cello and music education. In 1983, Miss Fin took leave from the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra to further her studies overseas. She completed the Special English course in Orff-Schulwerk at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, and is currently teaching Orff-Schulwerk classes at the N.S.W. Conservatorium.

Recently, she accepted the position of Director of the music programme at the International Grammar School, Sydney.

Miss Fin has conducted many groups of the Sydney Youth Orchestra Association, and is currently Conductor of the Sydney Youth Training Orchestra.

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SOLOIST, Fiona MacMillan was born in New Zealand and began her musical life at an early age. She studied Oboe with Dr. John Green (Hamilton) and with Ronald Webb (Wellington) which led to a position in the New Zealand National Youth Orchestra and to broadcasts for the N.Z.B.C.

Since arriving in Australia in 1981, Miss MacMillan, who studies now with Guy Henderson, has built a fine reputation as both a soloist and orchestral player. Miss MacMillan is currently Principal Oboe with the Manly based Northern Chamber Orchestra with which she has appeared as soloist.

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Our Next Concert is on Saturday, 11th August 1984.

Programme to include Mozart's Violin concerto No.4

SOLOIST - Michael O'Dea  
(coming back to Australia after studying in Vienna)

and Haydn's Symphony No.104 (Haydn's last Symphony)

The Strathfield Orchestral Society received a Cultural Grant from the Cultural Grants Advisory Council of New South Wales.

PROGRAMME NOTES

- (1) Overture to the Ballet "The Creatures of Prometheus"  
Op. 43 BEETHOVEN (1770-1827)

This overture was composed in 1799, and is a typical sonata movement with slow introduction and a *cada* which takes the place of a second development section.

- (2) Concerto in C minor for Oboe and String Orchestra  
attrib. MARCELLO

Allegro Moderato - Largo - Allegro

This concerto, thought to go back before the time of Vivaldi, was attributed by Schering to Benedetto Marcello; more recently another expert, Frank Walker, has ascertained that it is not a composition of Benedetto but of his brother Alessandro, a pupil of Tartini.

- (3) Symphony No. 1 in B<sup>b</sup> major  
SCHUMANN (1810-1856)

1. Anante un poco maestoso - Allegro - motto vivace
2. Larghetto
3. Scherzo: motto vivace
4. Allegro animato e grazioso

In a letter of January 1841, Robert Schumann wrote happily and with pride: "During the past few days I have completed (at least in outline) a work which has made me positively blissful.... Just think of it, a whole symphony - and what is more a spring symphony-". This symphony, sketched out in Leipzig within four days, was Schumann's first attempt to come to grips with large-scale forms. During the preceding ten years he had proven his mastery in numerous piano works and song cycles, and now he felt the need to venture into symphonic territory.

Inspiration for his first symphony came to him from some lines of a poem by Adolf Bottinger: "Spring awakens in the valley". Nevertheless, this work is not programme music, as is indicated by the fact that before its publication, Schumann deleted the titles he had previously given the four movements. He wrote of these titles and other ideas of interpretation as being "fantasies which came to me after the work was complete".