

STRATHFIELD

SYMPHONY

ORCHESTRA



SATURDAY, 12th September 1987

Conductors: Matthew KREL
Ben MACPHERSON(Choir)

Concertmaster: Donald WOOLFORD
Deputy Leader: Marion DUNLOP

Founder & Musical Director: Emily FINN

P R O G R A M M E

1. Piano Concerto, No.2, Op.18 Sergei RACHMANINOFF
Soloist -- Vivienne SPY
2. Nutcracker Suite Peter I. TCHAIKOVSKY
3. March and Polka Igor STRAVINSKY

I N T E R V A L

4. Vespers (excerpts) Sergei RACHMANINOFF
(Choir a Cappella)

**Sydney University Musical
Society Choir**

- Come let us worship
- Magnificat
- Hymn of the resurrection
- Nunc Dimittis
- Gloria
- Ave Maria

5. Polovtsian Dances Alexander BORODIN
(From the Opera "Prince Igor")

PROGRAMME NOTES

This ALL RUSSIAN programme again raises the contradiction -- how can such a dour people and harsh country produce such imagination, romantic and beautiful music (atleast the contradiction is in the westerner's mind).

But to our Conductor, Matthew Krel, this music is completely natural for he came from Moscow some 9 years ago, and this is the music of his homeland. No one would describe Matthew as a "dull, dour Russian!"

It is very good to be joining with the Sydney University Musical Society (SUMS) Choir. This Society has been singing at the University for 100 years, providing a musical outlet for university people be they engineers, economists or whatever. Many thanks to them and their Conductor, Ben Macpherson.

Piano Concerto No.2

Sergei Rachmaninoff
(1873-1943)

Rachmaninoff wrote this concerto in 1901 performing it himself in London. Earlier he had played his Piano Concerto in Russia and England, but it was not accepted. This greatly depressed him, and the second Piano Concerto was written soon after, following considerable medical attention. It was dedicated to his doctor.

It was an instant success and no doubt expressed much of the emotions of the disappointment of his earlier concerto. It is beautifully romantic, flowing with melody and form that comes from the heart. His friendship with Tchaikovsky shows the latter's influence. However, Rachmaninoff left Russia in the turmoil of 1917, going to America. There he was always a great favourite, dying in California in 1943 aged 70. He always pined for his homeland, but never returned. For many years Russia rejected his music as representing "the decadent attitude of the lower middle classes." But later this attitude was reversed and he died a national hero.

"Vespers" is seldom sung, but is an unaccompanied work of Rachmaninoff in 1915 and shows his versatility. It was written for use in the mass.

Nutcracker Suite

Peter I. Tchaikovsky
(1840-93)

The ballet is a major part of Russian culture, and in this field they really excel.

Tchaikovsky wrote this Suite for the ballet in 1892, one year before he died in St. Petersburg during a cholera epidemic at the age of 53. It is simple, pure and precise ballet music but its beauty and ingenuity have made it perhaps the most popular of Tchaikovsky's three ballet suites.

Polovtsian Dances

Alexander Borodin
(1833-87)

Borodin was born in 1833 in St. Petersburg and became a medical man, music being a side line. He did not produce a vast quantity of music, and he always regarded his opera "Prince Igor" as his greatest effort, although he did not have time to finish it. These Dances are now his most popular work. It was first performed in 1879. He died in 1887 at St. Petersburg.

The wild rhythms and harmonies of this music makes for a most exciting musical experience, as great contrast to the romance and beauty of the other works on this Russian programme.

Soloist

Vivienne SPY



Vivienne is in her 11th year at the Conservatorium High School. This is the first time she is playing as soloist with an orchestra. In her spare time, she plays in the Swing Orchestra.

Vivienne is a student of Mrs. A. Vinokurov.

To Friends of the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra -

It seems odd to suggest that we are in difficulty while outwardly we are going so well. But our administration has relied for years on non-players to do the necessary publicity and financial fiddles. And now we seem to have run out of volunteers to help us, and our administration is languishing.

So - Can you help?

We need about three people, one to do publicity and two others to assist the Committee. You need have no musical experience; only needed is the desire to help this worthwhile community cultural activity.

Please ask for more details from any of the players or obviously organising types in the hall. We will make you most welcome and can assure you of the opportunity to do something very worthwhile.

Geoff Widmer
President

O R C H E S T R A

FIRST VIOLINS

Donald Woolford
Marion Dunlop
Sheila Myers
Carol Henson
Edgar Elliston
Jack Paff
Melanie Cameron
Christine Ho
Emma Munro
Margaret Walsh
Josephine Freeman

SECOND VIOLINS

Peter Reay
Beata Talipski
Lyndal McSkimming
Colin McLeod
Rohini Thavaravy
Anna Kulez
Helen Bailey
Alex Glendenning
Alexandra Wentzel

VIOLAS

Ted Davis
Margaret Croak
Julianne Lockhart

CELLI

Eszter Mikes
Geoff Widmer
Richard Lemare
Alison Cameron
Felicia Meric

BASSES

Nick Lebedeu
Svetlana Nick

HARP

Paeder O'Carrol

FLUTES

Jitka Neradilek
Fergus Fricke
Michael Rynn
Sue Wall

PICCOLO

Michael Rynn

OBOES

Margaret Shirley
Caitie Greenup

COR ANGLIAS

Gil Murdock

CLARINETS

Olive Laing
Joe Davies

BASSOONS

Pat Taylor
Diane Arnold
Gil Murdock

FRENCH HORNS

Gordon Ewing
Ann Tully
David McLeod
Matthew Coorey

TRUMPETS

Valentin Malkov
Frank Zuffs
Clare Bollard

TUBA

Eric Shirley

TROMBONES

Chris Blenkinsopp
John Cunningham
Peter Keller

TIMPANI

Jill Ferguson

PERCUSSION

Helen Krel
Iain Scotland

We need players in all sections of the Orchestra.
Rehearsals at the Strathfield Town Hall every
Monday night at 7.45 p.m. For more details, please
call Matthew Krel on 76-5769 (A.H.).

The Strathfield Symphony Orchestra gratefully
acknowledges the assistance of the New South
Wales Government through the Grants Advisory
Council.

PATRON, Alderman R.B. Kell, Mayor of Strathfield

Members of the Society:

Mr. & Mrs. N.A. Andersen
Mr. R. Bernie
Mr. & Mrs. A. Davies
Mr. & Mrs. D.B. Dunlop
Miss C. Edwards
Mr. & Mrs. M. Edwards
Miss E. Finn -- Life Member
Miss R. Gomez
Mr. & Mrs. G. Hawkshaw
Miss P.A. McPhillamy
Miss P.J. McPhillamy
Mr. & Mrs. B. Mahableshwarwalla
Mrs. S. Meakin
Miss S. Masian
Mrs. J. Pundyk
Mr. P. Reay
Mrs. M. Robinson
Mrs. J. Widmer
Miss E. Zaragoza

Next Concert - 14th November 1987.

Symphony No.4 Mozart
Suite for Trumpet & Orchestra Purcell

Soloist - Val Malkov

King's School Brass Band, North Parramatta