

STRATHFIELD

SYMPHONY

ORCHESTRA



IN MEMORY OF OUR FOUNDER EMILY
FINN WHO PASSED AWAY ON THE
19TH SEPTEMBER 1987.

Saturday, 8th September 1990

Conductor: MATTHEW KREL
Concertmaster: DONALD WOOLFORD
Founder: Emily Finn

PROGRAMME

Symphony No. 1 **MENDELSSOHN Felix**
in C Minor

INTERVAL

Piano Concerto No. 5 **BEETHOVEN Ludvig van**
"Emperor"
Soloist: COLIN FORBES



PROGRAMME NOTES

Symphony No. 1 in C Minor

MENDELSSOHN Felix
(1809 - 1847)

Felix Mendelssohn was indeed a young genius; for by the time he was 15, he had written a number of symphonies. So, he could have been only 14 when he wrote the symphony we play to-night.

He was born in a highly cultured and prosperous Jewish family in Hamburg. His father had all his children baptised Protestant Christians, but retained his Jewish ties. Felix was a charming, intelligent and very popular person who wanted for nothing. He rapidly became immensely popular in England and Germany.

His works are essentially light in their musical content, reflecting the personality of their composer. However, this lightness was heavily criticised by German scholars as 'superficial' - from the 1850 until early this century, he was seldom taken seriously. In Hitler's days in Germany his music was forbidden, being Jewish. He died in 1847, aged 38.

His 1st Symphony shows much of his flair for light but ingenious music. It is not often played, but being originally written for his family's small orchestra, is well suited to our limited capacity, his rare genius shows throughout.

Piano Concerto No. 5
"EMPEROR"

BEETHOVEN Ludwig van
(1770 - 1827)

Although another genius, Beethoven was entirely different to Mendelssohn. He was very unhappy for most of his life; he lived in poor circumstances with alcoholic parents and struggled to be musically recognised. He developed late, writing his first Symphony when he was 30.

His 5th Piano Concerto, his last, was written in 1809 when he was 39, and it became nicknamed "The Emperor" after Napoleon, (for whom Beethoven had little respect), only because of its regal style.

We are delighted to have Colin Forbes play this Concerto with us. He first played with Strathfield Symphony Orchestra 21 years ago, in his student days. He played the 1st Piano Concerto of Beethoven last year for our 20th Anniversary Concert and to-night he plays the great 5th Piano Concerto. We thank him for his association with us.

Colin FORBES joined the teaching staff of the N.S.W. Conservatorium of music shortly after gaining both Teacher's and Performer's Diplomas. He has worked as harpsichordist with major Australian Orchestras.

An experienced repetiteur, he has worked for many years as a pianist/coach for the Australian Opera. In West Germany, he was accepted into the Master Class of the celebrated Viennese pianist, Paul Badura-Skoda.

From 1981 to 1984 Colin Forbes lived in West Germany, where he taught and performed. His recordings have been broadcast on the B.B.C. radio and in Norway, and, on his return to Australia in January 1984, he joined the music staff at Ascham School, Edgecliff. In recent years, he has performed for the Schubert Society, played with the Australian Chamber Orchestra and recorded with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. On a number of occasions, he has been called to take over concerts with the Australia Ensemble Synergy at very short notice.

Colin Forbes is the conductor of the St. Cecilian Choir, Croydon, which is attached to the German-speaking community based there. He has been the choir's conductor for four years. The choir has been heard in the past with the Orchestra in performances of Beethoven's Choral Fantasy, the Brahms Alto Rhapsody (Colin Forbes piano) and the Mozart "Credo" Mass (Choir alone).

Earlier this month, Colin Forbes gave a recital in Mittagong, performing on the 1876 Square Grand - a rare earlier form of the piano, of important historical value.

STRATHFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

FIRST VIOLINS

Donald Woolford - Concertmaster
Margaret Walsh
Sheila Myers
David Wigney
Peter Reay
Simon Watts
Ellen Bollard
Robyn Petersen

SECOND VIOLINS

Rohini Thavaravy
Maria De Lima
Dorita Orzaes
Lyndal McSkimming
Colin MacLeod
Beatrice Ip
Helen Bailey-Cooke
Kathryn Bates

VIOLAS

Ted Davis
George Szekeres

CELLI

Mara Blazer
Geoff Widmer
Wayne Hanson
Elizabeth Graham

DOUBLE BASSES

Svetlana Niconishin
Nick Lebedeu

FLUTES

Wolfgang Kloger
Cathy Wainwright
Fergus Fricke

OBOES

Margaret Shirley
John McLeod

CLARINETS

Olive Laing
Joe Davies

BASSOONS

Pat Taylor
Alan Morrison

FRENCH HORNS

Gordon Ewing
Ann Tully

TRUMPETS

David Young
Clare Manson

TIMPANI

Andrew Axton

**PATRON: Alderman Leo O'Donnell - Acting Mayor of
Strathfield**

Members of the Society:

Dr N. A. Anderson
Mr. R. Bernie
Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Catalano
Mr. & Mrs. D. B. Dunlop
Miss C. Edwards
Mr. & Mrs. G. Hawkshaw
Mr. P. A. Lehmann
Miss P. A. McPhillamy
Miss P. J. McPhillamy
Mrs. S. Mahableshwarwalla
Mr. L. Malec
Mrs. S. Meakin
Mrs. J. C. Moroney
Dr. G. Prior
Mrs. M. Robinson
Mrs. J. Widmer

We require players in the lower string section
(Viola, Cello and Double Bass)

Rehearsal every Monday evening at 7.45 at
Strathfield Town Hall. For further information
please call Matthew Krel on 76-5769

The Orchestra gratefully acknowledge the
assistance of the New South Wales Government
through the Grants Advisory Council

NEXT CONCERT: 17th November 1990

MOZART **Symphony No. 39**
and Works including:
"Rubinstein Melody"
Featuring JUDITH FRENCH, Cello

Strathfield Symphony Orchestra

A recording of the Orchestra is being prepared and will include excerpts from the 20th Anniversary Concert and this evening's concert, in cassette form.

Please indicate if you are interested to purchase a copy by supplying your name, address and telephone number:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Cost: Approx. \$ (8-10).