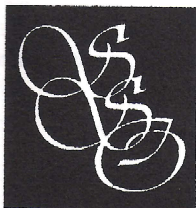


Saturday, 13 September 1997, 8.00pm
Strathfield Town Hall



STRATHFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

founded by Emily Finn in 1969

SOLOMON BARD
Musical Director

DONALD WOOLFORD
Guest Conductor

KIAN LIM
Concertmaster

CAROL HENSON
Deputy Concertmaster

RICHARD PULLEY
Soloist

ORCHESTRA PATRON
Councillor Peter Smith, Mayor of Strathfield

IN MEMORIAM - EMILY FINN

This concert is dedicated to the memory of our founder, the late Emily Finn on the 10th Anniversary of her death.

For many years, Emily Finn was a teacher of violin in Strathfield and saw the need for an orchestra in the district. Few people had her vision at the time, seeing only the immense difficulties of starting an amateur symphony orchestra as being insurmountable.

She refused to be discouraged, and in 1969, the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra was commenced with Richard Gill its first conductor.

Emily was its founder, and although also a professional violinist with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, she played for some years with the "lesser SSO" to get them started. The Strathfield Orchestra has played continuously since then, 28 years being a long time for such a fragile organisation as an amateur orchestra.

Emily Finn maintained her love for the orchestra until her death in 1987, only a short distance from the Town Hall where the orchestra rehearsed each Monday night.

A large number of people must thank her for what she created in Strathfield, bringing the joy of music making to hundreds of students and players alike. The Community is the better for her life, and the effect will last for many more years.

PROGRAM

Il Seraglio - Overture

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

Violin Concerto

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

Soloist: Richard Pulley

Interval

Symphony No. 5

Franz Peter Schubert
(1797-1828)

Karelia Suite

Jean Sibelius
(1865-1957)

We regret that the originally scheduled performance of the "Lyric for Small Orchestra" by Miriam Hyde will not be performed tonight as our harpist is presently studying overseas on a scholarship.



The Strathfield Symphony Orchestra acknowledges with thanks the assistance of the Strathfield Municipal Council and the NSW Government Ministry for the Arts.



PROGRAM NOTES

"*Il Seraglio (Die Entführung aus dem Serail)*" (1782) is an opera in three acts by Mozart. It was first performed in Vienna in 1782, and is the first important opera to have been written in the German language. One of Mozart's six greatest operas, it explores, in music of unsurpassed beauty, aptness and wit, the full range of human emotion. The story concerns a lady and her maid who have been taken against their will to the Turkish Pasha's palace. The Pasha wants the lady to marry him, but she loves another. Her maid, too, is in love and so both ladies plan to escape with their gentlemen. Their plot is foiled - much to the delight of the palace guardian, who wanted the maid for himself - and both couples are recaptured. However, eventually the Pasha relents, and generously gives the four their freedom. The lively overture makes notable use of the percussion instruments to produce effects similar to those found in some actual Turkish music of the time.



Every violin virtuoso has the glorious "*Violin Concerto*" by Mendelssohn in his or her repertoire, and every music lover thrills to the sound of this beautiful work, which even after so many years has lost none of its youthful high spirits and exuberant freshness. Mendelssohn wrote it during an incredibly hectic period in his life yet none of the stress of this restless way of life is to be heard in the work, which radiates in an unparalleled way the romantic, youthful charm of its composer - and received its definitive form only two years before he died in 1847. The first movement begins with a lyrically singing melody on the solo violin followed by a passionate outburst of feeling, which gives way to a dreamily romantic, introverted theme. All these ideas are then developed skilfully but with deep emotional involvement. The second movement is a wonderfully romantic idyll, and the Finale carries the listener along on a surge of high-spirited, graceful virtuosity.



In a lifetime of only 31 years Schubert created a treasury of music which places him well and truly among the musical immortals. Blessed with a priceless melodic gift, this amiable, easy-going little Viennese, composed music as if it were the most natural thing in the world, and this genius reaches us today, undimmed by the years, to provide pleasure, inspiration and joy. It is a sobering thought that Schubert never heard most of his large-scale symphonic works performed. His "*Symphony No 5 in B Flat*" is a delightfully light-hearted and elegant work, written for a small body of players without trumpets and timpani. It displays very clearly the strongest influences at work on Schubert in his youth; its enchanting simplicity combines the heartiness of Haydn with the elegance of Mozart, embellished by Schubert's wonderful melodic inventiveness.



"*Karelia*" orchestral suite by Sibelius, a Finnish composer and the most famous produced by that country, was composed in 1893. The suite is in three movements: 1 Intermezzo; 2 Ballade; 3 Alla Marcia. A tribute to the province of Karelia in southern Finland (which was later incorporated into Russia), the suite is one of the most popular of Sibelius' early works who was extremely patriotic and the creation of this piece was requested for a pageant depicting the glorious past of Karelia. His works between 1890 - 1900 expressed the aspirations of Finland towards a national musical culture. These works showed an individual approach to the treatment of the orchestra and of thematic material which is further developed in his later symphonies.



ORCHESTRA MANAGER - Margaret Shirley
STAGE MANAGER - Russel Watson
LIBRARIAN - Jill Hobbs
LIBRARY ASSISTANT - Beatrice Ip

Resources:

The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, edited by Stanley Sadie, in twenty volumes, 1980 (Macmillan Publishers Limited, London).
Collins Encyclopaedia of Music, Sir Jack Westrup and F. L. Harrison, revised by Conrad Wilson, 1984 (Chancellor Press, London)
Reader's Digest (Australia) Pty Limited

PROFILES



RICHARD PULLEY

Richard Pulley began violin lessons at the age of five under his father's tuition. Whilst in his final year of school, he was selected to perform a solo at the NSW Public Schools Choral Concerts in the Opera House Concert Hall. In addition, he was awarded the "Armidale Youth of the Year" for his contributions to music in Armidale. That year also saw him gaining his L.Mus.A. with Distinction, and he was awarded an A.M.F. scholarship, which he took up the next year studying with Alice Waten.

In 1988, he played with the Elizabethan Philharmonic Orchestra, went to Europe as part of the Australian Youth Orchestra Grand Bicentennial Tour, and toured the United States as a member of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. In 1989, he was made Concertmaster of the Australian Youth Orchestra for the Russian Masters Series under the baton of Edouard Chivzel, performing in Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney. He made his second overseas tour with the group in early 1992 when the "Camerata of the Australian Youth Orchestra" toured in Indonesia.

Richard was the founding leader of the UNSW Orchestra, and received an Alumni Award from the University for his contributions in that endeavour. He was subsequently the leader of the Sydney Youth Orchestra from 1992-1994. He has appeared with several orchestras in Armidale and Sydney playing concertos by Sibelius, Tchaikowsky, Bruch and Wieniawski.

In 1992, Richard graduated with Honours in Electrical Engineering at UNSW and is currently an engineer with Telstra. He and his wife spend much of their time involved in Christian ministry on the UNSW campus.



DONALD WOOLFORD

Donald Woolford comes from Adelaide, South Australia and since 1983 has occupied the leader's chair at the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra. He received most of his musical education at the Elder Conservatorium University of Adelaide and played in the Conservatorium Senior Orchestra for several years. Toward the end of that time he was leader and assistant conductor of the Burnside Symphony Orchestra and leader of the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of South Australia Orchestra, and occupied both positions for about ten years. Under the direction of Robert Cooper, formerly concertmaster of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, the Burnside Orchestra performed a wide range of music to include Beethoven Symphonies 1 to 8, all of the Brahms and Tchaikovsky symphonies. Musicians from the ASO often supplemented the Burnside Orchestra and some of its players often performed concertos with the Orchestra.

Donald Woolford is a keen enthusiast of the G & S Operas and has indeed led orchestras for most of the operas in amateur productions. He has also made contributions as a Church choir conductor often with small orchestra. In various places he has led orchestras for numerous renditions of sacred choral music to include Handel's "The Messiah".

Formerly a professional engineer with the Postmaster General's Department and Australian Broadcasting Corporation, he is now an acoustic consultant and Visiting Scholar at Boston University Hearing Research Center, Massachusetts, USA, where he is researching hearing among musicians.

THE ORCHESTRA

Musical Director: Solomon Bard

VIOLIN I

Donald Woolford *Concertmaster**
Kian Lim *Acting Concertmaster*
Carol Henson *Acting Deputy Concertmaster*
Basil Bressler
Abelario Hernandez
Beatrice Ip
Hee Kyang Lee
Elizabeth Reddy
Margaret Walsh

VIOLIN II

Dorita Orzaes*
Helen Bailey-Cooke
Antonia Canaris
Wolf Frishling
Peter McCracken
John Oakford
Teresa Rogers
Behram Taleyarkhan
Rohini Thavaravy
Samuel Tov-Lev

VIOLA

Ted Davis*
Effur Harvey
Teriv Brophy
Michael Canaris

CELLO

Haydn Skinner*
Geoff Widmer
Roger Barker
Joy Lukunic
Sarah Moberley

DOUBLE BASS

Svetlana Niconishin*
Mian Lin
Darryl Neve

FLUTE

Prue Page*
Philip Braithwaite
Anthony Winter

OBOE

Margaret Shirley*
Eva Griffith

CLARINET

Rachael Clarke*
Joe Davies

BASSOON

Pat Taylor*
Dawn Nettheim
Alex Thorburn

FRENCH HORN

Terry Dewhurst*
Elizabeth Dalton
Jill Hobbs
Clare Manson

TRUMPET

David Young*
Rodney Whitford

TROMBONE

Lindsay Smart*
Ross Bliim

BASS TROMBONE

Barrey Pickersgill*

TUBA

Russel Watson

TIMPANI AND PERCUSSION

Merrilee McNaught*
Sarah Blackwell
Gareth Hutchens
Gillian Hutchinson

* Denotes Principal
+ Denotes Freelance

STRATHFIELD ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY

PATRON:

Councillor Peter Smith
Mayor of Strathfield

SOCIETY MEMBERS:

Dr N A Andersen

Mr R Bernie

Mrs G Clarke

Mr T Davis*

Dr S Dickinson

Mr D B Dunlop*

Mrs J Dunlop

Miss C Edwards

Mrs M Edwards*

Mr & Mrs G Hawkshaw

Mr J B Linley

Mr B McBurney*

Brother McGlade

Miss P A McPhillamy

Miss P J McPhillamy

Mrs S Mahableshwarwalla*

Mrs J C Moroney

Mr & Mrs P Smith

Mr R Watson

Mrs J Widmer

* Life Member

The Strathfield Symphony Orchestra wishes to thank Christine Edwards for her kind donation of funds for the purchase of music for our library. The music for tonight's Schubert piece was one of our purchases.

We also express our thanks to Mrs Widmer for her ongoing assistance in the preparation of supper. We would like three volunteers to assist on each concert night with the supper. Please give us your name and telephone number if you can help.

Our thanks also to Teresa Rogers for preparing this program.

Get Well Soon

Our get well wishes go to Sheila Myers for a speedy recovery and we look forward to her rejoining the ranks of Violin I.

LAST CONCERT IN 1997

Saturday, 29 November, 8.00pm

Become a member of the Society and save money.

New Playing Members are also welcome.

Rehearsals take place every Monday evening
at 7.45pm in the Strathfield Town Hall.

For further information, please call

Solomon Bard on (02) 9327 3439.