

Saturday, 28 November 1998, at 8.00pm
Strathfield Town Hall



founded by Emily Finn in 1969

SOLOMON BARD
Conductor

DONALD WOOLFORD
Concertmaster

KIAN LIM
Deputy Concertmaster

ALICE GRADON, Horn
Soloist

ORCHESTRA PATRON
Councillor Laurel O'Toole, Mayor of Strathfield

PROFILES

ALICE GRADON

Alice Gradon plays principal horn with the SBS Radio and Television Youth Orchestra, and also performs with the Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra. She has toured extensively with both orchestras including visits to Italy, Germany and China. She has taken part in the Sydney Symphony Orchestra's Sinfonia programme and the Australian Academy of Music programmes.

She is currently studying with Geoffrey Collinson, principal horn player with the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra. Her future plans are to study for her Masters Degree in Switzerland.

SOLOMON BARD

Solomon Bard's musical education began in North China where, at the age of ten, he commenced violin studies. From the age of fifteen, Solomon played regularly with the Harbin Symphony Orchestra and conducted at the music Academy where he was studying.

Setting aside music as a career, Solomon pursued medicine, graduating as a medical doctor in 1939. But after World War II he became the conductor of the newly-formed Sino-British Orchestra (later the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra). He relinquished his post in 1953 to become the concertmaster and deputy conductor, a post he held until 1976. In 1969, he was guest conductor with the National Philharmonic Orchestra of the Philippines.

Solomon's long-standing interest in Chinese music and Chinese instruments was rewarded by appointment in 1983 as conductor to the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, with which he toured Australia, Japan, Korea and China. He moved to Australia in 1993 and was appointed conductor of the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra in December 1994.

PROGRAM

Three English Tunes for Wind Arr. D. Pedley
Hope the Hermit; The Three Ravens;
The Twelve Days of Christmas

Horn Concerto No 3 in E Flat Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Allegro; Romanzo; Allegro (1756-1791)

Soloist: Alice Gradon

Hebraic Overture Tov Lev/Nettheim
(1935-)

Conductor: Samuel Tov-Lev

Interval

Symphony No 9 Antonin Dvorák
(From the New World) (1841-1904)
Adagio - Allegro molto;
Largo; Scherzo, molto vivace;
Finale (allegro con fuoco)




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




PROGRAM NOTES

An arrangement by Pedley for wind instruments of three known English tunes, namely *Hope, the Hermit; The Three Ravens; The Twelve Days of Christmas*.



Mozart's horn concertos are generally briefer than other instrumental concertos, probably because the French horn was fairly restricted in scope at that time. It was not until the 19th Century that a valve mechanism was applied to horns (and trumpets) which enabled them to play every note within their normal range. It is a tribute to both Mozart's genius and the horn player's virtuosity that the listener is never aware of any technical restrictions.


The three movements of this concerto, which uses a small orchestra, are all essentially cheerful and optimistic. The two outer movements contain most of the display passages, the slower and entirely captivating middle movement providing just the right reflective foil.




The musical career of Rabbi Dr Samuel Tov-Lev spans over many years. Though he started to learn the violin quite late (at 14), his ambition lead him more towards conducting. During his University studies, he played violin with the Hebrew University Orchestra in Jerusalem. Years later in New Zealand with the Auckland Symphony, he was guest conductor. He also trained as a Cantor in Paris as part of his religious ministry, training choirs to accompany him during the Jewish religious services. He is currently a member of the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra.

Samuel has already composed a good number of Hebrew songs, some with his own lyrics. He is inspired by biblical verses for his songs. He performed six songs (the Shalom = Peace - Series) on the SBS Hebrew programme.

The *Hebraic Overture* is based on two of his melodies; firstly from one of his Shalom Songs Series, and secondly, his composition to Adon Olam (Master of the Universe), a poem often used in the Jewish Prayer Book. The *Hebraic Overture* was arranged by Dawn Nettheim (a past member of the Strathfield Symphony) with the idea to be performed as a world premier with the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra.



There were many people who were of the opinion that the title of Dvorak's "*From the New World*" meant that it was an "American" symphony. The title means nothing other than "impressions and greetings from the New World". The solemn opening bars of the symphony are followed by a lively series of wonderful melodic ideas (*Adagio - Allegro molto*). The incomparably beautiful theme of the second movement (*Largo*), which many have assumed to be a real negro spiritual, is presented by the cor anglais. In the robustly spirited third movement (*Scherzo, molto vivace*) strings alternate with woodwind and a lively theme with one of graceful beauty. The energetic *Finale (Allegro con fuoco)* presents heroic and dance-like sounds, coloured with a melancholy tint of homesickness; themes from the other movements round off the symphony impressively.




ORCHESTRA MANAGER - Margaret Shirley

STAGE MANAGER - Russel Watson

LIBRARIAN - Jill Hobbs

LIBRARY ASSISTANT - Beatrice Ip



Program notes supplied by:

Collins Encyclopedia of Music, Sir Jack Westrup and F. L. Harrison, revised by Conrad Wilson, 1964 (Chancellor Press, London)
The Classical Collection, 1993 (Orbis Publishing Ltd)

The Reader's Digest "Favourites from the Classics", 1991, (Reader's Digest (Australia) Pty Limited)

THE ORCHESTRA

In the 1960's, Miss Emily Finn, a well-known teacher in Strathfield, saw the need for an amateur orchestra in the area. She refused to listen to doubters, and with the assistance of Strathfield Council, The Strathfield Symphony Orchestra was formed in 1969, the first performance under the baton of high school teacher, Richard Gill, being performed on 28 June 1969.

Over the years many talented young musicians were given the opportunity to play with the Orchestra, some of them for the first time. The youngest was 9 year old violinist Kim Marshall. Others who are today well-known artists include Jane Rutter (flautist); Simon Tedeschi (piano); Kathryn Lambert (piano); Natalie Chee (violin); William Chen (piano); and Marilyn Meier (piano).

The Orchestra is now in its 29th year of music making in the Strathfield area, an achievement for any amateur orchestra. It keeps going because of the support from Strathfield Council, a grant from the Ministry for the Arts NSW, and its many subscribers and players.

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BARON


BARONESS

THE ORCHESTRA MEMBERS

VIOLIN I

Donald Woolford *Concertmaster**
Kian Lim *Deputy Concertmaster*
Maria Goumus *Assistant Concertmaster*
Carol Henson
Belisario Hernandez
Beatrice Iacono
Beatrice Ip
Lisa Lebedev
Behram Taleyarkhan
Samuel Tov-Lev
Margaret Walsh
Annabelle Williams

VIOLIN II

Dorita Orzaes*
Helen Bailey-Cooke
Antonia Canaris
Chris Elenor
Volf Frishling
Chris Kotsaris
Peter McCracken
Sheila Myers
Teresa Rogers
Margaret Simpson
Rohini Thavaravy
Rex White

VIOLA

Ted Davis*
Fflur Harvey
Michael Canaris
Airee Kim+
Louisa Brand+

CELLO

Haydn Skinner*
Elizabeth Goss
Roger Barker
Bill Dankbear
Iris Hooper
Joy Lukunic
Geoff Widmer

DOUBLE BASS

Darryl Neve *Acting Principal*
Nick Lebedev
Elizabeth Harre+

FLUTE

Prue Page*
Sue-Ellen Monaghan

OBOE

Margaret Shirley*
Eva Griffith

COR ANGLAIS

Margaret Shirley*

CLARINET

Rachael Clarke*
Joe Davies

BASSOON

Pat Taylor*
Allanah Gould *Acting Principal*
Alex Thorburn

FRENCH HORN

Terry Dewhurst*
Elizabeth Dalton
Jill Hobbs
Marianne Mulcahy

TRUMPET

David Young*
John Clarke

TROMBONE

Lindsay Smartt*
Ross Bliim

BASS TROMBONE

Brian Sedgwick*

TUBA

Russel Watson

TIMPANI AND PERCUSSION

Merrilee McNaught*
Renee Longworth

* Denotes Principal
+ Denotes Freelance

STRATHFIELD ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY

PATRON:

Councillor Laurel O'Toole
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 R A Knight

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 I G Nicol

Mr & Mrs P Smith

Mr R Watson

Mrs J Widmer

* Life Member

We require three volunteers to assist on each concert night with the supper.
Please give us your name and telephone number if you can assist. Thank you.
We wish to thank Teresa Rogers for preparing this program.

FUTURE CONCERTS IN 1999

Saturday, 24 April 1999, at 8.00pm

Sunday, 27 June 1999, at 2.30pm

Saturday, 4 September 1999 at 8.00pm

Saturday, 27 November 1999 at 8.00pm

Become a member of the Society and save money.

New Playing Members are 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.