



STRATHFIELD
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

founded by Emily Finn In 1969

A concert for children

Sunday, 22nd June 2003, 2.30pm
Strathfield Town Hall

SOLOMON BARD

Conductor

PAUL POKORNY

Concertmaster

KENNY MIZUSHIMA

Soloist

PROGRAMME

CHILDREN'S OVERTURE

ROGER QUILTER
(1877 - 1953)

ADVENTURES OF SEBASTIAN THE FOX

GEORGE DREYFUS
(1928 -)

Sebastian's Theme Song
The Doll's House
Playtime
The Potter's Wheel
The Pieman
The Jinker Ride
Lullaby
The Chase

Narrator : Laura Murray

TOY SYMPHONY

LEOPOLD MOZART
(1719 - 1787)

Allegro
Minuetto
Finale

The Toy Instruments:

Trumpet - Hugh Brigden
Drum - Marianna Brigden
Coo-coo - Natalie Jastrerib
Nightingale - David Bard
Rattles - Vicky Ruhlade,
Jonathan Bard
Triangle - Therese Pokorny
Quail pipe - Bronia Kennedy

INTERVAL

PEER GYNT SUITE No 1

EDWARD GRIEG
(1843 - 1907)

CELLO CONCERTO IN A MINOR

ROBERT SCHUMANN
(1810 - 1856)

Nich zu schnell
Langsam-Etwas lebhafter-Schneller
Sehr lebhaft

Soloist: Kenny Mizushima

**The Strathfield Symphony Orchestra acknowledges with thanks
the assistance of the Strathfield Municipal Council.**



PROGRAMME NOTES

Children's Overture *Roger Quilter*

Roger Quilter was the third of five sons in a large family. His mother encouraged his artistic inclinations and in 1892 he began at Eton College where, though the emphasis was upon sporting achievement, he was allowed to pursue his musical studies. After Eton, he moved to Frankfurt to continue his studies in composition. His music was superbly crafted and has an iridescent quality. A wistfulness tends to pervade all Quilter's music: it is a very English sound that we tend to associate with the Edwardian period, but perhaps it stems too from Quilter's own personality. His reputation in England rests largely on his songs and on his light music for orchestra, such as his *Children's Overture*, with its interwoven nursery rhyme tunes.

Adventures of Sebastian the Fox *George Dreyfus*

George Dreyfus was born in Germany and migrated to Australia with his brother and parents in 1939. After formal education at Melbourne High School, he commenced his professional musical career as a bassoon player with the orchestra of Her Majesty's Theatre playing opera, ballet and musical comedy. In 1953 he joined the ABC's Melbourne Symphony Orchestra which he left in 1965 to become a freelance composer, supporting himself by writing film music scores and maintaining a lively public profile. *The Adventures of Sebastian the Fox*, written for the ABC children's television series, was inspired by a whimsical text about a cunning little fox and his adventures in the human world.

Toy Symphony *Leopold Mozart*

Leopold Mozart is probably best known as the father of the very famous composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. However, he was also a composer, violinist and music teacher. Besides playing the violin, Mozart taught violin and keyboards and became a court composer, then deputy Kapellmeister (leader of all royal court and chapel music). His many compositions include operas, oratorios, and music for voice, violin, keyboard, and chamber groups. He also had 18 symphonies published. Two compositions attributed to him *Musical Sleigh Ride* and *Toy Symphony* are some of the most frequently heard listening selections in children's music classes today. They include many unusual features for classical music, such as "ear-catching" sound effects, sleigh bells and bird calls. The *Toy Symphony* utilises toy instruments including a toy trumpet, toy drum, quail, nightingale, triangle and rattle.

PROGRAMME NOTES

Peer Gynt Suite No 1 **Edward Greig**

In the theme *Morning* in Peer Gynt's Suite No. 1, Peer is watching the sun rise over the Sahara Desert, although the lovely flute melody, with its trills suggesting bird song, is probably more descriptive of a Norwegian dawn than an African one. The oboe soon takes up the tune and the two instruments alternate, before the full orchestra, dominated by the strings, takes command. The appearance of the sun is heralded by swelling, wave-like music, suggestive of sunlight dancing over water. A more tranquil mood is then introduced which reflects the sun's rays spreading gently over the land.

Ase's Death is a touching lament, as Peer watches his aged mother die. A simple, mournful melody is introduced, but its mournful mood is relieved for a moment as the music becomes stronger. Then, as Ase's strength ebbs away, it slowly fades into silence, marking the end.

In *Anitra's Dance*, Anitra, an Arab girl, sets out to seduce Peer with a captivating dance. As she sways gracefully before the fascinated guest, Peer's response to her exotic charms is firmly stated by the cellos. In a little flutter at the end, she skips away, inviting him to follow her – which, of course, he does.

Cello Concerto **Robert Schumann**

Schumann's *Cello Concerto* was a remarkable pioneer work; one of the first to link all the movements and so play continuously. The relatively light orchestration always allows the tone of the solo cello to shine through. The first movement opens with three woodwind chords, before the soloist enters with a long and lyrical theme. An orchestral passage leads to a second theme, closely related to the first, again given to the soloist but pointed up by delicate little woodwind phrases. The two themes are developed and the mood gradually becomes more animated, until another more extended orchestral passage carries the music straight into the second movement, a slow, beautifully reflective melody, during which the soloist is joined briefly by a solo cello in the orchestra – another notable, innovative touch.

A passing reference back to the main theme of the first movement prepares the way for the robust, four-square tune that dominates the last section. This movement is marked by tricky double-stopping (playing two notes at once) for the soloist, and by a cadenza or solo passage which is accompanied by the orchestra – yet one more highly original stroke. At the end of the cadenza Schumann briskly brings his concerto to a close.

Programme notes supplied by:

The Classical Collection, 1993 (Orbis Publishing Ltd)

The Reader's Digest "Favourites from the Classics" (Reader's Digest Australia Pty Ltd)

Reader's Digest Services Pty Ltd

PROFILES

KENNY MIZUSHIMA, CELLO



Sixteen year old Kenny began his cello lessons at the age of two and a half with Takao Mizushima, his father. He has appeared as a soloist on many occasions since he was five. Kenny has toured Japan, the Philippines, Italy, England and Singapore to perform both as a soloist and as an ensemble musician. In 1997 he won the cello section of the Inaugural Young Instrumentalist Competition, and in the 1998 Nagano Winter Olympic year, he represented Australia, performing in a very select group of young Suzuki musicians.

Kenny's debut as a soloist with a full orchestra was at the Adelaide Town Hall when he was 12 years old. Since then he has performed concertos with orchestras nationally and internationally, including performances with the Korean Symphony Orchestra in 2001. In 2002, Kenny began studying with Zoltan Szabo, the principal cellist of the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra. In the same year he won the senior section of the Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra Secondary School Concerto Competition, the Open Age String section at the Ryde eisteddfod as well as the City of Sydney McDonald Challenge. This year Kenny won the String Concerto section, Championship for his age category and Senior Baroque String section at the Warringah Eisteddfod. He is scheduled to give a live recital for the 2MBS FM Young Performer's Award later this year.

Kenny was awarded scholarships from several of Sydney's prestigious schools, and he is currently attending St Andrew's Cathedral School as a music scholar.

LAURA MURRAY, NARRATOR



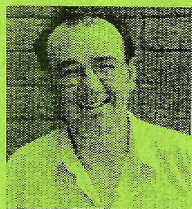
Laura Murray has been performing & writing for the theatre since the age of nine. She trained with the University of Western Sydney Nepean & has a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, Theory & Practice, majoring in television & film production & a Diploma of Education in Speech, Drama & English, with the Trinity College of London. For the past six years, she has been a multi-skilled contributor, within the Australian film & television industry, as an event coordinator, casting agent & producer for projects such as *The Matrix*, *Mission Impossible*, *Babe - Pig in the City*, *Holy Smoke* & *Star Wars Attack of the Clones*.

She currently works as a freelance producer with a variety of Sydney's production houses & advertising agencies, with most recent work for the NSW Nurse's campaign, "The Real Thing" & programming for TWI London.

She lives with her fiance & kitten in Sydney's inner-city & is presently planning her biggest production of all, her wedding day for October 2003!

PROFILES

PAUL POKORNY, CONCERTMASTER



Paul Pokorny has joined the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra as concertmaster for 2003, on leave from the Ku-ring-gai Philharmonic Orchestra, where he has been co-concertmaster now for many years. An experienced freelance violinist, with extensive orchestral and chamber experience, Paul also plays occasionally with a number of other orchestras, including the Bourbaki Ensemble and the Garrison Ensemble, having also played in the former Northern Chamber Orchestra and the Hunter Orchestra. He has been concertmaster of the Encore

Kammerorchester, the Lane Cove Symphony and the Warringah Symphony Orchestras. Paul has also led many orchestras in musical theatre, playing for such musical societies as Chatswood, Warringah, Lyric Theatre, Forestville and Rockdale. Paul is also the first violinist with the Opus 4 String Quartet.

SOLOMON BARD, CONDUCTOR



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.

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 32nd year of music making in the Strathfield area, an achievement for any amateur orchestra. It keeps going because of the support from Strathfield Council and its many subscribers and players.

ORCHESTRA MEMBERS

Violin I

Paul Pokorny*
Volf Frishling
Carol Henson
Belisario Hernandez
Marie Hodsdon
Beatrice Ip
Laura Jamieson
Lisa Lebedev
Vincent Leonard
Samuel Tov-Lev

Violin II

Dorita Orzaes*
Judith Baker
Stella Kim
Danny Malouf
Ashley Patfield
Clare Ryan
Margret Simpson
Joseph Singles
Rohini Thavaravy
Behram Taleyarkhan

Viola

Fflur Harvey*
Ted Davis
Chris Elenor

Cello

Haydn Skinner*
Roger Barker
Rowena Cseh
Gina Kim
Geoff Widmer
Joe Whitcombe

Double bass

Manfred Schoen*
Nick Lebedev

Flute

Prue Page*
Bruce Lane

Piccolo

Bruce Lane

Oboe

Merryn Horrocks*
Margaret Shirley

Cor Anglais

Margaret Shirley

Clarinet

Mami Iwashita*
Joe Davies

Bassoon

Greg Taylor*
Alex Thorburn

French horn

Terry Dewhurst*
Ron Clarke
Peter Hogg
Graham Robards

Trumpet

David Young*
Malcolm Boyd
Daryl Taylor

Trombone

Ross Bliim*
Lindsay Smartt

Bass trombone

Brian Sedgwick

Timpani and percussion

Merrilee McNaught*
Jocelyn Fegent
Sophie Spencer
Ellena Trees

Harp

Helen Boyd+

Toy instruments

Hugh Brigden
(Trumpet)
Marianna Brigden
(Drum)
Natalie Jastrerib
(Coo-coo)
David Bard
(Nightingale)
Vicky Ruhliadev;
Jonathan Bard
(Rattles)
Therese Pokorny
(Triangle)
Bronia Kennedy
(Quail Pipe)

* Denotes Principal
+ Denotes Freelance

ORCHESTRA MEMBERS

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* Life Member

We wish to thank Teresa Rogers for preparing this programme.



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