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13/7/97

Dear Eva Griffith ,

Christine has told me that you would like some notes on my "LYRIC", to be performed by the Strathfield S.O. I can't remember in what year it was last played by them, and for which I substituted the piano for the harp part. As I see a harpist is now available (or was, at the last concert), I sincerely hope that this will be the case again, for the harp part is very much a feature of the work's lyrical character.

I offer, now, some lines that I am quoting from my autobiography ("Complete Accord):-

" (In 1933, my Adelaide friends,) Dr. and Mrs Matison took me to "As You Like It" on an idyllic evening in Regent's Park. The grass smelt sweet, a daisy chain hung over a seat in front of me (I have it still in the cover of my book on Rimsky-Korsakov), the sky during the long dusk was dappled with small clouds like the crackle glazing inside a Ming bowl. On the way home, the idea for an orchestral LYRIC came to my mind and I wrote down a few lines in short score. For some reason I left this undeveloped until my last term^{*} in 1935 " - in which, with the help of Gordon Jacob, "it gave promise of sprouting again. Along with a few other works scored for small orchestra it was performed by Eric Fogg at the BBC after I had left England ".

There is a recording of the LYRIC by the Queensland S.O. conducted by Rudolf Pekarek.

Sincerely,

Miriam Hyde

* at the Royal College



You might care to mention that on May 21, I gave a recital of my own works at the Royal College, in London, some 62 years after I last played a note there.

Another highlight for me this year has been the launch of a double CD of some of my chamber works, by Walsingham Classics.