#### Across the Channel – 31 March 2012

## Mesdames et Messieurs,

A very warm welcome to our Spring Concert, which brings together music from our own shores and that from across the Channel. This term the Orchestra has been rehearsing under the baton of our Guest Conductor, Oliver-John Ruthven and it gives me great pleasure to introduce him to you this evening.

We will set our continental flavour with Chabrier's musical postcard, *España Rhapsody*, then allow you some time to ponder and reflect as Amanda plays the *Meditation* from Act 2 of Massenet's opera, *Thais*. Our French theme continues with three movements from Fauré's *Dolly Suite*: *Berceuse*, familiar to many as the theme tune for 'Listen with Mother' is a gentle, lilting lullaby; *Kitty-Valse*, rather than being feline in nature, as the title suggests, portrays the antics of a canine (Ketty); and the Suite concludes with Fauré's depiction of Spain in *Les Pas Espagnol*. Like the previous music of Fauré, Satie's *Gymnopédies* were originally written for piano. They evoke a melancholic mood with the use of dissonance and harmony, while *Gnossienne* weaves an hypnotic thread throughout. Our taste of France reaches a conclusion in the south of the country with Bizet's incidental music to *L'Arlésienne*.

The essence of English music pervades after the interval as we *March* with Malcolm Arnold; and feel the warmth of Spring sunshine through the elegant and charming melodies of Eric Coates. Take a moment to remember our time in France with Elgar's beautiful *Chanson de Matin* before joining Delius' fateful lovers Sali and Vreli as they walk to a local inn (*The Paradise Garden*) to dance the night away. Our dance theme continues as an imp, who was far too proud to become one of the crowd, accepts exile with nonchalance and capers alone to this quaint little dance. As Big Ben chimes, take your partners for the *Westminster Waltz* before settling down again for a tour around England with the Vaughan Williams *Folk Song Suite*.

We do hope that you enjoy our musical soirée.

Bonsoir,

Barbara Sykes, Chair

#### **1st Violins**

Amanda Lake
Nicky Farnworth
Jinny Gribble
Rachel Haver
Carole Kaldor
Albert Phang
Janet Shelley
Lvnne Thomson

#### 2nd Violins

Lesley Lemon
John Beckett
Polly Dickinson
Sue Gillis
Michael McConnell
Paul Richards

## **Violas**

Ed Shelton Gareth Hamill Tracey Milne Miku Pancoast

#### **Cellos**

Lynda Trice Margaret Houston Martin Heath Sarah Higgs Clive Jackson

## **Double Basses**

Lorraine Collins Michael Atkinson

## Flutes/Piccolo

Elaine Herbert Barbara Sykes

## **Oboes/Cor Anglais**

Barry Collisson Katy Warren

#### **Clarinets**

Andrew Norris Joanna Wood

#### **Bassoons**

Paula Burton Karen Carter

#### **French Horns**

Peter Kaldor Sally Myles Mary-Beth Sherwood

## **Trumpets**

Frank Burgum Vicky Turnbull

#### **Trombones**

Keith Maxwell Ian Stewart Len Tyler

## **Percussion**

Katie Tyler

#### Harp

Tamsin Jolly

## The Pelly Concert Orchestra Committe 2011-2012

Chairman – Barbara Sykes (Flute) Vice-Chair – Karen Carter (Bassoon)

Secretary – Lynda Trice (Cello)

Treasurer – Clive Jackson (Cello)

Personnel - Barry Collison (Oboe)

Patrons Secretary – Sue Gillis (Violin)
Programme/Website – Jo Wood (Clarinet)

Musical Director - Christopher Braime

Leader – Amanda Lake

Programme Editor: Jo Wood

**Programme Cover Design: Alistair Richards** 

## Across the Channel - 31 March 2012

España Rhapsody Emmanuel Chabrier

Meditation from Thais

Soloist: Amanda Lake

Arr. George Pollen

Dolly Suite Gabriel Fauré

Berceuse Kitty-Valse Le Pas Espagnol

Gymnopédies Eric Satie

No.1 No. 2

Gnossienne Eric Satie

L'Arlésienne Suite No. 2 Georges Bizet

Pastorale Intermezzo Menuet Farandole

## ~~ Interval & Refreshments ~~

## Across the Channel - 31 March 2012

March from Little Suite No. 1 Malcolm Arnold

Springtime Suite Eric Coates

Fresh Morning (Pastorale)
Noonday Song (Romance)
Dance in the Twilight (Valse)

Chanson de Matin Edward Elgar

Walk to the Paradise Garden Frederick Delius

Dance of an Ostracised Imp Frederic Curzon

Arr. George Pollen

The Westminster Waltz Robert Farnon

Suite "English Folk Songs" Ralph Vaughan Williams

March – Seventeen Come Sunday Intermezzo – My Bonny Boy March – Folk Songs from Somerset



**España Rhapsody - Emmanuel Chabrier** 

(1841-94) One characteristic of French composers is their fascination with Spain – this can be seen in the music of Bizet, Debussy, Chabrier, Lalo, Ibert and Ravel and even the Dolly Suite later in the programme has a Spanish influenced movement. España Rhapsody is one of Chabrier's most famous works and was first performed in the early 1880s around the time when he gave up his government administrative post to take up composition full-time. He had visited Spain with his family and was

enchanted by the vibrancy of Spanish dances. Originally written for piano, Chabrier soon orchestrated it to very good effect. It is written in traditional sonata form and has two main contrasting themes based on the tempestuous Spanish jota and the slower lyrical malagueña.



## Dolly Suite - Gabriel Fauré (1845-

**1924)** This suite was originally composed as a collection of piano duets based on childhood experiences. It was written between 1894 and 1896 and orchestrated by Henri Rabaud about 20 years later. We will be playing three movements: the first movement is a lullaby; the Kitty-Valse was inspired by a small dog; and the final movement, like España Rhapsody, was inspired by the Latin rhythms of Spain.

L'Arlésienne Suite No. 2 – Georges Bizet

(1838-75) This began life as incidental music to a play by Alphonse Daudet. Bizet took inspiration from folk music and although the play itself was not a critical success, the incidental music has remained popular in the form of two orchestral suites. Bizet wrote the first suite himself and it features all the main themes. The second suite, which we are playing tonight, was written four years after Bizet died, by Ernest Guiraud using Bizet's original themes. It is, however, generally credited to Bizet. It begins with the Pastorale which sets the early morning scene for Act 2; the Intermezzo is based on a Provençal folk song; the Minuet comes from a Bizet opera written 10 years earlier (not from



the incidental music at all!) and the brilliant Farandole is a dance from Act 3.



# Walk to the Paradise Garden – Frederick Delius (1862–1934)

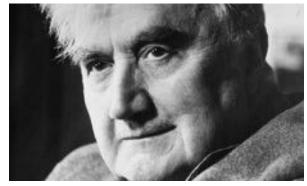
The pastoral style of this intense and rather passionate music seems typically English. So it may be surprising to learn that Delius was born to German parents (in Bradford) and spent much of his adult life in France! The Walk to the Paradise Garden was written as an interlude for the opera: A Village Romeo and Juliet. It describes the moment when two lovers realise that their situation is hopeless and they chose to die together. It was arranged by Sir Thomas

Beecham, who loved the music of Delius, and its rhapsodic and idyllic tone was inspired by Wagner's Tristan and Isolde with its passionate love-death wish.



Dance of an Ostracised Imp – Frederic Curzon (1899–1973) Fred Curzon was a fine composer of British light music and for many years was head of the light music department of Boosey & Hawkes where he encouraged many younger composers. He was very involved in London Theatre and in 1938 he moved to radio. Dance of an Ostracised Imp was composed in 1940.

Suite "English Folk Songs" – Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Vaughan Williams spent much of his life collecting English folk songs and these are evident in this wonderful suite. He found great inspiration in the study of folk music together with the work of early English composers like Purcell and he was able to use the modal harmonies and striking



rhythms found in songs from Norfolk and Somerset to develop his own completely individual style. He wrote the suite for wind band in 1923 and had it arranged by Gordon Jacob for full orchestra in 1924.

## **Amanda Lake: Leader**

After begging her parents for eighteen months, Amanda Lake began learning the violin with Patricia Calnan, at the age of four. Having studied with Marius Bedeschi for eight years, she graduated from the Royal College of Music with a First in 2007, where she was a scholarship student of Dona Lee Croft. She has since undertaken further studies with Levon Chilingirian and Bela Katona.

Amanda has appeared as a soloist with orchestras including the New Mozart Orchestra (Vivaldi Spring), Camden Chamber Orchestra (Prokofiev Violin Concerto No 2, Sibelius Violin Concerto), and the Dal Segno Orchestra (Bach Concerto for Two Violins with Gonzalo Accosta). She led the Amadeus Orchestra on tour to China in 2009-2010, where she performed Vaughan Williams' The Lark Ascending. As a member of the Alea



Quartet, Amanda performed at the Purcell Room as part of the Park Lane Group's Maxwell Davies Quartet Cycle in 2009. She has undertaken freelance work with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, the Gulbenkian Orchestra, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and City of London Sinfonia. She has recently been accepted on to the London Philharmonic Orchestra's Foyle Future Firsts scheme.

## Oliver-John Ruthven: Guest Conductor



Oliver-John began his music career as a chorister in Westminster Abbey where he sang on many occasions including the Funeral of Princess Diana. Since graduating from Manchester University with a First Class degree in Music in 2006 he has been establishing his career as a conductor and director of music in the fields of opera, ballet, musical theatre, orchestral and choral music.

He is currently Music Director of the Hampstead Garden Opera Company, Harpsichordist and Co-director for Musica Poetica London and sings tenor in the Monteverdi Choir. He recently completed a year as keyboards apprentice to the Monteverdi Choir under Sir John Eliot Gardiner and

has performed at the Proms and across Europe as a member of the English Baroque Soloists. He is also busy as a freelance tenor, regularly singing for Philharmonia Voices and as a tenor deputy for Stile Antico.

## **Patrons & Friends**

We are very grateful to all our patrons and friends who help to support the orchestra:

#### **Patrons:**

Mr J and Mrs Allan Mr P and Mrs Ashford

Mr K Baker

Mr J and Mrs Cowley Mr M and Mrs Cox

Miss G Daley

Mr C and Mrs Emmins

Mr P Haver

Mr R and Mrs Hicks Miss D Houghton Mrs L Jackson

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Mr G and Mrs Pollen - life members

Mr D and Mrs Powell

Mrs G Rose

Mr D Shepperson and Mrs L Taylor

Mr P and Mrs Smith

Mrs B Thomas

Mr EJ and Mrs Wacey Mr B and Mrs Young

Friends: Mr M and Mrs O'Dell

The Orchestra's Patron Scheme has been expanded and with effect from September 2011, we will be offering a two-tier system as detailed below.

Patron: for a minimum of £40 per annum a Patron will be entitled to:

- Advance notice of forthcoming concerts
- A champagne reception before the first concert of the season
- A ticket for each of the four scheduled concerts in the season with a reserved seat for the subscriber
- Their name in each programme as a 'Patron' of the orchestra

Friend: for a minimum of £30 per annum a Friend will be entitled to

- Advance notice of forthcoming concerts
- A champagne reception before the first concert of the season
- A ticket for each of the four scheduled concerts in the season (no reserved seat)
- Their name in each programme as a 'Friend' of the orchestra

For more information or to become a Patron or Friend, please contact Sue Gillis (Second Violin) by email on: <a href="mailto:scgillis@hotmail.co.uk">scgillis@hotmail.co.uk</a>.

## **Pelly Concert Orchestra News**



## **Charity Concert**

The Pelly Concert Orchestra are delighted to be supporting Fleet Lions by playing in a Charity Concert at the Church on the Heath, Elvetham Heath, on 5 June 2012.

## Our Next Concert Proms Concert, 14 July 2012, Church on the Heath

Traditional Proms favourites plus a Diamond Jubilee theme including Walton's Crown Imperial March, Coates' Three Elizabeths Suite featured in the 1960s TV epic Forsyte Saga, Handel's Fireworks Music and Olympian surprises. We also look forward to performing Tchaikovsky's Andante Cantabile and Pezzo Capriccio with **Jonathan Ayling**, our guest cello soloist.



## 2012-2013 Concert Dates

3 November 2012 – Church on the Heath, Elvetham Heath 5 January 2013 – Church on the Heath, Elvetham Heath 20 April 2013 – High Cross Church, Camberley 13 July 2013 – Church on the Heath, Elvetham Heath

## **Playday**

The Orchestra and friends spent an enjoyable day playing together at Farnborough Hill on 26 February 2012. The main work we tackled was Rachmaninov's Symphonic Dances. This challenging work was thrilling to rehearse and was a great opportunity to develop our ensemble playing. The sense of achievement we felt when we were able to play through the entire piece at the end of the day was wonderful.

## **Reminder of Change to Ticket Pricing**

Tickets bought in advance:

- Adults £10
- Concessions £8
- Children under 16 £5

Tickets bought on the door:

- Adults £12
- Concessions £10
- Children under 16 £5

## **Farnborough Winds Concert**

Several members of the orchestra are members of Farnborough Winds. This is a vibrant group who play a wide variety of lively chamber music. Details of their next concert:

## Tea and Symphony: An Easter Concert by Farnborough Winds

With choral singers and soloists And home-made refreshments

3pm, Sunday 15 April 2012 The Church of the Ascension, Ayling Hill, Aldershot, GU11 3LL

More information from Alison Blenkinsop 01252 337189

