

Stars of Stage and Screen – 20th April 2013

Welcome!

We hope that our musical visit to theatre land and the world of cinema will be a pleasant stroll down memory lane as well an opportunity to enjoy more contemporary music of this genre.

The stars of our line up tonight are the musical themes and numbers themselves. Music from the stage and screen incorporates countless cherished and popular songs and melodies from many decades.

This evening's oldest selections originate from the 1940s and 50s. *Oklahoma* was first staged back in 1943 and made into the well loved film in 1955 and includes the iconic song *Oh what a beautiful mornin'*. Moving on a couple of years, *West Side Story*, a modern day telling of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, appeared on Broadway in 1957 and in London's West End a year later. It was put on film in 1961. Tonight, *America* and *Maria* are just a few of its memorable highlights. There are several versions of the story of *Gigi* but the best known is the 1958 film with Leslie Caron and Maurice Chevalier. The popularity of duo Simon and Garfunkel increased when their music was included in the soundtrack of the 1967 film *The Graduate*.

We jump forward to the 1970s in order to listen to Hitchcock's *Frenzy* (1972), with its gentle, undulating theme, which belies a rather gruesome movie. 1978 sees John Williams composing the music for *Superman*. Tonight you will hear the Love Theme from this film.

Our star violinist, Amanda, will perform *Spring* as we continue our journey through Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*. In line with tonight's theme there was in fact a film of the same name released in 1981, which uses the music from all four concertos as well his flute concertos.

The cinematic connections of some of our music this evening are not as obvious as others. *Finlandia*, by Sibelius, forms part of the soundtrack from *Die Hard 2* (1990) starring Bruce Willis. The first movement of Vivaldi's *Gloria* was included in Scott Hick's 1996 film *Shine* based on the life story of pianist David Helfgott.

Wicked, which hit Broadway in 2003 and came to London's West End in 2006, tells of the witches, Elpheba and Glinda, before their story is taken up in *The Wizard of Oz*.

Most recently, many of you will have seen the Oscar winning film *Les Misérables*, the story of Victor Hugo's 1862 novel. Several films based on this novel had previously been released but the 2012 version was the first musical, following the structure of the 1980 stage show. Many emotions are evoked throughout the show including the heart-breaking *I Dreamed a Dream*; a comedic episode in *Master of the House*; and the rousing *Do you Hear the People Sing?*

Let's raise the curtain for tonight's show.

Barbara Sykes - Chair

www.pellyorchestra.co.uk

Stars of Stage and Screen – 20th April 2013

TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME

Finlandia, Op. 26	Jean Sibelius
'Oklahoma' Selection	Richard Rodgers
Gloria	Antonio Vivaldi
Selection from 'Gigi'	Frederick Loewe <i>(arr Robert Russell Bennett)</i>
Highlights from 'Wicked'	Stephen Schwartz <i>(arr. Ted Ricketts)</i>
'Spring' (La Primavera) from The Four Seasons	Antonio Vivaldi <i>Allegro - Largo – Allegro</i>

Soloist and Conductor – Amanda Lake

--- Interval ---

Frenzy (film theme)	Ron Goodwin <i>(arr George Pollen)</i>
Superman - Love Theme	John Williams <i>(arr George Pollen)</i>
Selections from 'Les Misérables'	Claude-Michel Schönberg <i>(arr Bob Lowden)</i>
Sounds of Simon and Garfunkel	Paul Simon
Overture to 'West Side Story'	Leonard Bernstein <i>(arr Maurice Peress)</i>



The Four Seasons, Concerto No.1 in E Major, "SPRING"

***Allegro / Largo / Allegro (Pastorale dance)* – Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)**

The Four Seasons (Italian: *Le quattro stagioni*) is a set of four violin concertos composed in 1725. It is Vivaldi's best-known work, and is among the most popular pieces of Baroque music. The texture of each concerto is varied, each resembling its respective season. For example, "Winter" is peppered with silvery pizzicato notes from the high strings, calling to mind icy rain, whereas "Summer"

evokes a thunderstorm in its final movement, which is why the movement is often dubbed "Storm".

The concertos were first published as part of a set of twelve concerti, Vivaldi's Op. 8, entitled *Il cimento dell'armonia e dell'inventione* (The Contest Between Harmony and Invention). The first four concertos were designated *The Four Seasons*. Each one is in three movements, with a slow movement between two faster ones. At the time this work was written the modern solo form of the concerto - typically a solo instrument and accompanying orchestra - had not yet been defined. Vivaldi's original arrangement for solo violin with string quartet and basso continuo helped to define the form.

The four concertos were written to accompany four sonnets. Although it is not known who wrote these sonnets, there is a theory that Vivaldi himself wrote them, given that each sonnet is broken down into three sections, neatly corresponding to a movement in the concerto.

Here, in translation from the original Italian, is the Sonnet for Spring.

Allegro *Springtime is upon us. The birds celebrate her return with festive song, and murmuring streams are softly caressed by the breezes. Thunderstorms, those heralds of Spring, roar, casting their dark mantle over heaven. Then they die away to silence, and the birds take up their charming songs once more.*

Largo *On the flower-strewn meadow, with leafy branches rustling overhead, the goat-herd sleeps, his faithful dog beside him.*

Allegro *Led by the festive sound of rustic bagpipes, nymphs and shepherds lightly dance beneath the brilliant canopy of spring.*

Stars of Stage and Screen – 20th April 2013

Finlandia is a symphonic poem by the Finnish composer Jean Sibelius and the music has entered a decidedly curious selection of films, no doubt from its wide appeal to different groups. It was composed in 1899 and revised in 1900 when it was also arranged for solo piano. The context of the music was in fact a protest against censorship arising from the Russian Empire and in 1941 words to accompany the Finlandia Hymn made it into one of the most important national songs of Finland. Whilst much of the music is quite loud and rousing, the later passage of quietness in the Hymn has been adopted by many different movements, both religious and national. It is a uniquely contemplative and reflective piece of music. Here are two verses from the version which is a firm favourite in Unitarian Universalist Churches:

*My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
This is my song, thou God of all the nations;
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
We would be one as now we join in singing,
Our hymn of love, to pledge ourselves anew.
To that high cause of greater understanding
Of who we are, and what in us is true.
We would be one in living for each other,
to show to all a new community.*

Oklahoma was the first musical of the combined talents of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein. It was based on the 1931 play *Green Grow the Lilacs* by Lynn Riggs. The Broadway production opened in 1943 and ran for well over 2000 performances with a film adaptation in 1955. There have been regular revivals both in New York and London and it is a popular choice for schools. The way in which Rodgers and Hammerstein worked is interesting in that they effectively developed the form of the musical play which had song and dance fully integrated into the story. The musical opens with the famous song *Oh What a Beautiful Morning*.

Wicked (full title: *Wicked: The Untold Story of the Witches of Oz*) is a recent musical which opened on Broadway in 2003 and is currently running at the Apollo theatre in Victoria. The music is by Stephen Schwartz and it is based on the 1995 Gregory Maguire novel *Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West*, a parallel novel of the 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz* and L. Frank Baum's classic story *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. The musical is told from the perspective of the witches of the Land of Oz; its plot begins before and continues after Dorothy's arrival in Oz from Kansas and includes several references to the 1939 film and Baum's novel.

Stars of Stage and Screen – 20th April 2013

The music for Hitchcock's film *Frenzy* was written in 1972 by Ron Goodwin – the only British composer of this concert and whose work includes *633 Squadron*, *Aces High* and *The Trap* - all of which the orchestra has performed in previous concerts. Goodwin is primarily known for his work on film scores, having worked on over 70 in his career. He also has something of a local connection having been a supporter of the Hampshire County Youth Orchestra.

Les Misérables is a musical based on the novel by French playwright Victor Hugo. It has recently found fame from the film version, although the English adaptation opened in 1985 at the Barbican Centre London to bad reviews, but by October 2010, it was celebrating its 25th anniversary with three productions running in London alone. The Broadway show won eight Tony Awards including Best Musical and Best Original Score. The composer Claude-Michel Schönberg (born 1944) is a French record producer, actor, singer, songwriter, and musical theatre composer, best known for his collaborations with lyricist Alain Boublil.

John Williams wrote the music to the 1978 film *Superman*. It was a major coup for Christopher Reeve, as the starring role had originally been offered to Robert Redford! In fact, there was a whole series of Superman films. The *Superman II-IV* sequels were not all orchestrated by John Williams, but his original themes were adopted along with new music.

The music of **Simon and Garfunkel** is special to many people who were growing up in the 1960s and early 1970s. *The Graduate* probably is the most famous film to incorporate their music and while the tune which wryly observes Mrs Robinson's woes is by no means their most accomplished piece, it is listed in the 'top 10' of their most popular songs. *Bridge over Troubled Water* must rank as one of the most moving songs of their repertoire and it has been adopted by numerous other musicians. The medley this evening is a firm favourite amongst the Pelly members.

West Side Story is one of the great American musicals. Originally it was an East Side Story with the rival gangs being Jewish and Catholic; gang warfare was just becoming a commonplace however in New York and after many changes, the setting was of a white gang (the Jets described as Polish American) up against the Sharks (Puerto Rican) to control a neighbourhood. Very loosely based on Romeo and Juliet, one of the Jets (Tony) falls in love with Maria, the sister of Bernardo the leader of the Sharks. There have been numerous productions including in the West End in 1997 and 2008. On October 18, 1961, a film adaptation of the musical was released and became the second highest grossing film of the year in the United States. The film won ten Academy Awards in its eleven nominated categories, including Best Picture, as well as a special award for Robbins.

Stars of Stage and Screen – 20th April 2013

1st Violins

Amanda Lake
Leon Crampin
Jinny Gribble
Rachel Haver
Lynne Thomson
David Wallace
Zami Jalil

2nd Violins

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

Violas

Tony Smith
Tracey Milne
Emily Myles
Gareth Hamill
Sarah Norton

Cellos

Lynda Trice
Sarah Higgs
Margaret Houston
Clive Jackson
Vicky Norwood
Linda Forsyth

Double Basses

James Slade
Michael Atkinson

Flutes/Piccolo

Elaine Herbert
Barbara Sykes

Oboes/Cor Anglais

Barry Collisson
Katy Warren

Clarinets

Andrew Norris
Helen Lister

Bassoons

Paula Burton
Karen Carter

French Horns

Sally Myles
Tim Jones
Roger Sowter

Trumpets

Paul Harris
Michael Chapple

Trombones

Keith Maxwell
Mike Thomson
Len Tyler

Tuba

Daniel Barnes

Percussion

Katie Tyler
Chris King

The Pelly Concert Orchestra Committee 2012 - 2013

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)
Assistant Librarian – Paula Burton
(Bassoon)
Musical Director – Christopher Braime
Leader – Amanda Lake

Stars of Stage and Screen – 20th April 2013

Amanda Lake: Leader and Soloist



Amanda began learning the violin at the age of four. 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 studied with Levon Chilingirian and Bela Katona.

Amanda has appeared extensively as a soloist with orchestras across the country, performing works by Bach, Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Ravel, Prokofiev and Berg. In 2010-11 she led the Amadeus Orchestra on tour to China, appearing as soloist in Vaughan Williams' *The Lark Ascending*.

She is in demand as an orchestral leader and chamber musician. As a former member of the Alea Quartet, Amanda appeared at Aberystwyth MusicFest, Sounds New Festival and the Harnos

Festival, Portugal. In 2009, the quartet performed at the Purcell Room as part of the Park Lane Group's Peter Maxwell Davies quartet cycle. She performed at the 2011 Aldeburgh Festival as part of the Lake/Maryon Davies Duo.

She was invited to lead the RCM Chamber Orchestra under Sir Roger Norrington at "The Power of Mozart" festival, and has guest led the Dmitri Ensemble and the Berkeley Ensemble. She has undertaken freelance work with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, City of London Sinfonia, BBC Concert Orchestra and the Gulbenkian Orchestra, Lisbon.

In her spare time, Amanda also enjoys sailing and swimming in the North Sea.

Tonight Amanda will lead the orchestra's string players as soloist in *Spring* from Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*. She gives us an illuminating insight into how the orchestra plays without a conductor:

In most of the tutti sections (where the whole orchestra plays) I play along with the orchestra, so they are able to follow my movements.

Sometimes you may notice one of the players at the front of the orchestra giving an upbeat with their bow to bring their section in. It is really important that every member of the orchestra takes responsibility to keep the tempo going as it is easy to lose speed without a conductor!

Lynda, our principal cellist, has a particularly important role as she plays the continuo part. This is a bassline that accompanies some of the sections that the soloist plays. We have to listen and watch each other very carefully as these sections are played quite freely.

I hope that you enjoy tonight's performance - listen out for the violas "barking" in the second movement!

Christopher Braime: Conductor and Musical Director



Christopher was born in Beverley in 1983. He was awarded a Foundation Scholarship to study at the Royal College of Music where he studied oboe with John Anderson, Christopher Cowie and David Theodore; and conducting with Neil Thomson and Richard Dickins.

Christopher was the Musical Director of the Imperial College String Ensemble from 2003 - 2007 and now works as assistant conductor for the Kensington Philharmonic Orchestra, the Farnborough Symphony Orchestra, and the Sussex Symphony Orchestra. In 2007 he took up the role of Musical Director of the Pelly Orchestra, and in 2010 Musical Director of the Grosvenor Light Operatic Company. In 2011 Christopher beat significant competition to become Musical Director of the London Gay Symphony Orchestra, and in March 2012 was invited to guest conduct the Redhill Sinfonia.

Forthcoming Concerts

1 June 2013 – Church on the Heath, Elvetham Heath at 7.30pm: Charity Concert

The Pelly Concert Orchestra are delighted to be supporting Fleet Lions with this Charity Concert. Tickets will be sold by W.C.Baker & Sons, "More Than Coffee" and "This 'n That" - all in Fleet. The Fleet Lions contact is Brian Coney, telephone 01252 628695 and email brian.coney@fleetlions.org.uk

13 July 2013 – Church on the Heath, Elvetham Heath at 7.30pm: The Legendary Pelly Proms Night

This is always a hugely popular concert in which the first half delivers serious musical fare in established Pelly fashion. The second half, however, is pure fun, with Union Jack hats and flags to supplement the hooters, clapping and singing that disturb the peace in this quintessentially British institution – The Last Night of the Proms!

More dates for your diary...

Our concerts next season will take place on the following dates:

26 October 2013
21 December 2013
29 March 2014
19 July 2014

Acknowledgements

The Pelly Concert Orchestra would like to thank the following people, who have in their various ways made significant contributions to this evening's concert:

- Martin Burton, Chris Bagust, Mary Grocutt and Linda Tan for helping with front of house
- All those who donated raffle prizes
- Our Patrons and Friends
- Paul Richards for contributing programme notes on the music being played
- Michael McConnell for maintaining the website
- Tonight's soloist: Amanda Lake (Violin)
- Our inspirational Conductor and Musical Director Christopher Braime

Programme Editor: Mike Thomson
Programme Cover Design: Barbara Sykes
Programme printed by: The Printroom Group Ltd, Camberley

Stars of Stage and Screen – 20th April 2013

Patrons

Friends and Patrons Scheme

The Orchestra's Friends and Patrons Scheme offers 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: susancgillis@gmail.com

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

Patrons:

Mr J and Mrs Allan	Mr RW and Mrs Neave
Mr P and Mrs Ashford	Mr K and Mrs Over
Mr K Baker	Mr G and Mrs Pollen - life members
Mr J and Mrs Cowley	Mr D and Mrs Powell
Mr M and Mrs Cox	Mrs D Redman
Miss G Daley	Mrs G Redman
Mr C and Mrs Emmins	Mrs G Rose
Mr P Haver	Mrs L Shepperson
Mr R and Mrs Hicks	Mr J Smedley
Miss D Houghton	Mr P and Mrs Smith
Mrs B Kegel - life member	Mrs B Thomas
Mr L and Mrs Mayhew	Mr EJ and Mrs Wacey
	Mr B and Mrs Young

Friends:

Mrs L Jackson	Miss X Zhang
	Mrs S Nathan

easyfundraising
.org.uk

Raise funds for

The Pelly Concert Orchestra

*"What an easy way to raise funds!
We've raised over £900 so far!"*

Karen Ford, Friends of the Cavendish School



- ▶ Earn cash for us when you shop online
- ▶ Free and simple to use
- ▶ Over 2000 retailers - Amazon, Boden, John Lewis, M&S, Expedia, eBay, Argos & more
- ▶ 100s of exclusive retailer voucher codes - save money when you shop

Check out our website: www.pellyorchestra.co.uk

Toys &
Games

Electronics &
Computing

Sports &
Leisure

Books, CDs
& DVDs

Jewellery &
Gifts

Clothing &
Fashion

Flights &
Holidays

Business
& Office

Home,
Garden
& DIY

Health &
Beauty

Video Games
& Consoles

Insurance