



Around the World with Kingston Phil

BRITISH MUSIC

Programme

Saturday 5 March 2011 7.30pm

KINGSTON PHILHARMONIA

Conductor Levon Parikian

www.kingstonphil.co.uk



KINGSTON PHILHARMONIA

Kingston Parish Church
Saturday 5th March 2011
7.30pm

Conductor – Levon Parikian
Violin – Clare Howick
Leader – Adrian Charlesworth

Sullivan / Mackerras – *Pineapple Poll Overture**

Walton – Violin Concerto*



Interval



Tate – *London Fields*†

Butterworth – *A Shropshire Lad*†

Coates – *London Suite*†

* Led by Adrian Charlesworth

† Led by Clare Howick

LEVON PARIKIAN – CONDUCTOR

Levon Parikian studied conducting with George Hurst and Ilya Musin. Since completing his studies, he has pursued a freelance conducting career, and is much in demand as Guest Conductor with orchestras in Britain. He currently holds Principal Conductor posts with several London-based orchestras, and is Principal



Conductor of the City of Oxford Orchestra and Artistic Director of the Rehearsal Orchestra. He works extensively with students and youth orchestras, including the Royal College of Music Junior Sinfonia, the National Youth Strings Academy, and Royal Holloway University of London, where he also teaches conducting.

Levon lives in South London and his hobbies include making retaliatory hoax calls to call centres, cycling headlong into bendy buses, and wondering why he came upstairs.

CLARE HOWICK – LEADER



Clare Howick has been leader of the KPO since the early 90s when Walter Wurzburger, the orchestra's founder was conductor. Clare has established herself as one of the leading violinists of her generation. Her first CD recording, Cyril Scott: Sonata Lirica and Other Works (on the Dutton Epoch label) was Editor's Choice in Gramophone magazine. Clare has since recorded another two discs, Cyril Scott: Sonatas 1-3 and British Women Composers which were recently released in July and October 2010 on the Naxos

label. She has performed most of the violin concerto repertoire with various orchestras including the Philharmonia Orchestra, and has collaborated as soloist and chamber musician with many outstanding artists including Lynn Harrell, Philip Dukes, Leon Bosch, Sam Haywood and Sophia Rahman. She has broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM as well as worldwide and has also appeared at major festivals in the UK including the Cheltenham International Festival.

Clare combines solo and chamber performances with an orchestral career, appearing as guest leader of many orchestras, including the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra,

BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Ulster Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra, and the Orchestra of English National Opera.

Clare began her musical studies as a Junior Exhibitioner at the Royal College of Music with Dona Lee Croft and subsequently went on to study at the Royal Academy of Music with Maurice Hasson. She has also studied with Anne-Sophie Mutter, Dorothy DeLay and Zahkar Bron.

ADRIAN CHARLESWORTH – LEADER

Adrian, tonight's guest leader in the first half of the concert, took up his first Leader's position aged 8 when the Kingston-upon-Thames Music Director, George Steven, invited him to lead the Kingston-upon-Thames Junior Orchestra.

He is now a freelance violinist currently working with a range of ensembles from the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to chamber groups, operas, musicals, Big Bands, film backing tracks and recently year for the Queen during her 80th Birthday Luncheon. He has also performed The Lark Ascending and Berlioz's Reverie and Caprice under the baton of our conductor, Lev. He also teaches violin at St. George's College, Weybridge and Reigate Grammar School, coaches at various summer schools, is on The Board of The Rehearsal Orchestra and has just been appointed to the Kingston Music and Arts Service.



KINGSTON PHILHARMONIA WEB SITE

Visit the Kingston Philharmonia web site on
www.kingstonphil.org.uk

Here you will find information on future concerts, biographies, orchestral news (including a recent wedding), the history of the orchestra, and more.

There is also an on-line questionnaire, relating to the current concert; we would appreciate it if you were to complete this. It will help us in targeting our publicity, planning future concerts, and ensure that you will receive information on concerts and other orchestral activities.

Click on the **Concert Questionnaire** link towards the bottom-left of the home page.

A CONCERT OF BRITISH MUSIC

You might be excused for wondering whether an evening of British music might arouse the same doubts as an evening of British cooking – it might be edible, but would it be palatable?! A quick glance at this evening’s menu should reassure: a fine selection of starters, mains and deserts awaits you, and you need only sit back and let yourself be served.

Something to sharpen the appetite? How about the sparkling overture from Charles Mackerras’ arrangement of a selection of Arthur Sullivan’s music? This has masses of energy and bounce, and more than a passing resemblance to Smetana’s fine overture to *The Bartered Bride*. It’s the sort of music that puts a smile on your face and gets your taste-buds raring to go!

As for the main course, Walton’s superb violin concerto, written in 1939 for the great American virtuoso Jasha Heifetz, is just the ticket. With its vivid orchestration, rhythmic vitality and bitter-sweet lyricism, this is a showcase of a dish by any standards. And with Heifetz as the dedicatee, Walton knew he could rely on having a player who would relish the pyrotechnics in the solo part. The only pity was that because Heifetz had bought exclusive rights to play the concerto for two years, the work was not heard in Britain till 1941.

Choosing dishes to follow this very distinctive violin concerto could never be easy, but Butterworth’s orchestral rhapsody ‘*A Shropshire Lad*’ (1912) is written in an idiom which we have come to associate with the essence of Britishness – deceptive simplicity; powerful but controlled emotion; more than a hint of open countryside; and reference to folk song. Although written before the Great War, the piece has become associated with the generation which perished on the battlefields. Butterworth himself fought and died (1916) in the battle of the Somme and was awarded a posthumous Military Cross for his bravery and leadership. Somehow this short work encapsulates the pain experienced by his generation and its nostalgia for an earlier, more innocent age. Like an astringent lemon sorbet, it cleanses the musical palate.

‘*London Fields*’ is Phyllis Tate’s culinary contribution. It was commissioned by the BBC for its ‘*Light Music Festival*’ in 1958 – a brave gesture because Tate (born in 1928) had destroyed all her pre-1940 compositions and had acquired a reputation as a musical eccentric. She had taught herself the ukulele and

favoured odd combinations of instruments in her works . That said, this suite of pieces depicting some of London's open spaces is straightforward and reassuringly 'normal'! What could be more natural than musical portraits of Kew, Hampton Court Maze; St James' Park; and Hampstead Heath?

The final dish on the menu is provided by Eric Coates – possibly the most successful of all our composers of 'light music'. His London Suite was composed in the halcyon days of the 30s when the clipped accents and perfect enunciation of BBC announcers conveyed an aura of British bustle and self-belief. Its best-known piece – the 'Knightsbridge March' – became known to millions as the music which introduced the BBC's nightly review of events and personalities in the capital. Coates was also the author of the theme for 'Music While You Work', and 'By the Sleepy Lagoon'- still heard several times a week as the theme music for 'Desert Island Discs'. When Coates died in 1957 Sir Adrian Boult called him 'the master of charm and gentle beauty in music'.

So there you have it – a selection of dishes which would grace any table. If you still want coffee and mints, you'll have to get them yourself!

Jefferey W Cox
23 February 2011

PLAYERS NEEDED

We are always interested in welcoming new players to the orchestra.
String players – violins, violas, cellists and double bassists –
are particularly welcome.

For more information, visit the web page on

www.kingstonphil.org.uk

and click through to the Contact section on

www.kingstonphil.org.uk/pepys.php

RAFFLE

The raffle is an important source of much needed income for the orchestra, so please buy plenty of tickets from the table by the main door. The orchestra acknowledges with thanks all those who have so generously contributed to tonight's raffle, in particular:

Bentalls Wine Department

Kingston

Chessington Garden Centre

Leatherhead Road Chessington

Mrs Dora Ewing

Garsons Farm Shop

West End Esher

Mrs Julie Scotty

Waitrose

Esher

Table arrangement by

Margaret Pattenden

Ardfinnan Crafts,

45 Station Road Thames Ditton

Tel: 020 8398 7659

Additionally, a special thankyou from Hilary Spiers to Maggie Pattenden for her stunning table decorations, and to the members of the audience, who so loyally support the raffle at each concert.

The orchestra would like to acknowledge the support of **Kingston Arts Council**, **Mail Boxes Etc.** and would like to thank **AKP Chartered Accountants** for their support in auditing our accounts. They provide continual encouragement and guidance to the orchestra.



FUTURE CONCERTS

**Kingston Parish Church
Saturday 14th May 2011
7.30pm**

**Lizst — Symphonic Poem: Hamlet
Martinu — Oboe Concerto
Dvorak — Symphony No 6**

**Kingston Parish Church
Saturday 9th July 2011
7.30pm**

Music from Spain and Latin America

Full details available on
www.kingstonphil.org.uk

PLAYERS

1st Violins

Clare Howick (Leader)
Adrian Charlesworth (Leader)
Robert Beattie
Jill Hollingberry
Helmut Jakubowicz
Dorothea Klinge
Sonja Nagle
Mike Parsons
Alan Titherington
Pauline Waghorn

2nd Violins

Chris Smith
Anne Bradley
Heather Lucas-Brown
Robbie Nichols
Maggie Pattenden
Caroline Phillips
Debbie Saunders
Sarah Too

Violas

Dan Hamm
Sheila Cochrane
Jane Park
Susannah Rang

Cellos

Philip Austin
Celia Allaker
Sue Dunne
Corissa Hunt
Catherine Jacobs
Marguerite Pocock
Lydia Smith

Double Bass

Terry Gibbs
Bob McFarland

Harp

Federica Mossone

Flutes

Janina Byrne
Ami Lodge

Oboes

Becci Laker
Vicky Owen

Clarinet

Sheena Balmain
Ros Preston
Quentin Maxwell-Jackson

Bassoons

Jefferey Cox
Liz Boydon

Horns

Andy Osborne
Chrissie Ranson
Lisa Ridgway
Chris Pocock

Trumpets

Jeremy Neep
Rachelle Bradley

Trombones

Alison Henry
Gordon Faultless

Bass Trombone

Adrian Cleverley

Tuba

Hiroaki Kitagawa

Timpani

Chris Kimber

Percussion

Andrew Barnard
Gerard Rundell
Sarah Cresswell
Feargus Brennan