



DULWICH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

NEWSLETTER June '06

Review of our last Concert

As I was not familiar with the three pieces on the program, I came to the concert by the DSO with a real sense of anticipation. I was not disappointed.

I always find Julian's notes useful, but as I listened to the "feast" presented to us my mind took off on its own flight of fancy. The Dvorak variations had all the ingredients of a colourful buffet – so many different tastes and sensations, sweet and delicate, mellow and sharp, with a hint of dry white wine. There was also sparkling conversation and laughter between the various sections of the orchestra.

The Rodrigo guitar concerto was a delight and I was left wanting more. I was surprised at how well the combination of the orchestra, with the solo guitar, managed to convey that special atmosphere of a warm Spanish evening at fiesta time.

I have become increasingly impressed by the standards reached by the DSO. I am not a musician, so I can only sit back and enjoy, and again I was not disappointed.

If the whole concert was a feast, then the Sibelius symphony was the meaty main course. All the grandeur of his homeland is conveyed in his music. The concert was over too soon, but I am always glad to be left wanting more. Thanks once again for a delightful evening to all the members of the orchestra.

Norma Francis

If you have a friend who might be interested in writing a review for one of the DSO concerts please speak to Frances Barrett.

Dates for your diary

17th June – Concert Day

Rehearsal 2.30, Concert 7.45

All Saints, West Dulwich, entrance Lovelace Road, SE21.

As well as the usual concert day jobs 2 Stewards are needed for this concert. Speak to Tim, trumpets, if you know someone who would help us in this way. Of course they would get in free!

20th June – 7.30 rehearsals for ‘Music in the Garden’ (St. Christopher’s Hospice).

2 rooms booked at St. Luke’s, West Norwood - one each for the string and wind ensembles.

25th June – 12 noon, Music in the Garden at Saint Christopher’s Hospice 51-59 Lawrie Park Road, Sydenham, SE26. All players will receive a letter from Frances Barrett with full details. Tickets can still be obtained from Brian Sells for those who just want to come along.

27th June – 7.30 Play Through at Chatsworth Hall. Our chance to play through music that we won’t be performing in a concert.

4th July – 7.30 Philip’s Garden Party in aid of St. Christopher’s Hospice, at 62 Oglander Road, SE15. Tickets £10 – tell Philip (violas) if you intend to come.

12th September – proposed return date. This will be confirmed soon.

24th October – 7.30 Open rehearsal. An opportunity for local people and your friends and family to come along to our rehearsal as part of BBC Radio 3’s “Listen Up” season.

Future concert dates –

November 18th, February 24th, May 12th (part of the Dulwich Festival), July 21st (to be confirmed)

St Christopher’s Hospice

At our March concert the interval collection for St Christopher's raised £85.19. At our June concert there will be enough space at All Saints for two St Christopher’s volunteers to have a stall as well as take the collection.

Scratch Messiah

There were nine of us from the DSO taking part in the Dulwich Festival “Scratch Messiah” on Sunday 14th May, and great fun it was too. I really enjoyed singing for a change!

The church building has been renovated to a very high standard and is now very beautiful and the acoustics and facilities are superb. I’m really looking forward to playing there in our next concert, and glad that the church have accepted bookings for our next few concerts too. I’m sure our audience will agree!

Frances Barrett

Congratulations

Lucy Steel is getting married to Nick on Saturday 12th August at Kings Church, Catford. I’m sure the all the orchestra send their best wishes.

Congratulations to Helen from the firsts, who has had a baby. She was able to slip along to our rehearsal at St Paul’s in March, but unfortunately many of us were too busy playing to see the baby and didn’t even find out what sex it was!

End of Term Performances

Abbi Temple, from the firsts, is going to be playing Polly Peachum in her college production of “The Beggar's Opera” at the Blackheath Halls on: Tuesday 20th June (7.30pm), Thursday 22nd June (7.30pm), Saturday 24th June (Matinee - 2.30pm) It’s set in cockney London in the 18th century, amongst all the pickpockets, gamblers and highwaymen and it’s really funny. On Tuesday 27th June, she will also be performing Mozart’s “Exultate Jubilate” with the Greenwich Baroque Orchestra, at the Old Royal Naval College Chapel in Greenwich, as part of an evening of Mozart followed by a dinner in the Painted Hall. (You can buy tickets for just the concert though.) Tickets are available from:

<http://www.greenwichfoundation.org.uk/Events/Concerts.htm>

Silver Secrets

Paula Tysall and her husband Chris Wyatt (who takes our woodwind sectionals) have set up a silver jewellery business called **Silver Secrets** to go alongside their musical commitments. Paula will be selling her lovely jewellery in our breaks a couple of times a term, with 10% of the sales going to the orchestra.

Silver Secrets also do jewellery parties. Paula can give you more details.

Marketing

Following a very successful training day that Frances attended on behalf of the orchestra at Easter, a marketing sub-group of the committee has been set up. This consists of Frances, Tim and Jeremy. One of the first things decided was to send out a questionnaire to all members of the orchestra during the summer. The committee would be very grateful if each member would take the time to fill this in, as it will help us market the orchestra more effectively. We also need some pictures of the orchestra, so if anyone has a friend who could come to the afternoon rehearsal at All Saints and take photographs please let Frances Barrett know.

Subscriptions next year

Since we are taking part in the Dulwich Festival next season, we will be giving four concerts instead of three. There will be about eight rehearsals for each one, so the Committee has decided to set subscriptions at £40 for each of the four terms (£20 concessionary rate).

Items for the next Newsletter to Frances Barrett by October 18th, please.