

"Summer Symphony"

Percy E. Fletcher 1. The Spirit of Pageantry 2. Invictus - The Unconquered Philip Sparke Paul Reade 3. In a Victorian Kitchen 4. Hollywood Blockbusters James Horner 5. Les Miserables Warren Barker 6. Festive Overture Dmitri Shostakovitch ** INTERVAL ** 7. Russlan and Ludmilla Overture Mikhail Glinka 8. Emerald Breeze Malcolm Binney 9. An Irish Rhapsody Clare Grundman 10. Music from The Incredibles Michael Giacchino 11. Finlandia Johan Sibelius

If you have any comments on tonight's concert or would like to join our mailing list, please complete a feedback form and deposit at the back of the Church.

Our next concert will be on Saturday 27 November 2010 – see www.dacapoconcertband.org.uk or join our mailing list for more details

Programme Notes

The Spirit of Pageantry (1910) Percy E. Fletcher (1879-1932)

Percy Eastman Fletcher took lessons on violin, piano and organ, the former being his most important instrument. Like a number of his composer contemporaries, notably Arthur Wood and Alfred Reynolds, he made his living as a Musical Director in the London theatre world, fulfilling this position successively at the Prince of Wales, Savoy, Daly's, Drury Lane and His Majesty's Theatre. His creative activity was however by no means confined to the theatre. He wrote ballads, a considerable amount for chorus and for organ, a large number of suites for light orchestras, and also marches such as *Spirit of Pageantry*.

<u>Invictus – The Unconquered</u> (2001) *Philip Sparke (b.1951)*

Invictus was commissioned by and for the United States Army Ground Forces Band and was first performed in June 2001 as part of the US Army's annual birthday celebrations. Invictus opens with a robust theme from the brass against a strongly chordal accompaniment. The mood subsides with a gentle flute solo leading into the major part of the work, a sinister march. This leads to a passionate and turbulent passage before a slow, central section is introduced that opens with a reflective theme, including a clarinet solo, and builds to an emotional climax for the whole band. Finally the original tempo reasserts itself with an exciting build to a reintroduction of the march theme, and leads to an emphatic and victorious close.

In a Victorian Kitchen Garden (1994) Paul Reade (1943-1997) arr. Denis Burton

The TV series 'The Victorian Kitchen Garden' went behind the high redbrick walls of Chilton Foliat in Berkshire to follow the restoration of a traditional kitchen garden. Retired head gardener Harry Dodson painstakingly transformed the weed-choked ground into an efficient and productive plot, cultivated with the use of Victorian tools and techniques and planted with 19th century varieties of flowers, fruit and vegetables. The music, by Paul Reade, won the 1991 Ivor Novello award for best TV theme music. It retains a light Victorian and rustic feel through its sympathetic scoring. Paul Reade wrote music for a number of television programmes, including the theme music for the 'Antiques Roadshow'.

Hollywood Blockbusters James Horner (b. 1953), arr. John Moss

James Horner is an American composer, orchestrator and conductor of orchestral and film music. He is noted for the integration of choral and electronic elements in many of his film scores, and for frequent use of Celtic musical elements. Horner began his film scoring career working on B-movies. He made a breakthrough in

1982, when his score for *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan* established him as a mainstream composer. In addition, Horner has scored over 100 films, frequently collaborating with acclaimed directors such as James Cameron and Ron Howard. Other scores he worked on include those of *Braveheart*, *Apollo 13*, *The Mask of Zorro*, *Titanic*, *Enemy at the Gates*, *A Beautiful Mind*, *The Perfect Storm* and *Avatar*. Horner is a two-time Academy Award-winner, and has received a total of 10 Oscar nominations.

John Moss' medley highlights some of his best cinematic moments including: 'Apollo 13',' Somewhere Out There' (from *An American Tail*), 'Bannockburn' (from *Braveheart*), and 'My Heart Will Go On' and 'Southampton' (from *Titanic*).

Les Miserables (1980) Warren Barker (1923-2006)

'Les Miserables' is one of the most famous and most performed musicals worldwide. It is based on the novel of the same name by Victor Hugo, which follows the struggles of a cast of characters as they seek redemption and revolution in nineteenth century France. French composer Claude-Michel Schonberg composed the Tony Award-winning score in 1980. It was staged in London's West End in 1985, with English lyrics by Herbert Kretzmer. In October 2006, the show celebrated its twenty-first anniversary and became the longest-running West End musical in history. The show has since repeated its success on Broadway and in many other countries around the world.

This arrangement by Warren Barker includes the songs 'At The End Of The Day', 'I Dreamed A Dream', 'Master Of The House', 'On My Own', and 'Do You Hear The People Sing'.

Festive Overture (1954) Dmitri Shostakovitch (1906-1975)

The Festive Overture was written by Dmitri Shostakovich for a concert held at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow to commemorate the 37th anniversary of the October Revolution (which took place in 1917). The Bolshoi's conductor found himself without a suitable new work to open the concert, and contacted Shostakovich just days before. The composer set to work on the overture with great speed, completing it in three days. He apparently based it on Glinka's Russlan and Ludmilla overture (1842), and it features the same lively tempo and style of melody. Whilst the style reflects Shostakovich, the piece as a whole uses very conventional classical devices of form and harmony. Some commentators have suggested that the work secretly celebrates the death of Stalin the year before. The overture featured in the 1980 Summer Olympics (Games of the XXII Olympiad) in Moscow.

** Interval **

(Refreshments available at the back of the Church)

Russlan and Ludmilla Overture (1842)

Mikhail Glinka (1804-1857)

Mikhail Ivanovich Glinka was the first Russian composer to gain wide recognition inside his own country, and is often regarded as the father of Russian classical music. Glinka's compositions were an important influence on future Russian composers, who took Glinka's lead and produced a distinctive Russian style of music.

Russlan and Ludmilla is an opera in five acts, based on the 1820 poem of the same name by Alexander Pushkin. Today, the best-known music from the opera is its Overture, which Glinka wrote in the course of a single night as an example in composition to his students.

The story of Russlan and Ludmila tells the story of the magical abduction of Prince Vladimir of Kiev's beautiful daughter, Ludmila, betrothed of Russlan, by the evil sorcerer, Chernomor. Russlan and three knights gallop off in all directions to rescue her. The story is multi-threaded and describes the knights' encounters with witches, wise hermits, sirens, seductresses, magic castles, magic hats and swords, enchanted gardens, precious jewels and bewitched creatures.

Emerald Breeze (1994) Malcolm Binney (?)

Malcolm Binney's professional career began as a freelance violinist with the major London orchestras. His guest appearances include most of the British provincial orchestras, as well as orchestras in Canada, North America, Holland, Italy, and Germany. Malcolm Binney spends several weeks of the year working with young people and his Youth Orchestra training techniques are in much demand throughout Britain and America. Currently, he is Director of Music for the International Summer School of Music at Canford, and is Professor of Conducting at the Royal Marines School of Music.

An Irish Rhapsody (1971) Clare Grundman (1913-1996)

Part of what makes Clare Grundman such an important name in concert band literature is the huge number of compositions he produced. In addition to the scores and arrangements for television, radio, ballet, Broadway musicals, and motion pictures, Grundman composed over 70 pieces for the symphonic wind band. His compositions are often based around folk and popular melodies.

An Irish Rhapsody demonstrates Grundman's mastery of orchestration and exceptional treatment of transitions and pacing. It includes the folk melodies 'The Moreen' (Minstrel Boy), 'I Know Where I'm Going', 'Shepherd's Lamb Reel', 'Cockels and Mussels', 'The Rakes of Mallow', and 'Kathleen O'More'.

Music from The Incredibles (2004) Michael Giacchino (b. 1967)

Michael Giacchino is an Italian American composer who has composed scores for films, television and video games. Some of his most notable works include the scores to television series such as *Lost* and *Alias*, and films such as *Mission: Impossible III*, *The Incredibles, Star Trek, Ratatouille*, and *Up*. Giacchino has received numerous awards for his work, including an Emmy, multiple Grammys and an Academy Award.

The Incredibles is a 2004 American computer-animated superhero film produced by Pixar Animation Studios. The story focuses on the Parr family, each of whom has superpowers.

Finlandia (1900)

Johan Julius Christian Sibelius (1865-1957)

Sibelius was a Finnish composer of classical music. His music played an important role in the formation of the Finnish national identity, although he was in fact born to a Swedish-speaking family.

Finlandia is a symphonic poem originally composed for a patriotic pageant to mobilise popular opposition to the revocation of Finnish independence from the Russian Empire. A recurrent joke within Finland at this time was the renaming of Finlandia at various musical concerts so as to avoid Russian censorship – one example being 'Happy Feelings at the awakening of Finnish Spring'.

Most of the piece is taken up with rousing and turbulent music, evoking the national struggle of the Finnish people. But towards the end, calm descends, and the serenely melodic *Finlandia Hymn* is heard. Often incorrectly cited as a traditional folk melody, the Hymn section is of Sibelius' own creation.

(Our thanks go to Michelle Jobson for these programme notes)

Biographies

Da Capo Concert Band

Da Capo Concert Band was founded in November 1997 by a group of former members of Barnet Schools' Music Centres who had 'grown-up' and found themselves back in North London post-school/university with nowhere to play their musical instruments. The Band was therefore formed, with the principal objective of providing amateur adult woodwind, brass and percussion players with a friendly, dynamic and challenging environment in which to play.

The Band's name includes an Italian musical term – Da Capo – meaning 'from the beginning'. It was suggested by a (still current) member to reflect the Band's roots and the bringing together of local adults wanting to start playing regularly again.

Over ten years on, the Band is going from strength to strength and members are drawn from across London. The Band continues to have strong connections with Barnet, both geographically and with the Borough's music services.

Jon Milne, Musical Director

Jon was born in Windsor and began playing the flute aged 10. His interest in military music was sparked by his first flute teacher, Blues & Royals Principal Flautist Con Andrews. In 1989 Jon followed his mentor and enlisted into the Band of The Blues & Royals. During his time with the band he completed the six month equitation course and took part in all major ceremonial events. Jon also served in Cyprus, Germany and The Falklands Islands as well touring Canada and the US.

In 1999, Jon undertook the 3 year Bandmaster Course at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, graduating in 2002 and being appointed Bandmaster of the Highland Band of the Scottish Division. In January 2006 Jon headed south to Chatham, taking up the appointment of Bandmaster to The Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers. During two years with the Band he performed across the UK and all over the world including the inaugural FA Cup Final in the new Wembley Stadium, Berlin, Vienna, Gibraltar and Abu Dhabi.

In May 2008 Jonathan returned to the Royal Military School of Music, taking up his current appointment as Training Design Warrant Officer.

Fred Slide, Assistant Conductor

Fred Slide has been with the conducting team in the Barnet Music Service for over 20 years and conducts the Senior Concert Band at Hendon Music Centre. His freelance trombone playing has taken him all over Europe performing with bands, and he currently manages one of the leading corporate and wedding function bands in the country. Renowned for bringing out the very best from his musicians, his unique and lively rehearsal style consistently leads to outstanding concert performances from groups under his direction. Fred is delighted to be working with the talented musicians of the Da Capo Concert Band, in particular he says "waving a stick around tonight is a lot easier than the smack in the chops I would normally get if I was playing in the band".

Da Capo Concert Band

Musical Director

Jon Milne

Assistant Musical Director

Fred Slide

Bb Clarinets

Emily Balsdon

Alex Benstead

Caroline Harris Ginnie Jennings Michelle Jobson Louise Johnston

Lucy Tofield

Eb Clarinet Kara Settle

Bass Clarinet Matt Thomson

Oboe Henry Bettinson

Flutes Elaine Birch

Jeremy Cline Anna Green Charlie Kisby

Janet Winstanley

Piccolo Craig Carroll

Bassoons Harry Small

Oliver Stern

Percussion Tracy Price

Gerard Rundell

Philip Siu

Alto Saxes Holly Lyne

Ellen Wakefield

Tenor Sax Emily Lyne

Baritone Sax Adam Jobson

Trumpets Andrew Holford Niall Kempson

Rob Payne Joe Tofield

Trombones Tom Lyne

James Turner

Horns Alan Byers

Euphonium Garry Wells

Tuba Louise Rezler

To keep up to date with Band news and for details of forthcoming concerts, see www.dacapoconcertband.org.uk or join our mailing list.

Are you a woodwind, brass or percussion player?

Would you enjoy playing in a friendly, dynamic and challenging adult wind band?

Are you free to rehearse between 8pm and 10pm on a Wednesday evening and to play in one concert per term?

If you answered yes to all of the above, then please get in touch – new members are always welcome.