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## "Summer Concert"

1. H.R.H Duke of Cambridge – March Malcolm Arnold 2. Shine as the Light Peter Graham H B Hingley 3. Eleav Stephen Schwartz Selections from 'Wicked' \*\* INTERVAL \*\* 5. East Coast Pictures Nigel Hess James Curnow 6. Suo-Gan Edward Elgar 7. Salut d'Amour 8. Overture to 'Candide' Leonard Bernstein

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## **Programme Notes**

# <u>H.R.H Duke of Cambridge – March</u> (1957) *Malcolm Arnold (1921-2006)*

The English composer Malcolm Arnold made his early career as a trumpet-player, and by the age of 21 he was the youngest ever Principal Trumpet in the London Philharmonic Orchestra. From 1948 he concentrated on his work as a composer, producing some of the most colourful, tuneful and original music of our time. He was bracketed with Benjamin Britten and William Walton as one of the most sought-after composers in Britain. His natural melodic gift earned him a reputation as a composer of light music but he was also a highly successful composer of film music, penning the scores to over a hundred features and documentaries, including classic titles such as *The Bridge on the River Kwai* and the *St Trinian's* series.

This march was composed for the Centenary of the Royal Military School of Music, and seems a fitting tribute to the recent marriage of H.R.H Prince William and Kate Middleton.

# Shine as the Light (1997)

## Peter Graham

Peter Graham was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, where his introduction to music came through brass and piano lessons from his parents. He has worked regularly as an arranger for BBC Television and Radio and has specialised in composition for the British style brass band. He has carved out a niche as an outstanding arranger for brass bands, and a leading figure amongst contemporary band composers. Commissioned by BMG/RCA Red Label to arrange and compose an album of xylophone music for virtuoso Evelyn Glennie, the resulting recording was nominated as Best Classical Crossover Album at the 1999 Grammy Awards held in Los Angeles.

The lively *Shine as the Light* is a Salvationist work down to its boots, involving hymn tunes such as 'Walk in the Light of God'. A sensitive solo cornet and extremely tight and controlled percussion section are the highlight, while the surprising section of 'loose' playing heralds a dramatic conclusion.

# Elegy (1994) H B Hingley

*Elegy on a Royal Air Force Theme* was composed by Squadron Leader H.B. Hingley.

# Selections from 'Wicked' (2003) Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948), arr. Jay Bocook

*Wicked* is a musical based on the novel 'Wicked: the Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West' by Gregory Maguire, 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 opened in 2003 and celebrated its seventh anniversary in October 2010. It is currently the 16<sup>th</sup> longest-running Broadway show in history, having played 3,187 performances as of 8 July 2011.

It tells the story of Elphaba, the future Wicked Witch of the West, and her relationship with Galinda, later Glinda, the Good Witch of the North. The two women struggle through their opposing personalities and viewpoints, rivalry over the same love-interest, their reactions to the Wizard's corrupt government, and, ultimately, Elphaba's public fall from grace. The plot begins before and continues after Dorothy's arrival from Kansas, and includes several references to the events depicted in the 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz*.

Stephen Schwartz is an American musical theatre lyricist and composer. In a career spanning over four decades, Schwartz has written other hit musicals including *Godspell* (1971) and *Pippin* (1972). He has also contributed lyrics for a number of successful films, including *Pocahontas* (1995), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (1996) and *Enchanted* (2007).

## \*\* Interval \*\*

(Refreshments available at the back of the Church)

<u>East Coast Pictures</u> (1985) Shelter Island; The Catskills; New York *Nigel Hess (b. 1953)* 

Nigel Hess read music at Cambridge University, where he was Music Director of the famous Footlights Revue Company. He has since worked extensively as a composer in television, theatre and film. His most recent feature films are Oscar Wilde's 'An Ideal Husband' and 'Ladies in Lavender', starring Judi Dench and Maggie Smith. His works are regarded as core repertoire for the wind band.

These three short 'pictures' were inspired by several visits by the composer to a small part of the USA's East Coast, an area that provides great extremes in the geography and the people. Shelter Island is a small island situated almost at the end of Long Island, a few hours' drive east of New York. In the summer it becomes a crowded tourist trap, but in the winter it is gloriously deserted, and

bravely faces the onslaught of the turbulent Atlantic, shrouded in sea mists and driving rain.

In upstate New York lie the Catskill Mountains, an extraordinary combination of tranquility and power, peace and majesty. Once seen they call you back again and again. For anyone who is familiar with New York, or to be precise, Manhattan, this particular 'picture' needs no explanation. For those not yet hooked, here is a taste of things to come.

## <u>Suo-Gan</u> (2003) *James Curnow (b. 1943)*

*Suo-Gan* is a traditional Welsh lullaby written by an unknown composer – the title literally means 'lullaby'. There are three verses, the first of which is set out below:

Sleep my baby, at my breast, 'Tis a mother's arms round you. Make yourself a snug, warm nest. Feel my love forever new. Harm will not meet you in sleep, Hurt will always pass you by. Child beloved, always you'll keep, In sleep gentle, mother's breast nigh.

James Curnow uses the song as the basis of a theme and variations. A lively introduction precedes the appearance of the theme and then three variations are heard. Curnow is rapidly becoming acknowledged as one of America's most prolific and outstanding composers for concert band. Before his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday, over 100 of his compositions and arrangements were published for concert band, chorus and brass band, and he has won several prestigious awards for their excellence.

# Salut d'Amour (1888) Edward Elgar (1857-1934), arr. W J Duthoit

Sir Edward William Elgar was an English composer, many of whose works have entered the British and international classical concert repertoire. Among his best-known compositions are orchestral works including the *Enigma Variations and* the *Pomp and Circumstance Marches*.

Although Elgar is often regarded as a typically English composer, most of his musical influences were not from England but from continental Europe. He felt himself to be an outsider, not only musically, but socially. In musical circles dominated by academics, he was a self-taught composer; in Protestant Britain, his Roman Catholicism was regarded with suspicion in some quarters; and in the class-conscious society of Victorian and Edwardian Britain, he was acutely

sensitive about his humble origins even after he achieved recognition.

When Elgar was twenty-nine, he took on a new pupil, Caroline Alice Roberts. Eight years older than Elgar, Alice became his wife three years later. Elgar's biographer Michael Kennedy writes, "Alice's family was horrified by her intention to marry an unknown musician who worked in a shop and was a Roman Catholic. She was disinherited." They were married on 8 May 1889 and from then until her death she acted as his business manager and social secretary, and was a perceptive musical critic. She did her best to gain him the attention of influential society, though with limited success. In time he would learn to accept the honours given him, realising that they mattered to her and her social class and recognising what she had given up to further his career. In her diary she wrote, "The care of a genius is enough of a life work for any woman." As an engagement present, Elgar dedicated his short violin and piano piece *Salut d'Amour* to her (he called it *Liebesgruss*, 'Love's Greeting', because of her fluency in German). Alice, for her part, offered him a poem called 'The Wind at Dawn', which she had written years before and which he soon set to music.

# Overture to 'Candide' (1956) Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

Leonard Bernstein's fame derived from his long tenure as the music director of the New York Philharmonic, from his conducting of concerts with most of the world's leading orchestras, and from his music for *West Side Story*, as well as *Candide*, *Wonderful Town*, *On the Town* and his own *Mass*. As a composer he was prolific, writing symphonies, ballet music, operas, chamber music, pieces for the piano, other orchestral and choral works, and other concert and incidental music, but the tremendous success of *West Side Story* remained unequaled by his other compositions.

Candide is an operetta based on the novella of the same name by Voltaire. Although unsuccessful at its premiere, Candide has now overcome the unenthusiastic reaction of early audiences and critics and achieved enormous popularity. The Overture to Candide soon earned a place in the orchestral repertoire. After a successful first concert performance in 1957 by the New York Philharmonic under the composer's baton, it quickly became popular and was performed by nearly 100 other orchestras within the next two years. Since that time, it has become one of the most frequently performed orchestral compositions by a 20<sup>th</sup> century American composer. The overture incorporates tunes from the songs "The Best of All Possible Worlds", "Battle Music", "Oh, Happy We", and "Glitter and Be Gay" and melodies composed specifically for the overture.

(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.

## Da Capo Concert Band

Musical Director Jon Milne

**Bb Clarinets** Alex Benstead Alto Saxes Catherine Greenwood Charles Rowe

Caroline Harris
Ginnie Jennings
Michelle Jobson

Tenor Sax
Justin Wakefield
Baritone Sax
Adam Jobson

Louise Johnston Trumpets John Berry

Eb Clarinet Adele Gordon Robert Blencowe
Alton Clarinet Judit Santak

Bass Clarinet Matt Thomson Joe Tofield

Oboe Liz Hurst Trombones Simon Flaxman
Catherine Roe Richard Jones

Richard Jones Tom Lyne

Flutes Bo Bates
Jeremy Cline Horns Roo

Charlie Kisby
Janet Winstanley

Pam Wright

Piccolo Craig Carroll

**Bassoons** Harry Small

Percussion Paul Craggs

Dave Mayren

Horns Roger Cawkwell

Shane O'Neill Shauna White

Euphonium Jenni McCall

**Tuba** Paul Clark

Alan Henry

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.