

Founded by John Lubbock, the Orchestra of St. John's Smith Square has developed a policy of performing new music and recently commissioned works, particularly by major British composers. During the 25 years of its existence, the orchestra has performed music from Baroque to contemporary, including many world premières.

In addition to appearances in all the leading UK concert venues, it has toured extensively throughout Europe and North America. Its reputation for beauty of sound and refinement of playing has been reinforced by frequent broadcasts and recordings.



## Orchestra of St. John's Smith Square

Conductor John Lubbock

Soloist Margaret Phillips, Organ

Oundle School Chapel Wednesday 15 July 7.30pm

### Introit

David Matthews (b 1943)

This short piece, for two trumpets and strings, was written in 1981 for the English Chamber Orchestra. About it David Matthews says: "The first performance was to have been in Gloucester Cathedral and I designed it with a cathedral acoustic in mind; florid upper parts over a largely static bass. My intention was to find some kind of musical equivalent to Gothic architecture. The trumpets play only at the end, their antiphonal fanfares introducing a more fantastic element."

### Metasinfonia

Andrzej Panufnik (1914-1991)

Panufnik's introduction to this work states: "This is a kind of organ concerto but I feel the word Metasinfonia more accurately depicts the form and character of the composition. I would prefer the listener not to be preoccupied with the highly complex technicalities during the performance so I shall only mention that the framework is profoundly influenced by the beauty and mystery of geometry, but its musical content reflects a chain of meditative thoughts and expressions."

### INTERVAL

### Organ Concerto No 4 in F Opus 4

Handel (1685-1759)

*Allegro; Andante; Adagio; Allegro*

Scored for organ, strings, oboes and bassoons, the concerto opens with a cheerful theme initially announced in unison, then ritornello-like, appearing in a number of different keys. The softer andante is in flowing triplets before the brief adagio with its improvised cadenza. The final movement begins with a cheerful fugato which has an insistent repeated note theme.

### Adagio for Strings

Samuel Barber (b 1910)

This short work is remarkable for its sustained melodic writing, natural musical instinct and the success with which it sustains a serene mood. The entire piece is a development of a single melodic idea, given by the violins in the opening section. Written simply, lyrically and romantically, it does not really require analysis to be appreciated and enjoyed.

### Symphony in A, Opus 90 Italian

Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

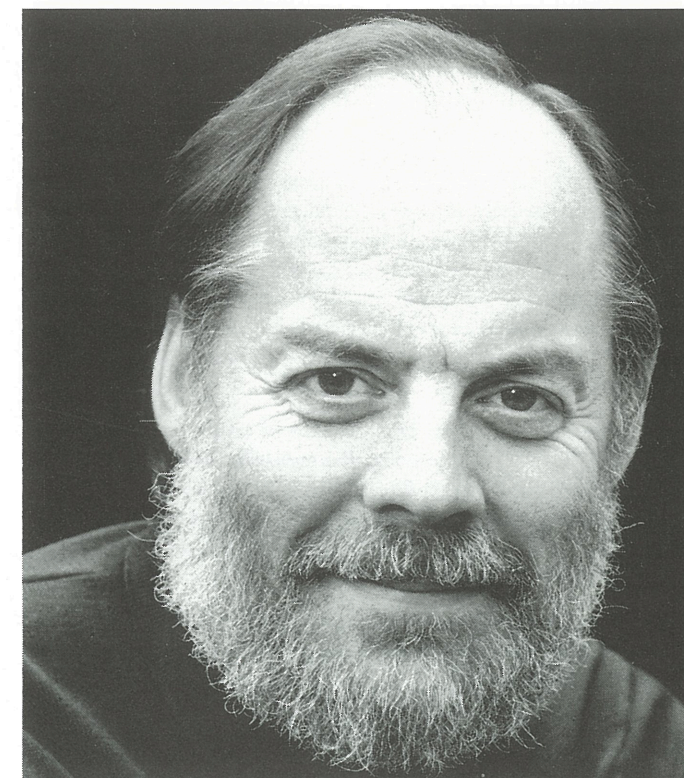
*Allegro vivace; Andante con moto; Con moto moderato; Saltarello (Presto)*

Mendelssohn's finest and most frequently played symphony, the Italian, enchants with its gay charm and suggestions of sun, warmth and joy. The first movement, full of tuneful gaiety, sweeps away with infectious energy and the brilliant chatter of woodwind. Sometimes called the 'Pilgrims' March', the andante may have been inspired by a religious procession in Naples and is subdued and pensive. The third movement, more minuet than scherzo, opens with a simple, graceful melody and the trio is fresh and delicate. For the finale, Mendelssohn concocts a high-spirited merry dance. Vivacious and irresistible in its onward rush, it is written as a saltarello, a jumping, skipping dance, whirling along to a brilliant end.

TONIGHT'S CONCERT IS GIVEN IN COLLABORATION WITH THE EASTERN ORCHESTRAL BOARD AND SUBSIDISED BY THE ARTS COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN

Tonight's concert is dedicated to the memory of John Piper C.H. the designer of the stained glass windows in this chapel who died on 28 June 1992.

Wednesday 15 July



John Lubbock's busy conducting and directing career has taken him around Britain, to Europe and Canada. In addition to directing his own orchestra, he is a guest conductor of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and the Ulster Orchestra and has recently become musical director of the Belfast Philharmonic Society.

Beginning as a chorister at

St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, John Lubbock went on to the Royal Academy of Music and later studied with the famous Romanian conductor, Sergiu Celibidache.

Frequent recordings, opera and choral engagements are included in his calendar. John Lubbock is particularly interested in working with contemporary composers and their music and with children.



Following her Royal Festival Hall debut in 1972 Margaret Phillips rapidly established herself as one of Britain's leading concert organists. She has given recitals in Europe, the USA, Australia and Mexico and is also in demand as a teacher, continuo player and accompanist.

A pupil of Ralph Downes and Marie-Claire Alain, Margaret Phillips is a former director of music at St Lawrence Jewry and former professor at the London College of Music.

Her highly acclaimed recordings include music of Saint-Saëns made at Exeter Cathedral and collections of 18th and 19th century English music.

### Tonight's Twilight Concert

Glenda Simpson and Barry Mason

– New Discoveries –

Yarrow Art Gallery at 9.55pm

See page 21 for programme details.

# Linnell

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