

NORWICH PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

Newsletter Issue 4

Fantastic 2010-11 Season, and more to come ..

I hope you all enjoyed playing with the orchestra as much as I did last season. For me the highlights had to be the exciting exuberance of Petrushka, the gorgeous lyricism of Rach 2 and Butterworth's nostalgic echo of a bygone England in his Banks of Green Willow. And bravo to everyone who took part in what the EDP rightly described as a 'thrilling performance' of Verdi's Requiem. It was great to see a packed house and I think you will agree it really made a fitting finale to an outstanding season for the Phil.

It's perhaps unfair to single out our individual performances, but Anne's exquisite playing in L'Après Midi, Ray's pyrotechnics in Petrushka and Emma's beautiful Cor Anglais in Tuonela can't go without mention. But everyone played their part and so well done to you all for producing such wonderful music-making!

We're in for some wonderful music-making this season too (see <http://www.norwichphil.org.uk/concerts> for details) and I hope you will be able to give the orchestra your full support throughout.

See you on the downbeat for Mahler 2 on 21st September!

Mike Nutt, Chairman of the Orchestra Sub Committee

Mahler, what Mahler?

The blockbuster concert this season is Mahler 2 – never before played in Norwich and a rarity anywhere. Marking his 150th anniversary, we are hoping it will attract a lot of interest. To assemble the massive forces need to play it, we are inviting players and singers from other local orchestras and choirs to join us – huge thanks to Keith Hobday for pulling this together for us, including getting the stage extensions just to accommodate everyone!

Conducting the Mahler will be a young Colchester-based conductor Matthew Andrews who will be working with the orchestra a lot this season and comes to us highly recommended (you'll find his biography on the website at www.norwichphil.org.uk/andrews.htm).

Tickets are selling well.
75% of the West Gallery
has already been sold.
If you haven't bought
tickets for your own
personal fan club
yet, we suggest
you do so
very soon.



How the Mahler orchestra will not look ... quite

NORWICH PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

Publicity, publicity, publicity

It gets said every year, but it's our **audiences** that make it possible for us to continue playing all the great music we do. And they won't come unless we publicise every single concert. Rob Barnes will be emailing out electronic copies of the fliers so that we can **email** them on to friends and family. It's so easy to click the Forward button – please make sure you do.

And of course, **fliers and posters** are available at most rehearsals. Make sure you take some and put them up at work, in your local shops, anywhere you can think of.

We can't get the publicity out there without your help.

Obscure instruments: the Ophicleide

Invented in 1817, it was the structural cornerstone of the brass section of the Romantic orchestra, often replacing the serpent, a Renaissance instrument which was thought to be outdated. Its long tubing bends back on itself, and it is played with a cupped mouthpiece similar to modern trombone and euphonium mouthpieces. It originally had nine keys, later expanded to as many as twelve.

Famous works which employ the ophicleide include Felix Mendelssohn's **Overture to A Midsummer Night's Dream**, Berlioz's **Symphonie Fantastique**, and the early operas of **Verdi** and **Wagner**. It was eventually succeeded by the tuba and euphonium.



- **Arrive in plenty of time for rehearsals (7:15pm)**
... will there be enough room for you to park (particularly for the Mahler)? Will you have enough time to tune?
- **Collect your music from Caroline Furniss when you arrive at the first rehearsal for a concert.**
... before you say hi to all your friends and catch up on all the gossip. Don't wait for her to come to you – she won't have time.
- **Bring a music stand with you to all rehearsals.**
... a new policy for this season. With the large number of players in the orchestra, particularly for the Mahler, there won't be enough stands at the High School to go round.
- **The first rehearsal is on the 21st Sept. at Hewett Upper** ...a week earlier than usual and different venue.

Running a marathon? Selling a violin?.... If there is anything you wish to be included in the next newsletter, please email judytrygg@mail.com or caroline.furniss@btinternet.com or write details clearly on a piece of paper and hand to one of us (Judy Tryggvason or Caroline Furniss) in rehearsals.

Going posh

Next year the Society is going to have a

DINNER DANCE

On 9th April 2011, at Dunston Hall

To mark the 170th Anniversary
of the Society

Details to follow, so watch this space. But put the date in your diary NOW. This will certainly be the event of the season. Get out your glad rags!



Help us to be green ...

Sue Drake, who kindly arranges the rehearsal break refreshments, is looking for a cheap source of cardboard cups. If you can help, please let her know at rehearsal, or email sdnutmeg@aol.com.