

**PROGRAMME**

Dec 1990

**Thundercrest** (Concert March).....Eric Osterling

A popular opener - a lively, brassy march from the American composer, Eric Osterling, renowned for his compositions for American high school marching bands.

**Illyrian Dances**.....Guy Woolfenden

- i *Rondeau*
- ii *Aubade*
- iii *Gigue*

The country of 'Illyria' was referred to in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*. Having no geographic location it is portrayed as a 'never-never' land. Guy Woolfenden in his capacity as head of music to the RSC, composed three dances depicting this land. The *Rondeau* consists of a seven bar refrain with a twist which highlights most sections of the band. The *Aubade* is a gentle dance with a hint of a dawn chorus. The *Gigue* is a lively rondo in compound time.

**Christmas Carols**

**Selection from the Sound of Music**.....Richard Rogers  
arr. W J D Dutoit

The *Sound of Music* opened in 1959, exactly ten years after Rogers and Hammerstein's great success, *South Pacific*. At the time, its format was criticised for being traditional with such overly sentimental numbers as 'Climb Every Mountain' and 'Edelweiss'. However, the melodious score has endured and has become increasingly popular over the years.

**Trumpet by Candlelight**.....Terry A Kenny

A festive ballad which features our principal trumpet player, David Walker.

**Jingle Bells** (Concert March).....J Pierpont  
arr. Robert W Smith

An unusual arrangement of John Pierpont's traditional Christmas theme. Robert Smith has reproduced the melody in the style of the American march king John Philip Sousa. Indeed, some musical quotes from Sousa's famous work *The Stars and Stripes Forever* can be heard throughout this piece.

**The Movies!**.....Arr. John Higgins  
orch. Larry Norred

The famous Twentieth Century Fox fanfare leads into a selection of well-known movie themes including those from *Stripes*, *Mash* and *Star Wars*.

INTERVAL (20 mins)

**The Great Gate of Kiev**.....Modest Mussorgsky  
arr. Les Taylor

The final movement of the work *Pictures at an Exhibition*: a suite of piano pieces composed to commemorate an exhibition by the Russian artist Victor Hartmann. The Great Gate was a design for an entrance archway for Tsar Alexander II that was never built but is represented by Mussorgsky in a hymn-like theme.

**Hello Dolly**.....Jerry Herman  
arr. Philip J Lang

Jerry Herman, famous for such shows as *La Cage aux Folles* and *Mame*, opened *Hello Dolly* on Broadway in January 1964. Based on the play *The Matchmaker* by Thornton Wilder, it proved to be a great success. The rôle of Dolly soon became associated with a number of great actresses including Carol Channing, Ethel Merman, Betty Grable and Ginger Rogers.

**'Grubb's Goodie Giveaway'**

**Overture to The Marriage of Figaro**.....W A Mozart  
arr. W J Dutoit

First performed in Vienna in 1786, the *The Marriage of Figaro* has become, with *Carmen* and *Turandot*, one of the most popular and most performed of all operas. This comic Italian opera was frowned upon at first, because it was based on a play which had itself been banned because of its 'pro-revolutionary' flavour. However, its rapturous reception when it was performed in Prague led to Mozart being commissioned to write *Dan Giovanni*. The frantic pace of the overture aptly suggests the chaotic events leading up to Figaro's wedding.

**Christmas Carols**

**English Christmas**.....Clare Grundman

A selection based on the tunes of three old English carols: *I saw three ships, the Wassail Song* and *What Child is this*. The carol *What Child is this* is set to the music of the old love song *Greensleeves* which dates from the mid-seventeenth century and provides a suitably festive ending to this Christmas concert.

Programme notes by D Walker

Many thanks to Sevenoaks and District Arts Council for their continued support.