



# *VAL ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA*

Robert Anderson: Leader

## A Musical Pot-Pourri

**Saturday, 9th June 2018**  
at 7.30 pm

**ST PETER'S CHURCH  
LITTLE BUDWORTH,**

**PROGRAMME**



**For St Peter's Church Funds.**

**A Selection from the Ballet Score Rodeo,**  
**Aaron Copland (1900-1990)**  
arranged for string orchestra by Adrienne Spilisbury  
Corral Nocturne; Hoe Down,

Copland's Ballet score Rodeo is among his best known works. It was written in 1942 and premiered at the Metropolitan Opera House on 16th October, 1942. It tells the story of a cowgirl who tries to prove herself in front of the cowboys but after initial amusement particularly after being thrown by a bucking bronco she ends up boring and irritating them. The Nocturne reflects the girl's rejection and loneliness.



The lively Hoe Down based on American fiddle tunes is at the end of the Ballet when the girl has changed to become lady like wowing the cowboys with her beauty at a dance in the Ranch.

**Divertimento in D, (K138)**  
**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)**  
Allegro, Andante, Presto



This work and its two companions have been known as Mozart's Salzburg sinfonias. They were written in Salzburg as a diversion from composing an Opera for the Opera House in Milan. This at the age of sixteen! The work was intended for one of the musical evenings held in homes of Salzburg's leading residents.

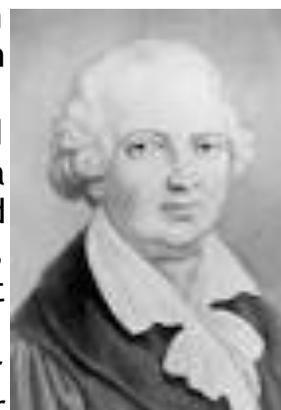
It follows the manner of an Italian Sinfonia having the three movements, Fast, Slow, Fast.

**Concerto for Oboe in C Minor**

Based on music by Domenico Cimarosa (1749-1801) and realised by Arthur Benjamin (1893-1960)  
Introduzione. Larghetto; Allegro; Siciliana; Allegro giusto

This work was put together by the Australian Arthur Benjamin from four keyboard sonatas that Cimarosa composed in 1787, whilst in Russia employed by Catherine II as composer in residence.

He wrote at least eighty operas, which were performed internationally in Paris, Vienna, Dresden and London. He was a contemporary of Mozart whose music he could not match but he did have a gift of the comic, buffo style. After Russia he went to Vienna, where he was appointed court Kapellmeister following Salieri in that position.



Arthur Benjamin was a pianist, composer, conductor and teacher he studied composition at the Royal College of Music under Sir Charles Villiers Stanford. After the Great War he returned to Australia as professor of piano in New South Wales. He came back to England to advance his career as pianist and composer and joined the staff of the Royal College of Music, where among his pupils was Benjamin Britten.

# Interval

## 20 minutes

### Molly on the Shore, Percy Aldridge Grainger (1882-1961)

*Lovingly and reverently dedicated to the memory of Edvard Grieg.*



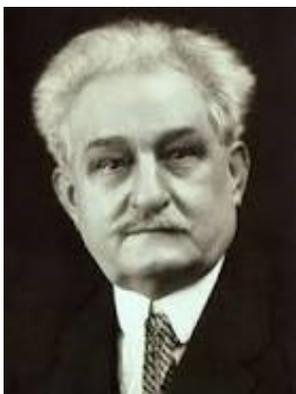
Grainger was a unconventional virtuoso pianist as who knew Busoni, Delius and Grieg. He was a collector and arranger of folk tunes from Denmark, Ireland and Lincolnshire and drew inspiration from the sounds of nature. He was known for walking between engagements across the country. Revelling in nature's free rhythm which he encouraged in improvisation and 'elastic scoring' in performance both in the size of orchestration and type of ensemble. For instance a string quartet is described as a *string four-some (4 single strings) or string band (double basses at will.)*, and crescendo molto as '*louden a lot*'.

The piece is based on two reel tunes, '*Temple Hill*' and '*Molly on the Shore*' which appear in a collection compiled by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford.

*"Grainger's music reminds us that the Happy Tribes of Folk sang and danced that they might have life more abundantly".*

### Idyla Suite, Leoš Janáček (1854–1928)

Andante - Meno mosso - Da capo; Allegro - Moderato - [Allegro]; Moderato - Con moto - [Moderato]; Allegro; Adagio - Presto - Adagio; Scherzo; Moderato.



Janáček showed musical talent at an early age being an excellent pianist. He studied piano, organ and composition in Prague. (This might have been influenced in that Janáček was impoverished and had to make do with a keyboard drawn on the table top.) Janáček is best known for his operas and choral works. His first successful opera, *Jenůfa*, was written following the death of his daughter Olga, as a tribute.

The Idyll for string orchestra, was written by the 24-year-old composer in summer 1878 and completed on 29th August. It received its premier on 15th December of that year in Brno under Janáček's direction and with Dvorák in the audience. Dvorák was a great influence on Janáček, which is reflected in this work particularly as both composers had common backgrounds in Czech and Moravian folk music.

## Debbie Fuller, Oboe



Debbie studied oboe and cor anglais at the Royal Northern College of Music, where she was awarded the Peter Graeme Oboe Prize and the Winfield Scholarship. At thirteen, she won a full music scholarship to Wells Cathedral School and also gained a place in the National Youth Wind Orchestra, later playing principal oboe. She now works as a primary school teacher specialising in infant music, as well as performing regularly with many orchestras and ensembles in the North West.

## Richard Adamson, Conductor

Born in 1985 in St. Asaph, North Wales, Richard learned piano from an early age and was Head Chorister at St. Asaph Cathedral where he sang regularly for sixteen years. It was here that he first conducted at the age of 14, filling in for the organist before a permanent appointment was made. After singing in a performance of Fauré's Requiem at the age of 16, he decided to play the viola and began studying the instrument which he still plays in orchestras around the country. In the sixth form, his music teacher suggested that he conduct an instrumental ensemble, and he has been conducting ever since.

In 2003 he went to Downing College, Cambridge to read music. He sang in Trinity College Chapel Choir under Richard Marlow's direction and began to study conducting. After graduating, he gained a Masters Degree in Composition from the Royal Northern College of Music in 2009 where he combined his principal studies with further lessons in conducting, singing and viola.

He lives in Lancaster, and is a maths teacher at Giggleswick School. He is also a qualified yoga teacher, and teaches yoga to the staff and pupils. He believes that music is still as relevant to people's lives today as any art form, from any period of history, as it is able to transcend many of the barriers of language.



## Vale Royal String Orchestra

The Vale Royal String Orchestra brings together experienced amateur and professional musicians. It was formed in 1993 and performs regularly at local venues. The VRSO plays primarily for the love of music and to support local charities.

### Violins

Robert Anderson; Rosy Smith; Patrick Blunden; Sarah Goodwin; Ian Ward; Mary Anderson; Margaret Parks-Smith; Alison Gabbitas; Eunice Moss; Andrew Ball; Anthony Sluce;

### Violas

Judith Stunnell; Jocelyn Scrowther; Ian Fitzpatrick; Jeremy Hagen

### Cellos

Mary Dainton; Peter Raynes; Hilary Brice

### Double-bass

Susan Smale

Proud members of



© VRSO, Programme notes Mary Dainton and editing by Andrew Ball, Chairman; Peter Raynes  
[www.valeroyalstringorchestra.co.uk](http://www.valeroyalstringorchestra.co.uk)