



VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA

Robert Anderson: Leader



ST PETER'S CHURCH, LITTLE BUDWORTH,

**making
music**

Profits to St Peter's Church .

Concerto Grosso Op3 N° 11,

Antonio Lucio Vivaldi (1648-1741)

Allegro; Adagio e spiccato—Allegro; Largo e spiccato; Allegro
Soloists: Robert Anderson, Margaret Parks Smith, Alison Burns



Vivaldi introduced the concept of an instrumental concerto with a set of 12 string concertos published in Amsterdam in 1711, This work has 4 violin parts (two of which are solo parts), 2 violas, cello and continuo. This form is now known as the concerto grosso.

The 4 movements are played without a break with solos alternating with the rest of the orchestra.

Prelude and Fugue Op 85, Moritz Moszkowski (1854–1925)

Moritz Moszkowski was a German composer, pianist and teacher, of Polish-Jewish descent. He was recognised as one of the top virtuoso pianists in Europe. The Prelude and Fugue for string orchestra dates from 1911 and is a very good example of this music form.



Resta Immobile Giachino Rossini (1792-1868)

From Act 3 of the Opera, William Tell
Jeremy Hagan—Baritone



This aria is at the climax of the Opera where William Tell refuses to bow down to the Governor (of the Austrian occupation at the time) resulting in Tell being ordered to prove his archery skills by shooting an apple off his son's head. Tell is shocked and begs a last embrace with his son singing Resta Immobile – stay still .

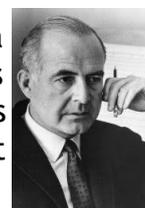
Resta immobile, e vèr la terra
Inclina un ginocchio a pregar.
Invoca Iddio, che sol per suo favore,
Al sen tornar potrai del genitore.
Così rimanti col guardo affiso al ciel.
Tu per amor vacillare potresti
Vedendo contro te lanciar l'acuto stral,
Un moto sol potrebbe
La vita a noi costar.
Jemmy, pensa a tua madre.
Ella ci attende insiem.

Stay still and bend a knee in prayer
Call upon God, that by his grace alone
You might turn to his fatherly breast
Remain thus with your gaze fixed on the sky,
You may flinch, seeing the sharp point hurtling
towards you
But the merest movement could cost us your life
Jemmy, think of your mother
She awaits us together.

Adagio from String Quartet No11

Samuel Barber(1910-1981)

The quartet was first performed in 1936 and the arrangement for string orchestra was made in 1938. It is probably Barber's best known work and is performed at times of great sadness because of the intensity of the writing. Toscanini annoyed Barber as he returned the score without comment, but that was because he had memorised it for its subsequent broadcast performance.



Interval

20 minutes

Organ Concerto Op 4 N° 1 in G minor, Georg Frederic Handel (1685–1759)

LARGHETTO, E STACCATO - ALLEGRO - ADAGIO - ANDANTE

(ANDREW MILLINCHIP, ORGAN)

Handel was the virtuoso organist of the period, which was demonstrated in a competition against Scarlatti in Rome, which he won.

First performed in 1736 at Covent Garden as an interlude in a Choral Work called Alexander's Feast, celebrating Saint Cecelia, the patron saint of music. This concerto is one of six, composed between 1735 and 1736 for use in oratorios during intervals.



Evening Hymn, Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

(JEREMY HAGAN, BARITONE, ANDREW MILLINCHIP, ORGAN)

Evening Hymn is also an example of a *ciaccona* or *chaconne*, a composition built on a repeating descending bassline in a triple meter. Originally the *ciaccona/chaconne* was used for upbeat music, but by the mid-17th century the figure had come to be reserved for stately, elegiac music.



Rakastava (The Lover) Op 14

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

The Beloved, The Way (or Path) of the Lover, Good Night, My Beloved -- Farewell.



Sibelius was Finland's greatest composer and acknowledged as one of the greatest symphonic composers. This rarely performed work is characteristic of his style with its atmospheric construction and gradually shifting harmonies.

The work was completed in 1912, scored for string orchestra, percussion and triangle and based on his earlier composition of the same name, a song cycle of four movements for men's chorus a cappella performed in 1894.

Three Movements from the Water Music

Georg Frederic Handel (1685–1759)

LENTO, ANDANTE, ALLEGRO VIVO

The water Music was first performed during a royal barge trip down the Thames on 17 July 1717 in the presence of King George 1, who liked it so much that he ordered it to be repeated twice. A long evening as each performance of the full work would last about 1 hour.

These three movements have been arranged for String Orchestra by Adam Carse.

Andrew Millinchip Organ

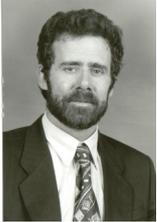


A native of the West Midlands Andrew won an organ scholarship to Keble College, Oxford, graduating with a degree in music. After teaching in Essex he was appointed Director of Music at the Grange School, Hartford, a post held until his retirement in 2017.

Andrew is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists and is also a singer having performed in Birmingham Cathedral choir, Oxford Schola Cantorum and the New Barbican Singers.

Andrew is currently Director of Music at St Mary's Whitegate and teaches piano and organ as well as working as a Psychometric Assessor; he is a member of the British Dyslexia Association's music committee. Andrew is married with two grown up sons and two young granddaughters

Jeremy Hagan Baritone



Jeremy Hagan is currently based in the Chester area, and has been performing as a bass and baritone soloist in opera, oratorio and song recital since the 1980s. He also currently plays the viola in the Vale Royal String Orchestra.

He has fulfilled numerous solo engagements in oratorio work with choral societies in various parts of the Midlands, North-West, Scotland and Wales and featured as soloist in a BBC Radio 2 performance of the Messiah.

His recital experience includes broadcasts for BBC Radio Leicester and Radio Scotland, song recitals in the Midlands, Scotland and the North-West, and public master classes with Paul Hamburger.

Adam Kornas Conductor



Adam studied at Chetham's School of Music and then went on to Royal College of Music in London where he studied composition and graduated with a first class honours degree. His compositions have been performed at the Salzburg Chamber Music Festival and with the Liverpool Mozart Orchestra. Last June, Chester Philharmonic Orchestra gave the world premiere of *Celestial City*. Adam is a graduate from the Royal Northern School of Music with a master's degree in conducting.



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 (leader); Rosy Smith; Paul Constardine; Kris Foulger-Roberts; Sarah Williams; Maria Dixon; Margaret Parks-Smith; Alison Gabbitas; Eunice Moss; Andrew Ball; Anthony Sluce

Violas

Judith Stunnell; Jeremy Hagan; Lorelly Wilson

Cellos

Alison Burns; Peter Raynes

Double-bass

Susan Smale

Proud members of



© VRSO. Programme notes by Andrew Ball. Chairman: Peter Raynes
www.valeroyalstringorchestra.co.uk