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LAST CONCERT

Saturday 29 June 2024, 7:00pm

The Memorial Hall, Wheathampstead

The Dawning of the Day

A programme of British and international folk music for choir and piano.

Comedy Tonight - Stephen Sondheim, arr. Steve Milloy

Shoshone Love Song - Trad. American lyric, Music by Roger Emerson

The Battle of Jericho

Hush, little baby

Handel in the Strand * - Percy Grainger

Who can sail without the wind? - Ēriks Ešenvalds

Tuoll' on mun kultani

The Little Birch Tree - Russian folksong, arr. Mary Goetze

Shepherd's Hey * - Percy Grainger

Wild Mountain Thyme

Black is the Colour

Scarborough Fair

Molly on the Shore * - Percy Grainger



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Sakura

Waltzing Matilda

This Little Light of Mine - Spiritual, arr. Steve Milloy

Matthew Woodward* - piano

Conducted by **Rufus Frowde**

Tickets: Unreserved £17; Students £9; Under 16 Free

Book online; click [here]

On Saturday 24 June Hardynges Choir performed a programme of British and international folk music for choir and piano to a large appreciative audience in The Memorial Hall, Wheathampstead. It was a bitter sweet occasion as it was also Rufus Frowde's last concert as our Musical Director.

The concert opened with the lively **Comedy Tonight** by Stephen Sondheim, arr. Steve Milloy. This was followed by three songs of alternating mood; **Shoshone Love Song**, a traditional American lyric with music by Roger Emerson; **The Battle of Jericho**, the well-known African-American spiritual arranged by Peter Hunt; and **Hush, little baby**, a traditional American folk song.

Then Matthew and Rufus played **Handel in the Strand** by Percy Grainger for two pianos, four hands: this was the first of a number of duets played by them during the concert.

Then the choir sang **Who can sail without the wind?**, the arrangement of a popular Swedish folksong and lullaby by Eriks Ešenvalds; **Tuoll' on mun kultani** (There is my loved one) a traditional Finnish love song arranged by Bob Chilcott; and last in this group **The Little Birch Tree**, a Russian folksong.

Then Matthew and Rufus played the second Percy Grainger piece, **Shepherd's Hey**.

The next group of songs were of Anglo/American origin; **Wild Mountain Thyme**; **Black is the Colour**; and the very well known **Scarborough Fair**, in an arrangement by Bob Chilcott.

The last Percy Grainger work played by Matthew and Rufus was **Molly on the Shore**.

The final group of songs were **Sakura (Cherry Tree)**, a traditional Japanese folk song arranged by Bob Chilcott,

depicting spring the season of cherry blossoms; **Waltzing Matilda**, the well known Australian bush ballad in a jazzy arrangement by Bob Chilcott; and **This Little Light of Mine**, a Spiritual (now a song of resistance adopted by Civil Rights Movements), arranged by Steve Milloy.

As an encore the choir sang **Spring Will Come Again** by Joanna Forbes L'Estrange & Alexander L'Estrange, that we had sung in previous concerts, Our Fair Ladies and Christmas in Blue.



The concert was followed by some photos of all the performers (plus some former members from the audience), and then everyone enjoyed a farewell party at which Rufus cut the cake.

Click on **The Dawning of the Day** to see an album of photos of the concert and the farewell party,

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