



THE
LISZT SOCIETY

Newsletter

www.lisztsoc.org.uk

N° 101 October 2010

Liszt Society Annual Day 2010

Members are invited to the Liszt Society's Annual Day, on Friday 12th November, at
the **Royal Academy of Music**, Marylebone Road, London NW1 5HT

Programme

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| 12 noon | Annual General Meeting |
| 1.00pm | Piano recital by László Borbély |
| 2.30pm | Talk on Liszt's opera <i>Don Sanche</i> , by Chris de Souza |
| 3.30pm | Masterclass by Leslie Howard |
| 7.00pm | Concert by students of the Royal Academy of Music |

There is no charge for attendance on the day. However, we would be pleased to receive individual donations from both members and their guests to help defray the running costs. A sum of £5 per person is suggested.

For planning purposes the Royal Academy of Music has requested that we advise them how many members, including guests, will be attending. Therefore would all members intending to attend please contact the Membership Secretary, Roy Cadman, by e-mail at lisztsoc.memsec@yahoo.co.uk or telephone +44 (0)1628 482 299.

Any member wishing to nominate another member to the Council is asked to notify the Membership Secretary no later than Friday 5th November. Details of the Council membership and the notification procedure for nominating a member for Council is set out in the formal notice of the AGM, accompanying this newsletter.

CONCERT REVIEW

CHRISTOPHER DEVINE AT BLÜTHNER PIANO CENTRE, LONDON

If, as it has been rumoured, Blüthner's are discontinuing their Sunday afternoon concert series, then we are doubly blessed to have beaten the falling axe, and having Christopher Devine play there for the Liszt Society and guests on 26th September. We were treated to a truly first rate recital in this intimate setting by one of the finest pianists of the younger generation.

Mr Devine grasped the nettle and delivered a magisterial account of Beethoven's *Waldstein* Sonata, clean, unfussy and simply letting Beethoven's score unfold in all its audacity. A model of the 'less is more' style of performance, Mr Devine properly submitted his prodigious technique to telling the musical tale, and it was only in retrospect that the listener realised the extent of the skill that had been brought to bear.

The same might be said of his approach to three Liszt works: the *Bénédiction de Dieu dans la solitude* sang serenely around the myriad treacheries of the accompaniment patterns; the Ballade no. 1 commanded new respect for being played with great charm and without any shallow display – and by cleverly placing the interval of the performance immediately afterwards, ensuring that this junior partner would not be dwarfed by invidious comparisons with its indubitably more revered companion piece, which opened the second part of the recital: ardent, engaging music-making.

Mr Devine's reputation for stunning accounts of Ravel's *Gaspard de la nuit* had preceded him, and he lived up to every prediction, flawlessly negotiating this monumental cornerstone of 20th century piano music. Marvellous as the faster outer movements were, paradoxically, the playing that lingered longest in the memory was Christopher Devine's riveting and chilling account of ineluctable fate as described in *Le gibet*.

The delightful encore – which, to their shame, went unrecognised by many Lisztians present! – was the *Pastorale* that Liszt so delicately transcribed from his *Choruses to Herder's "Prometheus"*.

Leslie Howard

PUBLICATIONS

The Society is happy to announce that The Complete Music for Violin and Piano, volume 12 of the Liszt Society Publications, in conjunction with the Hardie Press, is now available. The volume is edited by Dr. Leslie Howard and contains a very generous 200 pages. For more information visit the Hardie Press website at www.hardiepress.co.uk or telephone/fax + 44 (0)1875 815 456.

The next newsletter will contain information (and a discount code for members) on a new edition of Liszt's *Chopin*, edited, and with a preface by Meirion Hughes. This volume is published by Manchester University Press.

FORTHCOMING CONCERTS

Sunday 7th November 2010, 7.30pm - Wigmore Hall, London

Melvyn Tan - piano

programme to include Schubert/Liszt song transcriptions

Tuesday 23rd November 2010, 7.30pm - Royal Festival Hall, London

Helene Grimaud - piano

programme to include Sonata in B minor

Thursday 30th December 2010, 7.30pm - Wigmore Hall, London

Bertrand Chamayou - piano

programme to include pieces from *Années de Pèlerinage, Première Année - Suisse*

Thursday 6th January 2011, 7.30pm - Barbican Hall, London

Barry Douglas - piano, London Symphony Orchestra, François-Xavier Roth - conductor

programme to include Piano Concerto No. 2 and Symphonic Poem No. 6 *Mazeppa*

Friday 7th January 2011, 7.30pm - Barbican Hall, London

Stewart Goodyear - piano, National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain

Kristjan Järvi - conductor

programme to include Totentanz

Tuesday 11th January 2011, 7.30pm - Queen Elizabeth Hall, London

Nikolai Lugansky - piano

programme to include three *Études d'exécution transcendante*

Sunday 16th January 2011, 7.00pm - Royal Festival Hall, London

Stephen Hough - piano, Budapest Festival Orchestra, Iván Fischer - conductor

programme to include Piano Concerto No. 1

Friday 21st January 2011, 7.00pm - Royal Festival Hall, London

Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Vladimir Jurowski - conductor

programme to include *Les Préludes*

Pre-concert talk on early recordings of Mahler and Liszt by Robert Philip, 5.45pm

Wednesday 26th January 2011, 7.30pm - Royal Festival Hall, London

Alexander Markovich - piano, London Philharmonic Orchestra

Vladimir Jurowski - conductor

programme to include Piano Concerto No. 2

Wednesday 9th February 2011, 7.30pm - Royal Festival Hall, London

Bernd Glemser - piano, London Philharmonic Orchestra, Osmo Vänskä - conductor

programme to include Totentanz

Sunday 13th February 2011, 7.30pm - Barbican Hall, London

Evgeny Kissin - piano

programme to include music by Liszt

Saturday 26th Febuary 2011, 7.30pm - Bridgewater Hall, Manchester

Gianandrea Noseda - conductor, BBC Philharmonic Orchestra

Ladies' Voices of the City of Birmingham Symphony Chorus

programme to include Dante Symphony

Friday 18th March 2011, 7.30pm - Bridgewater Hall, Manchester

Boris Berezovsky - piano, Orchestra of the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Rome

Antonio Pappano - conductor

programme to include Piano Concerto No. 1

Sunday 20th March 2011, 3.00pm - Purcell Room, London

Philip Dukes - viola, Piers Lane - piano

programme to include Berlioz/Liszt Harold en Italie

Wednesday 13th April 2011, 7.30pm - Queen Elizabeth Hall, London

Marc-André Hamelin - piano

programme to include Réminiscences de Norma

Monday 13th June 2011, 7.30pm - Royal Festival Hall, London

Daniel Barenboim - piano, Berlin Staatskapelle, Pierre Boulez - conductor

programme to include Piano Concertos No. 1 and 2

SUBSCRIPTIONS

UK £20 (students £10), EU £25, elsewhere £25

Payment must be made in pounds sterling (£/GBP) and cheques made out to 'The Liszt Society'. Members are invited to pay subscriptions or contribute donations by means of the **Paypal** system. Anyone with an e-mail address can open a Paypal account free of charge at www.paypal.co.uk. To pay subscriptions or donations set the payment destination as **treasurer@lizardsoc.org.uk** and specify the destination currency to be £ (GBP). The Paypal system will identify the sender by their e-mail address and any reference they may give. Members electing to pay this way are also requested to send a brief e-mail to both the treasurer and membership secretary (**memsec@lizardsoc.org**) to advise that they have transmitted payment. Please also inform the membership secretary if your contact details have changed.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Membership Secretary, Roy Cadman, may be contacted at this address:

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