



# The Liszt Society Newsletter

No. 36 - MARCH 1989

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Please see attached notice.

THE SUBSCRIPTION: The annual subscription to the Liszt Society falls due on 1st JULY, 1989. For members within the United Kingdom the flat rate is FIFTEEN POUNDS. Our members abroad will pay EIGHTEEN POUNDS. Some members still have not altered their standing orders and are thus in arrears. Would all members who pay by standing order please check that it is for the correct amount? Anyone who has already paid at the old rate is invited to send the balance of the new rate to the Secretary. Please note that no member who is not fully paid-up will receive the 1989 Journal [which will contain some very rare items of music] or the index to volumes 1-10, which will go out with the September newsletter [copy date for which is 1st September, 1989]. Why not make this the time to encourage your friends to join the Liszt Society?!

THE NEW LISZT EDITION: After many trials and tribulations, the second series [which will contain the transcriptions, paraphrases and fantasies on other composers' material, for piano solo] is now beginning to arrive in the country, and the new volumes will be handled by Boosey and Hawkes. Further information will appear during the next quarter. At present, volume II/7 is available, and volume II/14 will be here shortly, followed by volume II/1.

A NEW LISZT CONCERTO: Unlike the spurious attribution to Liszt of the Sophie Menter Concerto in the Hungarian Style [orchestrated by Tchaikovsky, and at most supervised by Liszt in Menter's short-score], the "new" concerto in E flat, soon to be published by Editio Musica Budapest [and to be obtainable through Boosey and Hawkes] is authentic indeed. 493 bars long, the piece takes about 15 minutes to perform [the first public performance will take place in Chicago next season, whilst the 1990 Proms will see the first British performance] and is in a single movement with four main subdivisions. This "third" concerto dates from around 1839, and is thus contemporary with the early drafts of the two concertos which we all know, but, unlike them, this concerto was never revised by Liszt, who seemed dissatisfied with several passages. The manuscript was left in some diasarray, and was misidentified as part of an earlier version of the first concerto. The Chicago musicologist, Jay Rosenblatt, has painstakingly reassembled the score and has provided it with an excellent and scholarly introduction.

BIOGRAPHY: The Society has received a copy of "Franz Liszt: La vita, l'artista, l'uomo" by Luciano Chiappari, published by Edizioni Tempo Sensibile, 1986, 567pp., Lire 30.000, which will be reviewed in the forthcoming Journal.

THEMATIC GUIDE: Schirmer's [New York] have published "Thematic Guide to Piano Literature - vol. 5 - Franz Liszt" by Marthe Morhange-Motchane and Joseph Bloch. Priced at \$9.95, the volume covers a wide range of Liszt's piano music [but not everything], illustrating main themes, keys, durations, editions, and degree of difficulty. The volume was enthusiastically reviewed in the European Piano Teachers' Association Journal.

NEW GROVE: The revised version of the volume entitled "The New Grove - PIANO",

in The Grove Musical Instruments Series, has been published in hardback [at £14.95] and in paperback by Macmillan/Papermac. The book is in four main sections, covering the history of the instrument, piano playing, pianists, and piano music, and is copiously illustrated.

RECORDINGS: "Ferruccio Busoni performs Liszt" - the performances taken from Welte rolls - is available as a CD [CD-1] or a cassette [CS-101] from Recorded Treasures, Dept. 222, P.O.B. 1278, Studio City, California, 91614, U.S.A. The price in America is \$16.50, but we have not been informed what the price for overseas subscribers would be. [The company does take Visa or Mastercharge, though.] The programme contains the Don Juan Fantasy, the Valse a capriccio, a Schubert/Liszt March, Adelaide, Rigoletto Paraphrase, the Second Polonaise, La Campanella and the Norma Fantasy.

Hyperion have just issued the third volume of Leslie Howard's Liszt cycle: Fantasy, Variations, Odes and Concert Solo [CDA/KA66302 - CD or cassette], which contains the B.A.C.H. Fantasy, the "Weinen, Klagen" Prelude and Variations, the 3 Funeral Odes [Les morts, La Notte, Le triomphe funèbre du Tasse] and the Grosses Konzertsolo.

ACTIVITIES OF OTHER LISZT SOCIETIES: The Liszt Society regularly receives information from the kindred societies in Holland, America, Hungary and Australia. Space prevents us from listing all of their doings, but any member intending to travel abroad can certainly apply to the Secretary for copies of other societies' newsletters. Council Member Alan Paul reports that the piano competition in Utrecht organised by the Dutch Liszt-Kring was of a very high standard [a full report will appear in the forthcoming Journal], and that the six prizes, in order, went to Enrico Pace [Italy], Alexei Orlovetsky [USSR], Wibi Soerjadi [Netherlands], Cesar La Cruz [Peru], Satomi Akimoto [Japan] and Philip Smith [Britain].

CONCERTS: British pianist Eric Hope will give a recital at the Wigmore Hall on Sunday, 11th June, at 7 pm. [note starting time] in which he plays two works of Bach, two of the Liszt Petrarch Sonnets, the "Weinen, Klagen" Variations, and the first book of Preludes by Debussy.

The Danish pianist Poul Rosenbaum will give Liszt's Sonata in his recital at St. John's Smith Square on Monday, 12th June, at 7.30 pm. The programme also includes Berio's Sequenza no. 4, Karl Aage Rasmussen's Paganini-Variations and the Charles Griffes Sonata.

In his recital at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 21st June, at St. Smith's [as musicians call it!], the American pianist Jerome Rose will play three of the Transcendental Studies along with Beethoven's opus 110 Sonata and a group of works by Chopin.

For anyone who might be within driving distance of Huddersfield on Saturday, 5th August, there will be a very unusual all-Liszt concert as part of the Summer Organ Conservatoire, organised by Nigel Allcoat [at 8 pm, at St. Paul's Concert Hall] with a great many famous Lisztians taking part in: Cantantibus organis [choir, piano, harp & organ], Psalm 23 [tenor, harp & organ], Psalm 137 [soprano, women's choir, violin, piano, harp & organ], Élégie [cello, piano, harp & organ], Grand duo concertant [violin & piano], Benedictus and Offertorium [violin & organ], Sainte Cecile [mezzo soprano, choir, piano, harp & organ], Ossa arida [men's choir & organ duet], Ave verum corpus & Qui seminant in lacrimis [choir and organ], Salve Regina [choir a cappella], and Inno a Maria Vergine [choir, piano duet, harp & organ]!

HOLIDAYS IN NORTH WALES FOR MUSICIANS: Long-time friend of the Society Mrs. Viola Lester has advised us of flats and rooms available in a newly started music centre with good pianos and excellent practice facilities as well as cooking and laundry facilities, in the seaside town of Pwllheli, and the number for all enquiries is 01-579 4091.

FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES: Please see attached notice.

[Compiled by John Davies for the Liszt Society, June 1989]