

The Liszt Society

Limited

Newsletter No. 50 - March 1993

Subscriptions: These were due for the 92/93 membership year on July 1st 1992. The rates are: U.K. members £15 p.a.; U.K. students £8 p.a.; Overseas members £18 p.a.. Please send subscriptions for the attention of the Secretary at 5 Pines Court, 48 Victoria Drive, London SW19 6BG. New members are still much needed. Applications forms are obtainable from the Secretary.

Covenants: The Society is a registered charity, so if you are a tax payer, you can help it to benefit financially by deciding to subscribe by covenant. Forms for this purpose can be obtained from the Secretary.

LISZT SOCIETY ACTIVITIES - 1993 (TO DATE)

April 22nd

The second joint meeting of the British-Hungarian Society and the Liszt Society will be held at the Hungarian Embassy, 35 Eaton Place, London SW1 at 6:30 for 7pm. Tickets are obtainable on receipt of payment and a S.A.E. from Audrey Ellison, 135 Stevenage Road, Fulham, London SW6 6PB. Tickets cost £10 each and forty have been allocated to the Liszt Society. Please make cheques payable to The Liszt Society Ltd. The recital will be given by Malcolm Troup, piano and Wendy Picton, euphonium accompanied by Sally Bradnam, piano.

May 25th

Two brilliant young members of the Society, Zoë Black, violin and Anthony di Giamtomasso, piano, will give a recital at Whiteleys of Bayswater at 8:30 p.m.. The cost, including a glass of wine, is £6. Cheques in advance to John Davies, 19 Birch Grove, Hook, Hants RG27 9HH.

This concert is the first of a series at Whiteleys which will include a masterclass and further recitals etc. The event needs to be fully supported if we are to continue the series, so please bring yourself and a car load of friends. (Please send a S.A.E. if you require a receipt).

ZOË BLACK is a graduate of the Victorian College of Arts. She won numerous awards before continuing her studies abroad, including the National Youth Concerto in 1989 and the string section of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's Young Performers Award in 1991. She has performed and studied in Russia, Tanglewood - USA, and in Britain where she is now living, her career guided by David Takeno of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Most recently, Miss Black won the major performance award of the Australian Music Foundation in London.

ANTHONY DI GIANTOMASSO is both a solo pianist and an ensemble player, whose studies took him from Australia to the United States, before he settled in London. His professional career is at present under the guidance of both Geoffrey Parsons and Leslie Howard. He has undertaken two world tours as a choral accompanist, and has played solo concerts and broadcasts in

America, Britain, Germany and South East Asia, as well as in Australia.

Programme

Sonata in B flat, K.V.454	Mozart
Sonata in F, Op. 57	Dvorák
Interval	
Die drei Zigeuner, S.383	Liszt
Epithalam, S.129	Liszt
Grand duo concertant, S.128	Liszt
Tzigane	Ravel

June 20th

A soirée for members will be held at the home of John Davies (address above). The cost, inclusive of wine, will be £5 members and £8 non-members. Those members who are interested to perform on this occasion should telephone John on 081-893 7288 (daytime).

July 10th

The A.G.M. of the Society will be held at St Mary's Church, Battersea, and will be followed by a piano and organ recital given by Leslie Howard and Iain Quinn. Full details in the next Newsletter.

MEMBERS NEWS

Leslie Howard continues his recordings of Liszt's solo piano music for Hyperion Records. His 21st volume in the series - CDA6666 1/2 has been released. The works reflect Liszt's travels to Italy in the mid-1830s.

Steven Isserlis and Leslie Howard broadcast Liszt's complete music for 'cello and piano on BBC Radio 3 earlier this month.

April 16th - Antoinette and Claire Cann give a recital at St John's Smith Square. Tickets from the St John's box office. The duo included works by Liszt in a recent recital near Milton Keynes.

June 19th - Steven Isserlis and Paul Coker will perform two Liszt works at the Wigmore Hall: La lugubre gondola S.134 and Die Zelle in Nonnenwerth S.382.

American member David Buechner will be recording his fifth CD for Connoisseur Society in April. It will be an all-Liszt album containing the six Paganini études, the Don Juan and Lucia fantasies, and the Oberon overture. Members will be notified of the release date. Mr Buechner will be performing in the U.K. in January 1994 with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra - more details nearer the time.

Obituary - It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Australian member Dennis Hennig. Mr Hennig was in regular contact with the Society and contributed the article on Tausig's transcriptions of Liszt's tone poems in the 1992 Journal. The following obituary is reprinted by permission of the author from the Sydney Morning Herald, Tuesday 19 January 1993.

Dennis Hennig - 1952-1993:

Musician, Scholar and Fine Teacher

The Melbourne-born pianist and musicologist, Dennis Hennig died on Sunday, aged 41, after a long illness.

Dennis Hennig was best known for his dazzling performances and recordings of lesser-known 19th-century virtuoso music. Two of his recent enthusiasms were the music of Carl Tausig, a young Liszt protégé whose pieces and transcriptions are of fearsome difficulty, and that of the neglected British composer and mystic Cyril Scott. His two CDs of Tausig and one of Scott represented pioneering research through recording, and received wide critical acclaim.

His interest in 19th-century piano music dated from his student days at Oxford (where he subsequently gained an MPhil). His dissertation explored the music of the French composer Charles-Valentine Alkan. As a scholar, Dennis Hennig published articles on musicians and theorists associated with Liszt and the so-called New German School, and at the time of his death he was engaged in editing Tausig's transcriptions of Liszt's tone poems for publication.

Dennis Hennig was a senior lecturer in musicology at the Sydney Conservatorium, where he won admiration for his ability to mix scholarship and performance. He was always very popular with students, particularly for his drive and his sometimes irreverent wit. His death, which tragically came at the prime of his career, has deprived Sydney of a brilliant and innovative musician.

(Peter McCallum)

RECITALS BY NON-MEMBERS

On February 15, James Lisney, piano, included Liszt's *Bénédiction de Dieu dans la Solitude* in his Purcell Room recital. Ian Hobson, piano, included the Don Juan fantasy in a recital given to the Hendon Music Society on March 6th.

Saturday April 3 at 7:30pm - Feltham Choral Society, conductor Philip Buckmaster, will give a performance of Liszt's *Missa Choralis* in their Feltham Festival concert at St Dunstan's Church, Lower Feltham. (Telephone Patricia Read on 081-751 0433). Tickets at £5 and £3 concession. The organist at St Dunstan's will be Nigel Hutchinson who is the assistant organist at Farnborough Abbey. Feltham Choral Society (35 members) is celebrating its 20th Anniversary.

April 9th (Good Friday). There will be a liturgical performance of Liszt's *Via Crucis* given at St Peter's, Eaton Square, London SW1W. The service will take place at 2pm.

April 24th - Christopher Seed will perform Liszt's transcription of Beethoven's *Symphony No.7 in A major* in his recital at St John's Smith Square.

July 29 at 8:30pm - *American Liszt Society (ALS) - EPTA UK International Conference:*

Liszt Society members are invited by EPTA's founder and organising secretary, Carola Grindea, to attend the recital following the conference buffet supper. The recital will be given by ALS special representative Professor Boaz Sharon of the University of Florida, Gainesville. (Full details in the June Newsletter). It was Fernando Laires, President of the ALS, who first suggested the idea of exchanges between ALS and EPTA. Professor Sharon's visit represents the first such exchange. EPTA's UK President, Kendall Taylor, is to represent EPTA at a forthcoming Annual Congress of ALS.

Dudley Newton, Former Editor of the Society's Journal, has sent the following information:

- i. A new CD giving an hour of Sgambati's piano music has recently been issued in Italy on the Giulia label (GS201023). The pianist is Ruggero Ruocco. The works presented are the Suite in B minor Op.21, two Nocturnes - Op.20 No.3 and Op.31, the twelve *Mémoires poétiques* Op.36, and the two concert studies Op.10.
- ii. An English version of Bertrand Ott's book '*Liszt et la Pédagogie du Piano*', published in France in 1978, is now available. The translation is by Donald H. Windham. It is published by the Edwin Mellen Press, Lewiston, New York with the title '*Lisztian Keyboard Energy*' at £39.95. Contact the Edwin Mellen Press, Mellen House, Lampeter, Dyfed, Wales SA48 7DY. A 50% discount is available when ordering by 'phone (Visa or Mastercard) on 0570-423356 (U.K.).

LISZT SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

Volume 10 - *The Complete Works for Violoncello & Piano* - £19.95. The publisher has kindly offered Society members a permanent 15% discount now that the introductory offer has expired. Contact The Hardie Press, 35 Mountcastle Terrace, Edinburgh EH8 7SF.

Details on postage and packing charges can be found in the December '92 Newsletter, or by telephoning the publisher on 031-657 2097.

The Society would like to offer its thanks to Chris Srawley who resigned at the end of last year from the Society Council after twenty years service as Treasurer. We also extend a warm welcome to Stuart Hudson who has stepped into the breach.