

The Liszt Society

Limited

Spring Newsletter - April 1995

No. 57

It is with very deep regret that the Society reports the death on January 26, 1995 of Patron Geoffrey Parsons, O.B.E.. An obituary notice will be published in Volume 20, 1995, of the Society's Journal.

Subscriptions for the 94/95 membership year became due on 1 July 1994. Many are still outstanding. The rates are £15 p.a. for UK members, and £18 p.a. for overseas members. The UK student rate is £8 p.a. Please send subscriptions to the Secretary, George L Morvay, 21 Ashburton Road, CROYDON Surrey CRO 6AP.

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 can be obtained from the Treasurer.

Liszt Society Changes: Vice-President Kenneth Souter now also serves as Treasurer -on the Council of Management in succession to Stuart Hudson. Gratitude to Stuart Hudson will be paid at the Annual General Meeting. Ms. Sarah J. Lockerbie no longer serves on Council.

FORTHCOMING LISZT SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

On Sunday May 14th 1995, Dr Kenneth Hamilton, member of Council of the Society, gives a recital at the Austrian Institute 28 Rutland Gate, London SW7 at 3 p.m. Members £5, Guests £8, tickets from John Davies, see application form. Please note change of pianist (see Newsletter No. 56).

Diary Date: The Society's Annual General Meeting will be held on 21st October at 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Church, Battersea, London SW11. The AGM will be followed by a concert and reception (optional, at which food and wine will be served).

MEMBERS' NEWS

Iain Quinn, organ, a member of the Society Council, has been appointed Director of Music at the Church of the Intercession, West 155th Street, New York. Currently an Organ Scholar at Juilliard, Iain continues to make his mark as a brilliant recitalist and concerto performer on both sides of the Atlantic. Last month Iain gave recitals in England at St. Martin-in-the-Fields and at the Fairfield Hall, Croydon.

Professor Todd Crow of Vassar College, New York, gave a piano recital at the Wigmore Hall at 1 p.m. on March 15. The recital was broadcast by the BBC on Radio 3. Todd Crow performed works by Haydn and Schumann.

D'Arcy Trinkwon, organ included Liszt's *Harmonies du Soir* in his recital of Easter music at St. Paul's Church, Hammersmith, London on April 7.

RECITALS BY NON-MEMBERS

Spanish pianist, **Silvia Torán**, included Liszt's Sonata in B minor in her Wigmore Hall debut recital on April 7. Ms. Torán obtained her Master's degree at the Juilliard School where she studied with Earl Wild. Members living near TORONTO please note that **Dance Oremus Danse** is presenting an all-Liszt recital entitled FRANZ LISZT HEROIC ROOT. The programme includes songs and solo piano music, together with dance, and a lecture by Dr. Alan Walker. The pianist is Chinese-Canadian Jiayin Lin. Contact the Glenn Gould Studio box office at Tel. No. (416) 205-5555. Swiss pianist **Daniel Kreder** includes Liszt's Sonata in B minor in his programme at St. John's, Smith Square, London SW1 on October 25th, 1995 at 7.30 p.m.

RECORDINGS BY MEMBERS

Liszt's complete music for solo piano Nos. 31 and 32 - **Leslie Howard** continues his "Hyperion journey". In March 1995, Hyperion released 3 compact discs CDA 66951/3, the first of 3 sets of Liszt's Schubert Transcriptions. The second set, CDA 66954/6, a further three CDs, was released in April 95.

New member **Hiromi Okada's** Liszt CD: EMI TOCZ-9156 (recorded at Abbey Road Studios and made in Japan) includes the following works: *Trois Études de Concert, Il Lamento, La Leggerezza, Un Sospiro, Sonetto del Petrarca No. 104, Bénédiction de Dieu dans la Solitude, Harmonies Poétiques et Religieuses No. 3, Zwei Konzert-Etüden: Waldesrauschen and Gnomen Reigen*. Keith Fagan has kindly reviewed Prof. Okada's CD, regretting that the booklet is written in Japanese. Those ordering the CD by mail order are assured of the inclusion of a note about Prof. Okada (currently living in England) in English. Keith Fagan writes "All these works have been recorded many times and the total playing time for this CD is just over 51 minutes is rather short measure...I think the playing and recording have to be of an exceptional quality before the this CD can be recommended without reservation. In my opinion, they are... and the playing itself I find utterly beautiful. Incidentally, just before the coda of the D flat study he interpolates a connecting passage Liszt wrote after the study had first been published...my criticisms concerning the notes and playing time ...are overridden by the quality of the playing and recording, the other - and perhaps clinching - factor that "sells" this CD is the very intelligent programme building...a valuable addition to the Liszt discography." Prof. Okada's CD may be obtained, price £14.50 including p. and p. from: Jonathan Myall, 36 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 2RA (Tel: 0181 668-3311). A profile of Prof. Okada will appear in the Summer 1995 newsletter.

RECORDINGS BY NON-MEMBERS

In February, Hyperion released a CD (CDA 66719) of the works for violin and piano by Liszt, recorded by Chris Nicholls, violin, and Jonathan Ayerst, piano. See also **Cziffra and correspondence** below.

PUBLICATIONS

Lisztian Keyboard Energy An essay on the Pianism of Franz Liszt by Prof. Bertrand Ott, translated from the French by Donald H. Windham. Telephone orders (716) 754-2788 US or Canada, (01570)-423-356 UK. Price \$99.95, £49.95p 20% discount telephone orders Visa/Mastercard only from The Edwin Mellen Press, Mellen House, Lampeter, Dyfed, Wales SA48 7DY.

Liszt y España - España en el piano de Liszt by Antonio Gallego. Ciclo en al 150 aniversario (1844-45) de su viaje a nuestro país. "Liszt, precursor del interés europeo por España". Boletín Informativo No. 246 January 1995, Fundación Juan March (Private communication from Alicia de Rios, Madrid. Ed)

Franz Liszt Studies Series (formerly the American Liszt Society Studies Series): FLSS No2 **Liszt in Germany 1840-1845** by Michael Saffle ISBN 0-945193-39-4 US\$48.00 £32.00. **Living with Liszt** from the diary of Carl Lachmund, an American pupil of Liszt, 1882-1884 FLSS No 4 ISBN 0-945193-56-4 US\$48.00, £32.00. Forthcoming title - **The Symphonic Poems of Franz Liszt** by Keith T. Johns FLSS No 3 ISBN 0-945193-40-8 US\$46.00. The above titles are available from Rosemary M S Dooley, Crag House, Witherslack, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria LA11 6RW Tel: 015395 52286 (Fax: 015395 52013).

CORRESPONDENCE FROM MEMBERS

Pianist **Alberto Portugheis** sheds light on Lynn Hoggard's footnote, page 39 Journal Vol. 19, 1994. "A room on the fifth floor, overlooking St. Antoine." This refers to St. Antoine de Padoue (St. Anthony of Padua), a Roman Catholic church in J.J. Schaub Straße No. 17, Geneva.

Members seeking further information to Dudley Newton's note (December 1994 Newsletter) on the ARSC Conference, New York, June '94, please refer to Robert Matthew-Walker's article in **Musical Opinion**, page 283, Autumn 1994 issue. Apologies to Mr. Matthew-Walker for omitting the source of Dudley Newton's note.

Dudley Newton writes "A new computer program called *Sibelius* operating on a PC enables students of orchestral composition to hear a full orchestra playing what they have written, including the effect of changes in the orchestration. The sounds are produced by a synthesiser. The system, which is on sale for under £2000, is now in use at the Royal Academy of Music. The composer can enter music in two ways. One is to write the notes on conventional staves on the screen using a mouse, the other is to play the music on a MIDI keyboard. At present, the rhythmic pattern has to be entered by hand, but the system will soon be able to deal with this."

Cziffra. Alan Thorpe Albesson has written with information about **La Société Internationale de Amis de Georges Cziffra** formed on February 4th, 1995 in Senlis, France. The

Honorary President is Cziffra's widow, Madame Soleilka Cziffra. The Society will issue an exhaustive discography and plans exist to preserve, catalogue and sell to its members unknown "live" recordings, both Audio and Video. The UK representative is Stuart Bowyer to whom subscriptions for membership may be sent (£15 payable to "Les Amis de Cziffra"). Mr Bowyer's address is: 19 Ragsdale Street, Rothwell, Kettering, Northants NN14 6DE Tel (01356) - 710375. The Society hopes to mount an exhibition in May 1995 at the Salle Pleyel, Paris, and, later, in the UK. Mr. Bowyer would like to hear from Liszt Society members who may possess Cziffra memorabilia, and hopes for collaboration with the Liszt Society in the future. Cziffra's dramatic autobiography "Des Canons et des Fleurs" is to be published by Brian Crimp of Appian Publications and Recordings, PO Box 1, Wark, Hexham, Northumberland NE48 3EW Tel/Fax (01434) - 220627.

Mr Albesson continues: "This publication will be of very special interest and delight to Mrs Eunice Mistarz (Secretary of The Liszt Society, 1972-1988) as her hope for an English translation of Cziffra's autobiography has finally been realised. Mrs. Mistarz visited Cziffra's Foundation and Franz Liszt Auditorium in Senlis in the 1970s and wrote a fascinating article in the Liszt Society Journal, Volume 4, Spring 1979. She was handed an enviable presentation of a personally signed boxed set of LPs of the the Hungarian Rhapsodies (1957) by the Maestro himself!"

Further news of Cziffra recordings from Mr. Albesson:-
Hungaraton Classics HCD-31569 (1955-56 Budapest)
Liszt: Transcendental Studies Nos 1,2, 8 and 9
J Strauss: Cziffra's paraphrases and transcriptions of four popular Strauss works.

Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue. Hungarian State Orchestra conducted by Rosznyai, issued for the first time with the permission of Cziffra's widow.

VAI A/1066 (2 CDs) - The nineteen Hungarian Rhapsodies, played by nineteen great pianists including Cziffra, Moiseiwitch, Cherkassky, Wild et al.

FOR SALE

Liszt Bust sculpted by Lucien Pallez, born 22 May, 1853, a personal friend of Liszt. The sculpture is 35 inches (90cm) high and 24 inches (60cm) wide and is in red terracotta, larger than life. It was exhibited in the Salon in 1873. At the time Liszt was in his 60s, the sculptor 20 years old. The Pallez-Liszt authenticity has been confirmed by the Victoria and Albert Museum. Price: £4,800 - enquiries to J. Audrey Ellison (address below).

OTHER NEWS

MALEV Hungarian Airlines plc. The summer 1995 schedule (26 March to 29 October) has now become a double daily service to Hungary and, for the first time, a same day return is now possible London/Budapest. Tel: 0171 - 439 0577 (Malev) or travel agencies.

Compiled by J. Audrey Ellison

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