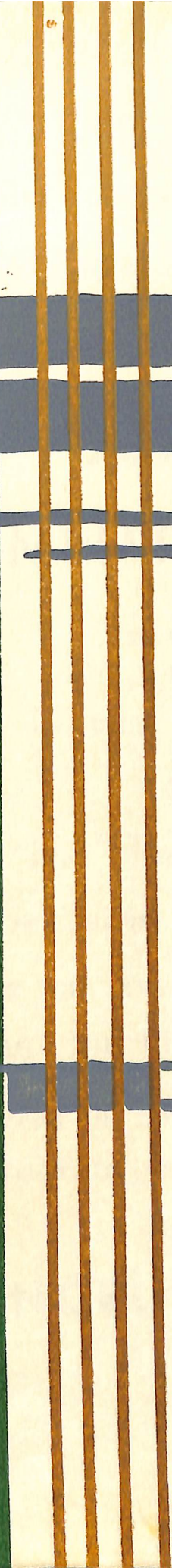


*Halle Sans Clés
Association - Journal
N. 1 69.*



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Manoel
Theatre

CREMONA

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THE MALTA BAND CLUBS ASSOCIATION

WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF

REDIFFUSION (MALTA) LTD.

PRESENTS

**A VOCAL AND
INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT**

BY

The National Band of Malta

AND

The Hamrun Choir

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE OF

HIS GRACE THE METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP

MGR. SIR MICHAEL GONZI

AND

THE HON. MINISTER OF EDUCATION, CULTURE & TOURISM

on SATURDAY, 11th JANUARY 1969 at 6.30 p.m.

AT THE

MANOEL THEATRE

(Rafael Calvi)
11/1/69



HIS GRACE MGR. SIR MICHAEL GONZI

D.D., B.Lit., B.L.Can., J.C.D. (Greg.), LL.D., (Hon. Causa),

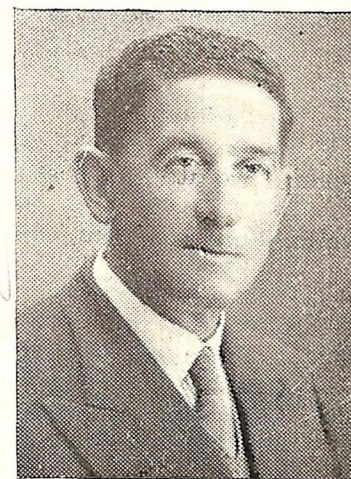
K.B.E., Bailiff Grand Cross of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

Metropolitan Archbishop of Malta.

PATRON OF THE

MALTA BAND CLUBS ASSOCIATION

M. B. C. A's ROLE



It costs tears to watch the inheritance of the music tradition, handed over to us centuries ago, fading and losing its proper perspective and values.

Through constant vigilance and zeal on the part of this National Organisation, ever faithful to the promotion of teaching and cultivating both Operatic and Classical Music, it has been possible to hold and to organise such programmes as the one you are about to listen to. This is supported by past events

which were highly appreciated by the general public, and the ever increasing programmes of similar nature at other venues.

Today we were taking a much deeper look on the problems of Musical Education; and appreciating the magnitude of outside influence affecting the up and coming generation, 'A challenge in itself', the Malta Band Clubs Association is doing its utmost to encourage and to foster into the minds of our youth the love and appreciation of the cultural values — both present and past — of the Art of Music.

We look forward with zest and great interest and determination to enlist the support of all who have the development of the music culture at heart, to help us in our endeavours to further propagate the training methods and taking advantage of the new and modern facilities which science has and is placing at our disposal.

ANALYTIC NOTES

by *Romeo Micallef*

1a. Overture ALPHA, by N. Mifsud

This overture is in the traditional style of the 19th Century. The slow introduction is followed by two themes in different keys, and a Coda to conclude the work.

The title of the piece does not represent any Programme or story, but only indicates that it is the Composer's first important work.

1b. RACCONTO SINFONICO by Mro. Joseph Abela Scolaro.

This composition which was written in 1959 takes us back to the beginning of the century during the perturbed days of the Russian Revolution. The music narrates a depressed love which sprang up during those days.

The Composer has successfully brought together two extremes, Love and War, thus making the contrast more effective.

The introduction opens with running passages accompanied with short periodical phrases on different instruments, followed by the main theme in F minor. The revolution is described with discords on heavy brass instruments and running passages on the woodwind section. Different periods of the story appear in the middle section of the composition and the composer has succeeded in portraying the various sanguinary skirmishes by instruments of different sections. The main theme is repeated in the Finale with full climax recollecting the whole story. This composition was also arranged for orchestra and was performed at the Phoenicia Hotel in one of the programmes selected by the Malta Cultural Institute.

2. Symphony No. 5 FROM THE NEW WORLD. by A. Dvorak.

Dvorak's 5th Symphony is one of peculiar interest, not only because of its intrinsic beauties and excellencies, but also because it is in one sense a tribute to America, by utilizing melodies of negro character in the thematic treatment.

At the invitation of Mrs. Jeannette Thurber, an amateur music lover and wife of a well-to-do wholesale grocer, Dvorak left his homeland for the U.S.A. late in 1892, to head the National Conservatoire of Music in New York, of which she herself was the founder.

The Symphony was completed a year later and first performed by the New York Philharmonic under Anton Seidl.

As in most symphonies it has four movements:- Adagio; Molto Allegro; Largo; Scherzo — Molto Vivace; and Allegro con Fuoco.

3. Selections from the opera CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA by P. Mascagni.

In 1889 the Italian music publisher Sonzogno held a competition for the best one Act opera. A submission by Pietro Mascagni launched him into a triumphant career. Cavalleria Rusticana, an opera with a simple story and a tragic close, created a sensation, when produced in Rome in 1890. Though the composer wrote other operas, he never succeeded to repeat the triumph of his great work.

4. Selections from the opera CARMEN by G. Bizet.

In June of 1872 G. Bizet informed one of his friends that he was asked to write a three acts opera for the Opera Comique.

The opera would be bright, but of a brightness that allowed style. The result was a well nigh perfect work with an intensely moving and dramatic story, admittedly expurgated so as not to shock opera-goers' sensibilities.

Carmen, herself, for example, was transformed from a petty thief into a glamorous heroine. The opera is admirably constructed and very well told, with a score which reflects the passion and humour of the action.

Little did its composer realize on his death bed three months later, that everybody would make a fortune from his masterpiece except himself.

PROGRAMME

- a) Overture. "ALPHA" *N. Mifsud*
b) "RACCONTO SINFONICO" *Jos. Abela Scolaro*

Directed by Mro. N. Mifsud F.L.C.M.

- Symphony No. 5 "FROM THE NEW WORLD" *A. Dvorak*
Directed by Mro. C. Caruana

— INTERVAL —

- Fantasia. "CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA" *P. Mascagni.*
(With participation of Hamrun Choir)
Directed by Mro. N. Mifsud F.L.C.M.

- Grand Fantasia. "CARMEN" *G. Bizet*
(With participation of Hamrun Choir)
Directed by Mro. C. Caruana

- "OVERTURE IN C MINOR" *C. Pace*
Directed by Mro. N. Mifsud F.L.C.M.



COUNCIL OF THE MALTA BAND CLUBS ASSOCIATION

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And a member from each Band Club affiliated with the Association

Auditors:

Mr. EDWIN F. NAUDI — Mr. C. GRIMA

Mro. CARMELO CARUANA

Mro. Carmelo Caruana was born at Luqa in 1926. His musical career started with St. Andrew Band of Luqa where he learned to play the clarinet.

Coming from a musical family, he studied also the violin and Harmony. At the age of 18, Mro. Caruana became Assistant Bandmaster of St. Andrew Band, also working with other Bands as guest Conductor.

He is Bandmaster of Maria Mater Gratiae Band of Zabbar. He has composed many festive marches and has arranged many orchestral works, including Selections from the opera Carmen, which he conducts during this Concert.



C. Caruana

Mro. N. MIFSUD F.L.C.E.

Mro. N. Mifsud started his musical career as a Clarinetist with the St. Catherine Band Zurriq, and followed it up with a course in Piano and Harmony with Mro. Joseph Casa-Pinta obtaining Grade Certificates from the Royal School of Music, as well as the A.Mus. L.C.M. Diploma.

After a short period of rest, he resumed his studies under Mro. Joseph Abela Scolaro and finally took up an advance course in Higher Harmony, Counterpoint, Fugue and Instrumentation under Mro. Carmelo Pace. This led him successfully to obtain his Licenciateship Diploma from the London College of Music.

His compositions are numerous, including a Cantata for Soprano, Tenor and Baritone with Band accompaniment, Overture, a number of Marches, Songs etc, but his best

works are the String Quartet, Cassation for Flute, Oboe, Clarinet and Bassoon, and Rondo for Clarinet and Piano. These last three pieces were successfully submitted for his Fellowship Diploma.

Mro. N. Mifsud is the Director of the Lourdes Band at Qrendi, as well as assistant Director of the St. Cajetan Band Hamrun.



N. Mifsud

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Maestro P. NANI — *Member.*

Magistrate Dr. G. F. GOUDER LL.D., B.A — *Member.*

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

BRITISH COUNCIL — Piano Recital by Denis Matthews — 12th January 1969

MALETH — Meta Jidbaxxa d-Dawl — 18th and 19th January 1969.

JAMES FALKLAND — A Credit to the Country — 22nd to 26th January 1969

S. BEHREND (Guitarist) — Recital — 28th January 1969

UNIVERSITY PLAYERS — Therese Raquin — 7th to 9th February 1969

DANTE ALIGHIERI GRUPPO GIOVANILE — Variety Concert — 22nd February 1969

M.A.D.C. — Amphitryon 38 — 27th February to 2nd March, 1969

