



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND TOURISM

The Manoel Theatre Management Committee

present an

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

← **Leader — GEORGE SPITERI**

Conductor — JOSEPH SAMMUT

Villa Rundle, Gozo — Wednesday, 26th August, 1970

PROGRAMME

Overture

L'ITALIANA IN ALGERI

ROSSINI 1792 - 1868

Rossini's greatest gift as a composer was deft touch in writing sparkling, effervescent music that bubbles like champagne. Frequently criticized for writing music with little more depth than a mere surface veneer, Rossini nevertheless was a master of opera-buffa style. In the production of music that chuckles and sparkles in every bar, Rossini was incomparable. Gioacchino Rossini was born in Pesaro, Italy. He studied with Mattei at the Liceo Musicale in Bologna.

In his overture Rossini uses most brilliant colours and allows his rhythmical "sirocco" temperament to flare at every opportunity.

Fantasia

LA BOHEME

PUCCHINI 1858 - 1924

First performed: Turin, 1896, Libretto by Giuseppe Giocosa and Luigi Illica, after the novel by Henry Münger.

La Bohème, the tunes and the pathos of which have made it one of the most successful operas ever written, was Puccini's fourth opera. Preceding it were the unsuccessful *Le Villi* and *Edgar*, produced in 1884 and 1889 respectively, and the successful *Manon Lescaut* (1893).

SOUTH PACIFIC

RODGERS 1902 -

American composer of light music especially to musical plays, *Oklahoma*, *South Pacific*, *King and I* etc.

INTERVAL

SWAN LAKE

TCHAIKOWSKY 1840 - 1839

First performed: Theatre, Moscow, in 1877.

In 1875, the directors of the Moscow Opera commissioned Tchaikowsky to write his first ballet. Thus, the master was brought to a field of composition in which he was to prove eminently successful, was to be the forerunner of that magistral line of great Russian composers of Ballet music extending through Stravinsky and

Prokofiev. The *Swan Lake* was presented at the Bolshoy Theatre in Moscow on March 4, 1877 (Choreography by Julius Reisinger). It was unsuccessful and soon withdrawn. Tchaikowsky planned to revise his score, but death intervened. As a memorial to the great composer, the second act of the ballet, revised, was performed at the St. Petersburg Maryinsky Theatre — the choreography, this time, planned by Marius Petipa (in collaboration with Ivanov). One year later, the complete ballet was revised at the same theatre and with the same choreographers; this time it scored a success.

C. PACE 1906 -

MOTO PERPETUO

Written in 1940 and performed for the first time in a concert conducted by the late Mario Cirillo. The music in general has a classical flavour and the writing is at once fluent and alive. It is a straight forward piece relying only on its modulations for the variety of moods.

Humoreske OP. 10

TCHAIKOWSKY 1840 - 1893

CHANSON TRISTE OP. 40

All his life Tchaikowsky was very "nervy". Many musicians are easily excited into joy, and easily depressed into gloom. This comes from their sensitive natures, without which they could not be musicians, and if they suffer from ill health (as Tchaikowsky) and do not make a steady effort to obtain self-control (as Tchaikowsky probably did not), their nervous temperament gives them a good deal of trouble all through their life. Tchaikowsky was often saddened by not receiving the recognition he felt his work deserved, but when he was about thirty-seven something happened which cheered him and helped him all the rest of his life.

LUIGINI 1850 - 1906

EGYPTIAN SUITE BALLETT

Luigini Alexander Clement Leon Joseph, French violinist conductor and composer of orchestral piece called "Egyptian Ballet" and other light orchestral music; also of operas.

No. 1 Allegro non Troppo.

No. 2 Allegretto.

No. 3. Andante sostenuto.

No. 4 Andantino, Allegro non troppo.

Presented The Great Lake was presented at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow on
the 4th of December 1877. It was unsuccessful and soon
afterwards the librettist, to revise his score, but death intervened. As a
result the librettist died. The second act of the ballet revised was per-
formed at the Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow, on the 11th of December 1877. The con-
ductor of the orchestra was the composer himself. On the 12th of December
the ballet was revised at the same theatre and with the same conductor.
The time it took to perform a concert was 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Copyright of the librettist and the composer, 1877.

NOTO PERPETUO

Written in 1840 and published for the first time in a concert conducted by
the late Maria Cialla. The music is in the form of a classical concerto and the writing
is of the highest order. It is a very fine piece of music and is well
known for the variety of its effects.

Copyright of the librettist and the composer, 1840-1847.

CHAMPION TRISTE ON 10

All the librettists are very "new". Many mistakes are easily excused
into fact and easily dismissed into fiction. This comes from their writer's nature.
The librettist which first could not be excused, and it they suffer from ill health (as
the librettist and the composer are usually about the same age) and the librettist
knows the librettist and the composer's nature, they are a good deal
of trouble and though they are librettists they are not receiving
the librettist to tell the story of the librettist and the composer's nature.
They are not which should be the case of the librettist and the composer.

London 1830-1835

EGYPTIAN SUITE BALLETT

Written by Alexander C. and first performed at the Bolshoi Theatre in
Moscow on the 11th of December 1877. The music is in the form of a classical
concerto and is of the highest order.

Copyright of the librettist and the composer, 1877.