



THE PRINCIPAL AND STAFF
on the
10TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE JOHANN STRAUSS SCHOOL OF MUSIC
and in connection with the
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF YOUTH AND MUSIC
under the patronage of the
Hon. Prime Minister and Minister of Education
DR. KARMENU MIFSUD BONNICI

present an

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

by

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC ORCHESTRA

at the

MANOEL THEATRE

25th April, 1985 at 7 p.m.

PROGRAMME

PACE CARMELO (1906-) — **MOTO PERPETUO**

Carmelo Pace needs no introduction in the musical field, as he has always been one of the leading Maltese composers still active both in composition as well as in conducting. The Moto Perpetuo was written in 1940, and performed for the first time in a Concert conducted by the late Mario Cirillo. The piece itself is written for violins while the rest of the orchestra performs the accompaniment. The music in general has a Classical flavour and is a lively and fluent piece relying only on its modulations for the variety of moods.

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750) — **CONCERTO No. 3 in E. MAJOR FOR VIOLIN, STRINGS AND CONTINUO**

So much has been said about Bach and his music, that it is superfluous to add anything. This work is one of the earliest examples of Concerto for solo instrument. One finds for the first time an introduction of a distinctly virtuoso character in the solo part, in comparison to what the public was accustomed to hear in those days — that is, the CONCERTO GROSSO. Solo and orchestra now do not alternate in importance, but the orchestra is there to accompany the soloist.

INTERVAL

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL (1685-1759) — **CONCERTO GROSSO No. 4 IN A MINOR FOR 2 VIOLINS, STRINGS AND CONTINUO**

Larghetto Affettuoso — Allegro — Largo e Piano — Allegretto

Although it is said that Handel's music has not the profound concentration of Bach's, Handel was nevertheless noted to be a very prolific composer of all kinds of music, and his continuous roaming from one place to another made him popular throughout the world even during his lifetime. He wrote two sets of Concerti Grossi; one set of six for flutes, oboes, bassoons, strings and continuo, and a second set of twelve Concerti for strings and continuo. The Concerto Grosso performed tonight, comes from the second group and was published in 1739. It has as its 'concertato' two violins and a cello.

JEREMIAH CLARKE (?-1707) **SUITE IN D MAJOR FOR TRUMPETS AND ORCHESTRA**

Prelude — Minuet — Sybelle — Rondeau — Serenade — Bouree — Hornpipe — Gigue

This Suite by Jeremiah Clarke is noted mostly for its "Trumpet Voluntary", which forms the fourth movement. This had been wrongly attributed to Henry Purcell for many years, but Clarke is undoubtedly the composer, and at least five sources, including the suite performed tonight, bear his name on the manuscripts. The suite was called the "Suit de Clairque", and Clarke uses the trumpet in a most conservative way. It is to be noted that the original trumpet part was never found, but its reconstruction was fairly simple, as at that time, the trumpet always doubled the treble part.

CONDUCTOR

MARIO BISAZZA — Born in Sliema on the 4th of January, 1947, he started his studies at the age of 6 and at the age of 12 was already playing with the Manoel Theatre Orchestra. He obtained his LRSM after passing grades I to VIII with distinction, winning two first prizes. In 1975 he was the first teacher to join the Music School to teach violin, where he also had lessons with Sventha Maschat Danneburg. In 1977 he attended a course in Salzburg under Professor Renato de Barbieri and Sandor Veigh. He performed various times both as soloist, as in the case of the Violin Recital on TVM, and Max Bruch Violin Concerto at the University Hall, also transmitted on TVM, as well as in various Chamber Music Concerts. He is leader of the BREVIS QUARTET and also regular leader of both Mro. Vella's and Mro. Camilleri's Orchestras. Lately, he performed Bach's Double Violin Concerto at the University Hall with Stephen Zammit. He is also Musical Director of the Choral Society, with which he conducted various concerts, and at present is still teaching at the School of Music, where apart from violin-teaching, he is also coaching two chamber groups and the School Orchestra.

SOLOISTS

GEORGE CURMI was born in Valletta on the 10th August, 1966. He comes from a very artistic and musical family well known in Valletta. It was his father Mr Joseph Curmi, himself a noted Saxophonist, and presently principal Timpani player with the Manoel Theatre Resident Orchestra, that started George off in his musical education giving him lessons in the theory of music and drums at the early age of seven.

In 1978, he started learning the violin at the Johann Strauss School of Music, with Mr Joseph Galea, and later with Mr Guido Mamo. In 1981, he obtained a scholarship granted by the Italian Government, where he studied Violin with Professor Mauro Cecchanti, at the 'Luigi Cherubini' in Florence. Since 1983 he has been a full-time member of the Manoel Resident Orchestra. He has given various recitals at the School of Music, and is 1st Violin in the School String Quartet.

George also takes a keen interest in Jazz and has appeared on stage in Malta's Art Festival, where he played the Violin with local and foreign Jazz artists. Currently he is undertaking advanced lessons at the School of Music in jazz and violin with Mro. Paul Abela, and Mr Mario Bisazza.

MARCELLE AGIUS was born in St Julian's on the 3rd February 1967. She showed a keen interest in Music ever since she was young, and in 1976 she entered the School of Music where, after two years of preparatory studies, she started having violin lessons. Her first teacher was Mr G. Mamo, and later on she continued her studies with Mr Joe Galea, with whom she still has regular lessons at the same school. On the 1st March 1984, after a successful audition, she was employed as a full time member with the Manoel Theatre Resident Orchestra, where she is still working, playing with the second violins. At school, she takes part regularly at school concerts both as a soloist, in Chamber groups and also as a member of the school orchestra.

MARIA PISCOPO was born at Zebbug on the 5th April 1957. She started studying music at an early age, but it was only in 1977 that she decided to start learning the violin. She joined the School of Music where she started having violin lessons with Mr Marion Bisazza, and after a couple of years made enough progress to be able to start taking part regularly both in Chamber Music groups as well as in the School Orchestra. After being successful in an audition, she joined the Manoel Theatre Resident Orchestra on the 7th December 1981, and has been occupying this post ever since, playing with the second violins. She still has violin lessons at the Music School, where she is also taking an active part both in the School Orchestra as well as in Chamber Music.

LUKE AZZOPARDI started Cello tuition at the School of Music and became an active member of the School's Orchestra and string quartet. He participated in various concerts with the Manoel Theatre Orchestra and other local orchestras under the baton of Leading Conductors on the island. This year he has been very active participating both as an orchestra member and in a Baroque music ensemble in various concerts organised by different bodies as part of the activities held to celebrate the International Year of Youth and Music.

1st Violins

ANTOINE FRENDO (Leader)
 Stephen Zammit
 George Curmi
 Marcelline Agius
 Tanja Sultana
 Sarah Spiteri
 Carmine Lauri
 Monica Xuereb
 Rosette Xuereb

2nd Violins

JOSEPH GALEA
 Maria Piscopo
 Daniel Azzopardi
 Denise Ebejer
 Lorraine Cefai
 Susan Borg
 Christopher Farrugia
 Joanna Borg
 Rosanne Dimech
 Ruth Muscat
 Therese Testa
 Joanne Buhagiar
 Stephen Debattista
 Hugh Bonnici
 Claire Sammut
 Stephen Galea

Harp

Victoria Sultana

Viola

GUIDO MAMO
 Edward Baker
 Josette Bajada Abram
 Anna Zammit

Cellos

Luke Azzopardi
 Spiridione Xuereb
 Ivan Degabriele

Basses

ANTHONY CHIRCOP
 Mario Grima
 Patrick Xuereb

Flutes

Laura Falzon
 Christopher Aquilina
 Stephen Camilleri
 Gaven Vapinck

Trumpets

JOSEPH AGIUS
 Henry Attard
 Effie Azzopardi
 John Baldacchino

Timpani

JOE CURMI
 Martin Curmi

Soloists

Bach	George Curmi	Violin
Handel	Marcelline Agius	Violin
	Maria Piscopo	Violin
	Luke Azzopardi	Cello

Conductor — Mario Bisazza