

Saturday, 9th November, 1974, at 7.30 p.m.

PRINCES HALL, CIVIC CENTRE, ALDERSHOT

HAYDN'S THE SEASONS

CHRISTINA CLARKE - *Soprano*

PHILIP LANGRIDGE - *Tenor*

MALCOLM KING - *Bass*

THE WAVERLEY SINGERS

Orchestra led by Kenneth Anderson

Conductor:

JOHN COTTERILL

Characters: SIMON (a Farmer) - - - Bass
 JANE (his Daughter) - - - Soprano
 LUCAS (a young Countryman) - Tenor
 Chorus of Country People and Hunters

MALCOLM KING (*Bass*) in 1967 was asked to join the Scottish Opera as a Junior Principal, and in the same year was chosen to sing as a soloist with Joan Sutherland at the Edinburgh Festival.

In 1968 he won the coveted Leverhulme Scholarship from Youth and Music to study in Rome under Maestro Luigi Ricci. A series of recitals and numerous oratorio engagements brought him recognition throughout Italy.

He has already sung in all the major concert halls in London, and in January 1972 received unanimous praise from the press for his appearances in the Young Artists and 20th Century Music recital series at the Purcell Room.

CHRISTINA CLARKE (*Soprano*) studied at the Royal College of Music where she won the Inter-Collegiate Lieder Prize adjudicated by Gerald Moore. On leaving she was awarded the Tagore Gold Medal, given to the most outstanding student of the year.

Her solo appearances on the Continent include Monteverdi Vespers for the Belgian Radio, and 'Dido' in Purcell's 'Dido and Aeneas' in Strasbourg. Her recent engagements in this country include several broadcast recitals and cantatas, concerts in the South Bank Halls, and a Bach Cantata at the Edinburgh Festival with Britten, Pears and Fischer-Dieskau.

PHILIP LANGRIDGE (*Tenor*) is now regarded as one of Britain's foremost tenors, and broadcasts regularly for the B.B.C. Recording engagements include the Monteverdi Vespers for Decca and 'L'incoronazione di Poppea' for Teldec in Vienna. He sings regularly with the Handel Opera Society, and, having had a considerable success in their 'Atalanta' last season, he returns this autumn for 'Ariodante'.

Forthcoming foreign engagements take him to France, Belgium, Portugal, Holland and Switzerland. At Easter 1975 he will sing the Evangelist and the tenor arias in the St. John Passion with the Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam.

Mr. Langridge has appeared twice before with the Waverley Singers, once in 1967 in the Mozart Requiem, then in 1969 in two performances of Handel's Messiah in Farnham and Alton.

PROGRAMME NOTE

In 1796, such was the success of Haydn's "The Creation", that the great Baron Van Swieten proposed another, but more secular, oratorio for Haydn to write. This time the libretto was taken from a long four-part poem called "The Seasons" by James Thomson, the Scottish country poet, and into this the Baron introduced some of the rising German romanticism. Haydn was now 69 years old, and he was at first doubtful of his ability to compose another large-scale work. However, in eleven months it was completed and the final product is a joy of invention and melody, but still containing its final message in likening the phases of man's life to the seasons of the year. It has been said that Haydn's buoyant style is more appropriate to this secular type of work than to a more serious oratorio, and certainly it is a work of genius for its enchanting melodies alone. The breath of country air pervades it all, as in a Constable painting, and undoubtedly some of Haydn's best writing is contained in it. Let us enjoy the story it unfolds and reflect upon the message which it brings.

S P R I N G

Overture (expressing the passage from Winter to Spring)

Recit. (Trio): Behold, where surly Winter flies

Chorus: Come, gentle Spring

Recit. (Bass): At last the bounteous sun

Air (Bass): With joy the impatient husbandman

Recit. (Tenor): Laborious man hath done his part

Trio and Chorus: Be propitious, bounteous Heaven

Recit. and Air (Soprano): Our fervent prayers are heard

Duet (Soprano and Tenor) and Chorus: Spring, her lovely
charms unfolding

Chorus: God of light!

S U M M E R

Recit. (Tenor): Her face in dewy veil concealed

Air (Bass): From out the fold the shepherd drives

Recit. (Soprano): Lo! now aslant the dew-bright earth

Trio and Chorus: Behold on high he mounts

Recit. (Tenor): 'Tis noon, and now direct the sun

Cavatina (Tenor): Distressful nature fainting sinks

Air (Soprano): O how pleasing to the senses

Recit. (Trio): Behold! slow settling o'er the lurid grove

Chorus: Hark! the deep tremendous voice

Trio and Chorus: Now cease the conflicts

INTERVAL OF 20 MINUTES

AUTUMN

Introduction (expressing the Farmer's satisfaction at the abundant harvest)

Recit. (Trio): Whate'er the blossomed Spring

Recit. (Trio): Ye swains, now hasten

Duet (Soprano and Tenor): Ye gay and painted fair

Recit. (Bass): Lo! where the plenteous harvest wav'd

Air (Bass): Behold, along the dewy grass

Recit. (Tenor): Ere yet the orient sun

Chorus: Hark! the mountains resound

Recit. (Soprano and Tenor): The vineyard now its wealth displa

Chorus: Joyful the liquor flows

W I N T E R

Introduction (expressing the thick fogs at the approach
to Winter)

Recit. (Soprano and Bass): Now sinks the pale declining

year

Air (Tenor): The traveller stands perplexed

Recit. (Trio): As he draws nigh

Recit. (Tenor): The evening's task anon performed

Air (Soprano) and Chorus: A wealthy lord who long had

loved

Recit. (Bass): From out the east

Air (Bass): In this, O vain misguided man

Recit. (Bass): Truth only lasts

Trio and Chorus: Then comes the dawn

ORCHESTRA

VIOLINS

Kenneth Anderson
Arthur Alsey
Constance Ames
Sally Breeze
Sally Brundan
Donald Mills
Gerald Moss
Gordon Stewart
Hilda Thomson
Suzanne Vandenburghe
Peter White
Catherine Willis

VIOLAS

Stephanie Barker
Brenda Collins
Sally French
Heather Garner
Maurice Hancock
Felicity Phillips

CELLOS

Kathleen Anderson
Clifford Garner
Lewis Nicholson
Liesbeth Preece
Fiona Stewart

DOUBLE BASSES

Frank Tomsett
Nicholas Davies

FLUTES

Janet Maddock
Lynn Collins

OBOES

Mary Murdoch
Alison Herbert

CLARINETS

Alan Dewey
Jeannette Forteath

BASSOONS

Alan Rutherford
Jane Maskell

HORNS

Peter Civil
Peter Blake

TRUMPETS

Andrew Hendrie
Simon Ferguson

TROMBONES

Leslie Lake
Thomas Winthorpe
Peter Harvey

TIMPANI

Christopher King

HARPSICHORD

Margery Wakefield
(who is also the Waverley
Singers' accompanist for
rehearsals)

Grateful thanks are due to Mrs. H. G. King of Spindlewood, Tilford, Surrey for her kind loan of the harpsichord used in this performance.

The Waverley Singers' next performance will be
on Saturday, 22nd March, 1975, at St. Thomas-on-
The Bourne Church, Farnham when they will sing
MONTEVERDI'S VESPERS

Applications for membership of the choir should be made to the Secretary, The Mews, Frensham, Farnham, Surrey (Tel. Frensham 2563).

Rehearsals are held in Farnham at 8 p.m. every Thursday.