

THE "POONA MUSICAL SOCIETY"

PRESENTS



MEHLI MEHTA

ST. VINCENT'S SCHOOL
HALL

24TH SEPT, '52
6-40 P. M.

Our Visiting Artists :-

(By kind co-operation of The Bombay Madrigal Singers Organization)

Dr. Charles THORNTON LOFTHOUSE.

Dr. Thornton Lofthouse is one of that distinguished musicians who are directing the teaching and interpretation of great music in the United Kingdom today. He is Professor of the Royal College of Music, Examiner in Music to the University of London and Conductor of the London Musical Society. He is touring India this winter as an Official Examiner of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music of England.

The English Press speaks of the "rare authority and brilliance" of his performances. There is, as one critic has said: "a wizardry in the Doctor's touch".

RICHARD FARRELL

The Sun never sets on the successful career of this brilliant 25 year old pianist!

"When Mr. Farrell put his fingers to the quiet grieving of the piano's first entry, the effect was immediately striking; it was calm, tonally beautiful and a presage of clear by deliberated structure"

London Times 1951.

"Farrell's piano style is brilliant, vital and clean cut."

San Diego Union, 1950



**Soloist with the London Symphony Orchestra under Walter Susskind
in the Brahms D minor Concerto at Festival Hall, London 1951.**

"Richard Farrell, from New Zealand, made a very good impression last night at Festival Hall... we heard eloquence not many times equalled these days and only by a few artists of repute. I go so far as to say that in the slow movement Mr. Farrell's playing had a rapt, shaded beauty comparable to any I have heard during many years".

Neville Cardus Manchester Guardian, 1951

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GASPER CASSADO

Paris (1931)

We have often referred to the purity and clarity of the Gasper Cassado interpretations. The specialist can admire the display of technical perfection, whereas the musician will be conquered by his wonderful power for expressing music with poetic brilliancy.

(Pierre Leroi, "Excelsior")

Vienna (1948)

In yesterday's recital given by the great Spanish 'cellist Gasper Cassado in the Great Hall Musikverein, he surpassed all expectations. It was a great artistic event.

(Winner *Kurier*)

The U. S. Sums up Cassado

Cassado's cantilena may be envied by great singers. Like his countrymen Jose Iturbi and Andres Segovia, Cassado has reached the maturity of his art.

Olin Downes (*The New York Times*)

KARL WILLY HAMMER, *Pianist, Composer and Conductor*

will accompany Senor Gasper Cassado on his first concert tour of India in January 1953.

VIOLIN RECITAL
MEHLI MEHTA

at the Piano :

Khorshed Screwvalla

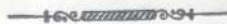
PROGRAMME

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|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|------------------------|
| 1. SONATA IN "A" MAJOR | ... | ... | <i>Vivaldi - David</i> |
| Capriccio - Corrente - Adagio - Giga | | | |
| 2. RONDO IN "G" MAJOR | ... | ... | <i>Mozart</i> |
| 3. SYMPHONIE ESPAGNOLE | ... | ... | <i>Lalo</i> |
| (a) Allegro non troppo. | | | |
| (b) Scherzando. | | | |
| (c) Intermezzo. | | | |
| (d) Andante. | | | |
| (e) Rondo | | | |

INTERVAL

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|---------------------------|
| 4. IMPROVISATION | ... | ... | <i>Bloch</i> |
| 5. (a) AVE MARIA | ... | ... | <i>Schubert-Wilhelmj</i> |
| (b) RITUAL FIRE-DANCE | ... | ... | <i>De Falla-Kochanski</i> |
| 6. CONCERTO IN "G" MINOR | ... | ... | <i>Bruch</i> |
| (a) Prelude. | | | |
| (b) Adagio. | | | |
| (c) Finale. | | | |
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PROGRAMME NOTES



1. Sonata in "A" Major **Vivaldi-David**
(1680?-1743)—(1810-1873)

Preludio a Capriccio - Corrente - Adagio - Giga.

Antonio Vivaldi was born in Venice approximately around 1680 (the exact year is not recorded), and takes his place in the history of violin playing between Corelli, who preceded him, and Tartini, who followed him. His father, Gian-Battista was a distinguished violinist of Venice, and the playing of father and son was one of the worth-while attractions of that flourishing city. By profession, Antonio Vivaldi was a priest, and because of his red beard, he was nicknamed "Il prete rosso" (the Red Priest). He was a much better performer than a composer, but he was notably responsible for inventing and devising innumerable new combinations and effects. Bach had so much respect and esteem for his Italian contemporary that he arranged sixteen of Vivaldi's Concerti for the clavier and four for the organ.

Ferdinand David was one of the best and most influential violinists and teachers of Germany. He was a great friend of Mendelssohn, who composed his violin concerto in close co-operation with David, consulting him about every technical problem that arose in it. David's faithful editions of the works of old Italian, German and French Masters, whom he brought to light, deserve special mention. Joachim and Wilhelmj were his eminent pupils.

2. Rondo in "G" Major **Mozart**
(1756-91)

(from "HAFFNER" SERENADE, K. 250.)

ARRANGED BY FRITZ KREISLER.

Haffner, the burgomaster of Salzburg (Mozart's birthplace) was a good friend of the composer, and for whom he composed, in 1782, the lovely and bright symphony in "D", K. 385, well-known as the 'Haffner' Symphony.

In 1776, Mozart composed the famous "Haffner" Serenade on the occasion of the wedding of Haffner's daughter, Elizabeth. The work is so long that it was probably intended to be performed in sections at the festivities. Due to its length, it is rarely performed complete these days. The resurrection of the delightful RONDO from it by KREISLER has made it an invaluable addition to the violinist's repertoire, all over the world.

3 **Symphonie Espagnole** **Lalo (1828-92),**

- (a) Allegro non Troppo.
- (b) Scherzando.
- (c) Intermezzo.
- (d) Andante
- (e) Rondo,

Edouard Lalo, a Frenchman of Spanish origin was a distinguished member of that brilliant band of composers which included Gounod, Saint-Sanes, Faure, Bizet and Chabrier. His talent was highly individual, his music being the outcome of a profound study of the Classic Masters of whom he was very fond. Grace in expression originality in ideas and dexterity in orchestration are the chief characteristics of his works, the most famous being his opera 'Le Roi d'Ys', the ballet 'NAMOUNA', some exquisite chamber music, a brilliant 'Cello Concerto and the "Symphonie Espagnole" for Violin and Orchestra by which he is perhaps best represented outside France.

Lalo himself was a fine violinist having occupied for many years the post of the concert-master in the Paris Opera. Again his close friendship with the great Sarasate led to the composition and dedication of this outstanding work in the field of the violin concerto which has been a favourite with violinists and public alike since the last two generations. To understand and appreciate this music, one has only to visualise the sights and sounds of a land famed for its natural beauty and colour, and its immense store of captivating melodies and dance rhythms whether it may be the painting in sound of an actual impression, or just an intention to induce a certain mood, vivid and characteristic in the Spanish idiom.

4. **Improvisation** **Block**
(1880-)

Ernest Bloch, of Swiss-Jewish descent, is unquestionably one of the greatest composers of to-day. His orchestral works, the violin concerto, the wonderful Rhapsody for 'Cello and Orchestra 'Schelomo', his songs and lastly—perhaps the greatest—his chamber works, have placed him in the front rank of modern creators of music. The "improvisation" is the second of a suite of three Chassidic Tone-pictures for Violin and Piano. It is a brilliant example of the musical language of Bloch, so characteristic of his race, full of passion, drama, pathos and powerful emotion.

- 5. (a) **Ave Maria** **Schubert-Wilhe[m]j**
- (b) **Ritual Fire Dance** **Defalla-Kochanski**

6. Concerto in "G" Minor

... .. Bruch
(1838-1920)

- (a) Prelude
- (b) Adagio
- (c) Finale

Max Bruch was one of the popular figures of the great German Romantic Period. He enjoyed a long life of musical activity during which he was conductor of various musical bodies including three years with the Liverpool Philharmonic Society. As a composer, his fame to day rests mainly on the "G" minor Violin Concerto, the "Scottish Fantasia" for Violin and Orchestra, and the ever popular "Kol Nidrei" for Cello and Orchestra. But we must not lose sight of the fact that his contributions to the Choral field are outstanding by any standards, though rarely performed.

He was one of the most finished technicians of his time having that uncanny ability to fit his craftsmanship exactly to the mood, structure and design of the medium in which he was composing, as one eminent writer has put it "In his music there is little to discuss and nothing to quarrel about."

The "G" minor Concerto starts off with a Prelude, instead of a fully organised first movement as usual. It consists of a highly dramatic dialogue between the Solo Violin and the Orchestra. Having settled their "Various differences", so to say, the soloist and the orchestra lead amicably together into the Adagio, which is one of the finest slow movements of any Violin Concerto, rising to great lyrical heights akin to the corresponding movements of the noble Beethoven and the Brahms Concerti.

The Finale, is an outburst of joy and revelry in true German style, in which the the robust first "G" major motif is contrasted very effectively with the beautiful second subject in "D" major. The entire movement is built only on these two basic ideas, which are elaborately worked out till they reach the end with an impressive climax

" The Poona Musical Society "

The object of the P M S. is the promotion and encouragement of serious music by means of concerts and recitals, vocal and instrumental. There are on the average two concerts per month.

The *current* concerts have the character of "musical appreciation hours" in which high class recorded music is produced with brief introductions on the life of the composers and the artistic character of their composition

Special concerts, recitals of professional artists etc., are arranged as often as opportunities offer themselves. Besides, the Society endeavours to encourage local musical talent by regular amateur concerts

Membership is acquired by paying the subscription fee. Members are entitled to attend all concerts, to vote at General Meetings, and to introduce guests as casual members to all the concerts.

The subscription fee for one year is Rs. 12/- which is payable in advance either for a whole year, half a year, or a quarter. Substantial reductions are granted to close relation and non-earning students. Particulars on application to :

The Hon. Secretary.
4, BYRAMJI JIJIBHOY RD,
POONA 1.

NEXT MONTH — OCTOBER
THE "POONA MUSICAL SOCIETY"

will present

Italian Music Festival

by the

"Poona String Ensemble"

Conductor : Prof. **ODDONE SAVINI**

PERCIVAL SASTRI.....Violin Solos

Guest Artists :

BHIKOO MEHTA.....Soprano

in St. Vincent's School Hall

(Watch date and further announcement)



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Albion Press, Poona.