

## THE BURNSIDE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

St Cuthbert's Parish Hall, Prospect

Tuesday, 5th August 1975 at 8 p.m.

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## FELIX MENDELSSOHN -

was born in Hamburg in 1809 and died in Leipzig in 1847 aged 38, younger than any of his three contemporary pianist-composers, Chopin, Schumann and Liszt. He was one of the few to achieve great popularity in his lifetime. His music is not so profound as that of the great masters, but contains many passages of extreme beauty.

## 1. OVERTURE "A Calm Sea and a Prosperous Voyage"

Goethe wrote a poem with this title which was set for choir and orchestra by Beethoven in 1823. Five years later the same poem inspired Mendelssohn to write his overture. It may be described, like Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony, as "more an expression of feeling than depiction". It begins with a long quiet passage, suggestive of a calm sea. The voyage is heralded by a flute solo and takes us through calm and stormy waters until the end is in sight. There is a trumpet fanfare of rejoicing, which dies away, and we are left with the calm sea again and a quiet "amen".

## 2. SYMPHONY No. 5 in D major "The Reformation"

The fifth and last of Mendelssohn's symphonies is called "The Reformation" because it was originally composed for the Augsburg Conference in 1830. But the Festival was abandoned owing to Roman Catholic opposition, and the first performance of the symphony was conducted by the composer two years later in Berlin. The last movement uses the theme of Martin Luther's hymn "A safe stronghold our God is still" based on Psalm 46. The movements are:-

Andante - Allegro con fuoco

Allegro vivace

Andante

Andante con moto - Allegro maestoso

----- INTERVAL -----

## 3. VIOLIN CONCERTO in E minor

Like many composers, Mendelssohn wrote only one violin concerto, and this probably ranks next in popularity after the Beethoven and Brahms concertos. Jascha Heifetz, the great violinist, said of it, "If it is conceivable that the music of Mendelssohn can die, then all music can die". It is in three movements:-

Allegro molto appassionato

Andante

Allegretto non troppo - Allegro molto vivace

Solo Violin: BOGDAN KAZIMIERCZAK

## MEMBERS OF THE BURNSIDE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Conductor: ROBERT COOPER

1st Violins:

Donald Woolford (Leader)

Hugh Gordon

Shirley Dobson

Russell Wheaton

Jenny Newman

Margaret Muller

Gordon Barr

Anne Edgecombe

Margot Masters

♯ Tussi Minschenko

2nd Violins:

Ernest Hirsch

Marietta Resek

Frank Ashman

Julie Newman

Ernest Hotchin

Frances James

Robert Lockwood

Violas:

Ronda Leak

Bruce Gooden

Tris Zierfusz

Sheila Radcliffe

Celli:

Keith Phillipps

Ann Bluff

Brian Payne

Joanne Smerdon

Hilary Frost

Bass:

Peter Grivell

Bill Rushton

Robin Sanderson

John Smerdon

Tympani:

John White

Flutes:

Robert Hecker

Martin Hampton Smith

Piccolo:

Kenneth Carroll

Oboes:

♯ Peter Webb

John Priest

Vivienne Hampton Smith

Clarinets:

Barbara Radcliffe

Ellen Resek

Bassoons:

Christine Wright

Alison Bell

Horns:

David Hampton Smith

Laura Cram

Paul Hampton Smith

Trumpets:

Tony Hodges

Douglas Pearce

Trombones:

♯ Dennis Freeman

♯ Dennis Kay

♯ Ronald Penny

Bass Trombone:

♯ Alan Warburton

Concert Manager: RONALD SHEPHERD

♯ The Committee and members of the Burnside Symphony Orchestra are grateful to have these artists as guest musicians.

(Coffee will be available during the interval)