

Exciting debut

By RALPH MIDDENWAY

Angela Tolstoshev, making her debut last night as a concerto soloist, almost stole the show from the Burnside Symphony Orchestra.

Her playing of a Viotti violin concerto displayed not only the obligatory advanced technique, but consistent beauty of sound and an absolutely convincing sense of style.

The orchestra, composed as it is largely of amateur players, is not perfect, but its high standard of playing in the concerto suggested it felt the importance of the occasion not only to the young soloist and to her conductor-teacher, but to her audience as well.

Robert Cooper conducted with customary expertise: the balance of the programme included a Mozart overture and a charming, virtually unknown symphony by a Portuguese contemporary of Beethoven, Domingos Bontempo, a work in which the orchestra obviously revels.