CHRIST CHURCH, ESSER

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Ross Knight - tuba
Rebecca Taylor - piano

Wednesday 18 September 2013
at 1.10 pm

(Admission free, retiring collection)
PROGRAMME

Dumitru Ionel (1915-1997)
Rumanian Dance No.2 [2’]

Eugene Bozza (1905-1991)
Aria for Alto Saxophone [4’]

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
Concerto for Bass Tuba, 1st & 2nd movements [9’]

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
Adagio and Allegro [8’]

J S Bach (1685-1750)
Minuets I & II from Suite No. 1 [4’]

Antonio Capuzzi (1755-1818), ed. Catelinet
Andante and Rondo [9’]
PROGRAMME NOTES

IONEL: Rumanian Dance No.2
Ionel received his musical education at the Military Music High School (1933-1937), and then at the Bucharest Conservatory (1937-1943). He was principal tuba of the Romanian Army Orchestra, of the “George Enescu” Philharmonic Orchestra of Bucharest (1943-1967), of the Romanian Radio Symphony Orchestra, and of the Imperial Orchestra of the Teheran Opera (Iran). He wrote extensively for the tuba, completing about thirty compositions, some pedagogical works and over a hundred transcriptions. This second dance is the most popular of the six short dance pieces he wrote. It is widely played and has also been arranged for 10-piece brass ensemble.

BOZZA: Aria for Alto Saxophone
‘Aria for Alto Saxophone’ is one of Bozza’s most popular solo pieces, being played by many different instruments including clarinet, alto saxophone and tuba. The piece is a lyrical and soaring melodic song originally written for alto saxophone by the French composer. The piece sits perfectly in the tuba’s high register and is complemented by the flowing piano accompaniment.

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: Concerto for Bass Tuba
Vaughan Williams’ Tuba Concerto is perhaps the most popular piece of tuba music ever written. It was composed in 1954 when Vaughan Williams was already 82 years old and was the first concerto to be written for the tuba. The first movement is the most famous repertoire piece for the instrument and is used for almost every tuba audition across the world. It shows the full range of the tuba and demonstrates that it can really be a very virtuosic instrument. The second movement of the piece is called ‘Romanza’ and successfully exploits the stereotypical elephantine character of the tuba. The composition shows off the genuine beauty of the tuba in its higher register throughout the work.
**SCHUMANN: Adagio and Allegro**

This piece was written for French horn but is also transcribed for violin, viola or cello. The work starts with an Adagio section where the soloist and pianist pass the tune between each other almost every bar before moving into the Allegro section. It is a work of optimism and good cheer, whose two contrasting movements achieve a particularly satisfying formal balance. Schumann had originally toyed with the idea of calling it ‘Romance and Allegro’ but decided on ‘Adagio and Allegro’ when it was published in 1849.

**J S BACH: Minuets I & II from Suite No. 1**

These two minuets are part of the popular suite of unaccompanied solos for cello by the Baroque master. A minuet was a social French dance for two people, generally in 3/4 time. The Minuets are the 5th part (Galanteries) of the structure of the suite, sitting between the Sarabande and Gigue.

**CAPUZZI: Andante & Rondo**

This musical pairing forms the second and third movements of Italian composer Antonio Capuzzi’s double bass concerto. The piece was edited by Philip Catelinet, who was the tuba player with the London Symphony Orchestra. Catelinet edited the piece so it could be played on either euphonium, bass trombone or tuba. The piece is divided into two sections, the first one slow and the second one quick and lively. Capuzzi was a violinist and composer who was born in 1755 and died in 1818. His music was very popular in his own day, but sadly a lot of it has been forgotten. His double bass concerto was found in the British Museum and was dedicated to Kavalier Marcantonio Montenigo, who is assumed to have performed the piece on that instrument. It is one of the few pieces written by him to be performed with any regularity today.
Ross Knight

Ross is twenty-one years of age and began playing tuba when he was nine. He is a student at the Royal Academy of Music, now entering his fourth and final year studying under Patrick Harrild.

Ross has played with the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland for seven years, including a tour of Japan in 2008, the European Youth Brass Band, the National Children’s Orchestra of Scotland, and he played with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain for their 2009 summer course and was principal tuba in the 2010 season. He is also the principal tuba player with the European Union Youth Orchestra.

Ross has, for several years, performed solo and has enjoyed considerable success in this regard. In 2010 he won the Scottish Open Solo Championships, Open Slow Melody, the Solo Under 21 age category, and the Under 21 Ensemble category. He was only the second person in the history of the competition to have done this. Ross also won the Blue Riband in the Arbroath Music Festival. He has played many times as a soloist at concerts including playing Edward Gregson’s Tuba Concerto with the Tayside Symphony Orchestra aged 15, Handel’s Oratorios at the Ruthven Parish Music Festival arranged for him by the late Angus Hood and a selection of solos at the Glamis Castle Musicale to an invited audience as their youth performer and then in November 2011 as their principale artiste. In November 2010 Ross performed as the guest soloist with Brighouse and Rastrick Brass Band at the Scottish Open Brass Band Championships Gala Concert in Perth, playing Monti’s Czardas. He also performed the Vaughan Williams Tuba Concerto with the Whitehall Orchestra in November 2012 and a recital in Dundee in December 2012 as part of their recital series.
In November 2011 Ross won the BBC Radio 2 Under 21 Young Brass Player. He then competed against the Under 18 category winner and the Youth Band category winner and won the overall title of BBC Young Brass Player in January 2012. Following this Ross performed as guest soloist with the world renowned Grimethorpe Colliery Band at the Gala Concert of the British Open Brass Band Championships in Birmingham in September 2012. He also performed with the BBC Concert Orchestra as guest soloist, which was broadcast on BBC Radio 2’s Friday Night Is Music Night.

In April 2010, Ross travelled to Linz, Austria to take part in the European Brass and Percussion Solo Championships where he got to the semi-final stage and gained an overall fifth place out of 58 competitors. He also won the award for best tuba out of ten tuba players from all over Europe.

**Rebecca Taylor**

Rebecca read music as Organ Scholar at Lincoln College, Oxford, studying with David Sanger. As both conductor and performer she has broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 & 4, made CD recordings and given recitals and toured throughout the UK, Europe and the Middle East. She has worked as a répétiteur on various operas including Eugene Onegin under the direction of Jane Glover, and also to the Russian baritone Sergei Leiferkus in preparation for Mahler’s 8th Symphony and Wagner’s Parsifal. Rebecca has taken part in various masterclasses including with Melvyn Tan, Helmut Deutsch, Kathryn Stott, Barbara Bonney and Susan Bullock. Orchestrally she has worked with numerous conductors including Martyn Brabbins, Jac van Steen, Gianandrea Noseda and under Stefan Bevier with the Philharmonia Chorus.
Rebecca recently completed her studies for an MA in piano accompaniment at the Royal Academy of Music with Michael Dussek and Carole Presland, where she was also a member of the Academy Song Circle. She achieved a distinction in her LRAM diploma and was a prizewinner in the Rex Stephens Lieder Prize, a finalist in the Richard Lewis Song Competition and has recently been highly commended in both the Major van Someron-Godfrey English Song Prize and the Scott Huxley Piano Accompaniment Competition. Rebecca currently holds a position as Trainee Répétiteur at the Royal Academy of Music.

Recent engagements include a performance of Britten’s Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings as part of the Henry Wood Lectures at the Royal Academy of Music, Schumann’s Dichterliebe at the Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge, as well as performances throughout the UK, Greece and Italy. She has also performed for the British Benevolent Fund in Madrid, and undertaken a second summer tour with the European Union Youth Orchestra under Thomas Søndergård. Future engagements include performances throughout the UK and in Italy, Denmark, Macedonia, Amsterdam and Spain.

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**FUTURE LUNCHEON CONCERTS**

third Wednesday of the month

Oct 16  Syrinx early music quartet
Nov 20  James Maltby, clarinet & Jonathan Musgrave, piano
Dec 18  ‘Come & Sing’ Carols

*(light lunch from 12.45; concert, 1.10 to 1.50 pm - free entry to include lunch, donations welcome)*
Chopin Evening
Emilie Capulet - piano

Friday 11th October 2013 at 8 pm
Christ Church, Esher, KT10 8QS

“Under Emilie’s fingers, the notes dance, cascade, and bewitch the audience. A moment of pure magic…” La Provence

Celebrating their 40th anniversary, the Cercle Français d’Esher, in collaboration with Music on the Green, presents an exceptional evening of French music with award-winning Anglo-French concert pianist Emilie Capulet. Emilie will introduce the works in both English and French highlighting Chopin’s sources of inspiration.

This inspiring piano recital will feature Chopin’s most memorable romantic masterpieces including Fantaisie-Impromptu, Waltz in C sharp minor, Etude in E major, A minor Mazurka and Ballade no. 1 in G minor op. 23.

Meet Emilie at an informal reception following the concert.

Tickets (to include refreshments) £10, Students £5, Children free available from the Christ Church Parish Office.
For further information, contact Alison Keen (01372) 462282 or email: christchurch@esher.org