

# MUSIC IN NEWBURY

NEWBURY  
CHORAL  
SOCIETY

## Christmas Concert

Saturday  
1st December  
1973

Conductor :  
**JOHN RUSSELL**

Season 1973-4

*Programme - 5p*



*First movement:*

**BRITANNIA Moderato con moto**  
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*Second movement:*

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**December 9**    **The Melos Quartet Stuttgart**  
Mozart, Janacek, Schubert.

**February 10**    **The Schiller Trio**  
Allan Schiller - piano. Nona Liddell - violin.  
Ifor James - horn.

**March 10**    **Charles Rosen — piano**  
Mozart, Schumann, Beethoven.  
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The National Federation of Music Societies, to which this Society is affiliated, supports this concert with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain.

The Newbury Choral Society acknowledges financial assistance from the Southern Arts Association, the Newbury Borough Council and the Berkshire County Council.

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## SING YE TO THE LORD—Singet dem Herrn J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

### *Motet for Double Choir*

Some forty years after Bach's death, Mozart heard this Motet while on a visit to Leipzig. It is recorded that "his surprise at the flow of melody, wave upon wave, passed all bounds . . . ."

In this, Mozart has not been alone through the years. Here is—without argument—the greatest test of pure unaccompanied choral singing in existence; demanding, as Sir Hubert Parry observes, "spirit, agility, and endurance—all invaluable and easily appreciable traits in human beings". The Newbury Society has revelled in the study of "Sing Ye", and will do its very best to present it with as little benefit of accompaniment as possible on the night.

The words are taken from Psalms 149 and 150. There are three main movements, fast-slow-fast, and a very swift Coda, in which both choirs unite on the one stave.

## INTERVAL

## ACIS AND GALATEA; A Serenata G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

This radiant secular cantata was written during Handel's period of service with the Duke of Chandos—circa 1718. The words, by John Gay, concern the love of a beautiful shepherd, Acis, for Galatea, a nymph, and the jealousy of the cyclops Polyphemus, who, surprising the lovers, crushes Acis beneath a stone. Acis is thereby elevated into the company of the gods. In vain had his colleague, Damon, advised him to keep to his shepherding.

"Put it on a sunny lawn on a summer's day!" a writer exclaimed, lest an oratorio approach be adopted. A glance at the programme will reveal how many well-loved arias are contained in this score.

It is presented tonight by the request of John Russell, whose first programme with the Society included "Acis", almost exactly twenty-five years ago to the day.

Galatea, a Sea Nymph ..... GERALDINE McMAHON ..... *Soprano*  
Acis, a Shepherd ..... RICHARD BRABROOKE ..... *Tenor*  
Damon, a Shepherd ..... MICHAEL LEWIS ..... *Tenor*  
Polyphemus, a Giant ..... EDWARD THORNTON ..... *Bass*

Chorus of Nymphs and Shepherds

## Part I

1	SINFONIA	
2	CHORUS	..... O the pleasure of the plains
3	RECIT. (Galatea)	..... Ye verdant plains
4	AIR (Galatea)	..... Hush, ye pretty warbling choir
5	AIR (Acis)	..... Where shall I seek the charming fair?
6	RECIT. (Damon)	..... Stay, shepherd, stay
7	AIR (Damon)	..... Shepherd, what art thou persuing?
8	RECIT. (Acis)	..... Lo, here my love
9	AIR (Acis)	..... Love in her eyes sits playing
10	RECIT. (Galatea)	..... O didst thou know
11	AIR (Galatea)	..... As when the dove laments her love
12	DUET (Acis and Galatea)	..... Happy we
13	CHORUS	..... Happy we

## Part II

14	CHORUS	..... Wretched lovers
15	RECIT. (Polyphemus)	..... I rage
16	AIR (Polyphemus)	..... O ruddier than the cherry
17	RECIT. (Polyphemus)	..... Whither fairest, art thou running?
18	AIR (Polyphemus)	..... Cease to beauty to be suing
19	AIR (Damon)	..... Would you gain the tender creature?
20	RECIT. (Acis)	..... His hideous love
21	AIR (Acis)	..... Love sounds the alarm
22	AIR (Damon)	..... Consider, fond shepherd
23	RECIT. (Galatea)	..... Cease, O cease
24	TRIO (Acis, Galatea and Polyphemus)	..... The flocks shall leave the mountains
25	RECIT. (Acis)	..... Help, Galatea
26	CHORUS	..... Mourn, all ye muses
27	SOLO (Galatea)	..... Must I my Acis still bemoan?
28	RECIT. (Galatea)	..... 'Tis done
29	AIR (Galatea)	..... Heart, the seat of soft delight
30	CHORUS	..... Galatea, dry thy tears



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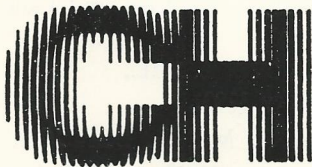
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