

PROKOFIEV 1891-1953

Sonata no. 3

Prokofiev wrote nine piano sonatas between 1909 and 1947. The third, subtitled 'from old notebooks', took final shape in 1917 but makes use of material from one of his discarded student sonatas dating from 1907. It is in one compact movement, predominantly toccata-like and brilliant but with contrasting sections of lyricism. In spite of its relatively early date of composition, it already shows the originality of Prokofiev's piano style at its best. R.G.

Next Concert: Thursday 2 December

THE REID ENSEMBLE

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY SINGERS

HERRICK BUNNEY }
MICHAEL TILMOUTH } *directors*

HELEN McARTHUR *soprano*

ALASTAIR THOMPSON *tenor*

BARRY COLLARBONE *trumpet*

SCHUETZ *Weihnachtshistorie*

PURCELL *Trumpet Sonata*

AVISON *Concerto in E minor, arr. Warlock*

CORELLI *Concerto Grosso in G minor, opus 6, no. 8*

THE SUMMERHALL PRESS LIMITED
12a West Newington Place, Edinburgh

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY CONCERTS

1976-77

THE EDINBURGH QUARTET

Miles Baster Peter Markham
Michael Beeston Christopher Gough

with
COLIN KINGSLEY
piano

Reid Concert Hall, Thursday 20 January 1977

THOMAS WILSON b. 1927

String Quartet no. 3

This work was completed in October 1958, and was awarded the McEwen Composition Prize in the University of Glasgow in 1959. It was first performed at the McEwen Concerts of that year by the Lyra Quartet. Subsequent performances have been given by such ensembles as the Aeolian and Alberni Quartets, and more recently, the Edinburgh Quartet, who broadcast it last year, and performed it abroad.

The piece is in three movements—Fast, Slow, Fast. The thematic content of the work is entirely derived from the idea given out by the first violin at the beginning of the first movement. T.W.

MILHAUD 1892–1974

Quintet for piano and strings (1951)

Avec vivacité

Avec mystère

Avec douceur

Avec emportement

This work was written for the centenary of Mills College, where Milhaud taught during his stay in the United States covering the period of the Second World War. It is a work which shows his easy mastery of chamber music textures and reflects not so much the intellectual preoccupation with form as an exploration of moods. C.K.

INTERVAL

ELGAR 1857–1934

String Quartet

Allegro moderato

Piacevole (poco andante)

Allegro molto

Elgar's E minor string quartet is one of a group of three chamber works composed at his country cottage in Sussex, 'Brinkwells' during the period 1917–19. These works, the violin sonata, string quartet and piano quintet come towards the end of the war-dominated period in which Elgar's compositional activities had

been confined for the most part to occasional pieces, and they represent a return to the more deeply personal aspects of his style. Indeed, the string quartet in particular seems to be imbued with the atmosphere of his country surroundings, and influenced in part by quiet contemplation of nature.

Perhaps a touch of restlessness pervades the opening idea of the first movement, but the sequential secondary idea has a recognisably expansive character which belies its growth from the main subject.

The gem of the work is undoubtedly the serene second movement whose pastoral quality is hardly disturbed either by a shadowy episode with lilting guitar-like effects on the first violin, or by a reappearance on the cello.

Boldly energetic main ideas are contrasted with flowing melodic material in the Finale, which then becomes increasingly dominated by a three note *ostinato* figure related to part of the initial theme of the first movement. L.C.

Forthcoming concerts:

Saturday 22 January, 8.00, St Cecilia's Hall

JOHN HSU *viola da gamba*

PETER WILLIAMS *harpsichord*

French gamba music, including the two Suites of

FRANCOIS COUPERIN

Tickets 75p (students 35p) from the Edinburgh Bookshop and Music Faculty, Concert Office, 12 Nicolson Square.

Thursday 27 January, 7.30, Reid Concert Hall

LANDINI CONSORT

The Pursuit of Love

A programme of French music in celebration of the 600th anniversary of the death of Machaut, and including works by Adam de la Halle, Baude Cordier and Dufay.

Admission Free
