

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY

QUATERCENTENARY CELEBRATIONS PUBLIC CONCERT

THURSDAY, 6 OCTOBER AT 8 PM

featuring the first performance of 'Sinfonietta Accademica' commissioned by
the University and the Scottish Arts Council from Peter Maxwell Davies

The Scottish Chamber Orchestra conducted by Edward Harper

Soloists: Peter Evans and Colin Kingsley

PROGRAMME

Intrada after Monteverdi (orchestral version first performance) Edward Harper
Concerto in E^b for 2 pianos and orchestra (K365) Mozart
Sinfonietta Accademica (first performance) Peter Maxwell Davies
Symphony No. 3 in A minor ('Scottish') Mendelssohn

REID CONCERT HALL, BRISTO SQUARE, EDINBURGH

Tickets £4 (£2.50 Students and O.A.P's) available from Information Office,
Old College, South Bridge or Music Faculty, Alison House, Nicolson Square.

The University of Edinburgh gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the
Scottish Arts Council, Readers' Digest and Bartholomews in mounting this concert.



400TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



1583
EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY

The Principal of the University and the Dean of the Faculty of Music have much pleasure in inviting you to Edinburgh University's 400th Anniversary Concert on Thursday 6 October 1983 in the Reid Concert Hall, Bristo Square.

Wine and light refreshments will be served at the Hall from 7 pm.

* * * * *

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
QUATERCENTENARY CONCERT

THE SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
(leader: John Tunnell)

EDWARD HARPER conductor

COLIN KINGSLEY pianos
PETER EVANS

Thursday 6 October 1983 - 8 pm

Intrada after Monteverdi
(orchestral version - first performance)

Edward Harper

Concerto in E $\flat$ for 2 pianos and orchestra K365

Mozart

Sinfonietta Accademica
(commissioned to celebrate the Quatercentenary
of the University of Edinburgh - first performance)

Peter Maxwell Davies

Symphony No.3 in A minor 'Scottish'

Mendelssohn

This concert is promoted with the generous assistance of the
Scottish Arts Council, Reader's Digest and Bartholomews.

* * * * *

R.S.V.P.

Indicating one or two tickets
by Friday 30 September 1983

Professor Michael Tilmouth
Faculty of Music
Alison House
12 Nicolson Square
Edinburgh EH8 9DF

8/19/83
ANDREW McKAY

Composer scores music for anniversary

A COMPOSER of international standing, who spends part of each year on the Orkney island of Hoy, has written a piece for the 400th anniversary of Edinburgh University.

Peter Maxwell Davies composed part of the work at the isolated croft where he has

spent much of his time since 1971, when he visited Hoy and fell in love with the island.

Orkney's people, landscape and history have provided the inspiration for many of his compositions.

The latest piece, called Sin-

fionietta Accademica, will be played by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra on October 6, at Edinburgh University's Reid Hall as part of a programme, including works by other composers.

Mr Davies (49) was made a CBE in 1981. In the same year

he became an honorary graduate of Aberdeen University after receiving a doctorate of laws in recognition of his work.

Though he takes every opportunity to come North to Orkney, Mr Davies has another home in London.

Before
Selection.
50 miles or 5
COOKERS (D
TRICITY 1655 RA
TRICITY 2506 V
TRICITY 1414 R
TRICITY 2536 P
BABY BELLING
TRICITY 1235 E
TRICITY 2556 A
CREDA 49401
BELLING 43
CREDA 40
CREDA
BABY
TR

With the Compliments
of
Aberdeen Journals Limited.
"The Press & Journal"
Newsdesk Secretary

Lang Stracht, Mastrick,
Aberdeen.

Jill Benzies

Phone 690222.

EX 3311

Quatercentenary clarity

Edinburgh University brought their quatercentenary celebrations to a close last week with a concert in the Reid Hall. Edward Harper, a senior lecturer in the music department, conducted the Scottish Chamber Orchestra with Colin Kingsley and Peter Evans, two other university musicians, as soloists in Mozart's concerto for two pianos.

The programme opened with Harper's own *Intrada After Monteverdi*, newly revised for orchestra. This witty, irreverent display piece eventually becomes, via quotations from *The Carnival of Venice*, the toccata that precedes Monteverdi's opera *Orfeo*. It sounded fun to play and effectively warmed up the audience for what was to come.

The soloists in the Mozart concerto were well matched but clearly distinguishable in their separate personalities. Colin Kingsley classically precise, Peter Evans warmer and more flexible in the answering phrases. An appropriate tribute was paid to a distinguished former professor of music at the university in the adoption of Tovey's cadenzas, which have recently come to light.

The *piece d'occasion* was a work commissioned from Peter Maxwell Davies. *Sinfonietta Academica* is no counterpart to Brahms's *Academic Festival Overture*, also dedicated to a university. Its three movements represent the composer's impressions of Orkney, where he has lived for a

number of years. For a piece of such complexity, a single hearing is insufficient to produce a balanced judgment.

We were privileged to encounter the beginning twice since the first time round the performance came to a halt, necessitating a restart. Perhaps this is why the opening bars portraying Orkney fiddle music seemed the most strikingly memorable part of the work.

Thereafter the music was less certain of direction, at times boiling up into stormy fury, before settling into more reflective calm. The composer's vivid programme notes were of some assistance but the structure he described passed unnoticed by at least one pair of ears. The breakdown in the first movement and several other moments suggested that the performance would have benefited from more rehearsal.

One admired the composer's fluency and expert orchestration but the overall first impression was one of a considerable expenditure of energy with only superficial coherent communication.

With the new work over, the players relaxed sufficiently to enjoy an untroubled if over-brisk account of Mendelssohn's *Scottish Symphony*. The emotionally stormy passages for the first movement recalled the Orcadian seas of Maxwell Davies. The clarity of sound of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra possessed the immediacy of the best compact discs.

Neil Butterworth

14 OCT 83
TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

cc Main Board

INFORMATION OFFICE
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH