

NEWS SECTION

Composers

SANDOR BALASSA. *Lupercalia* (French première)—15 October / Paris / Ensemble InterContemporain c. Peter Eötvös. *Iris* (German première)—12 March 1980 / Berlin PO c. Giuseppe Sinopoli. *Hajak* (U.K. première)—12 January 1980 / Purcell Room / Capricorn Ensemble.

SAMUEL BARBER. *Essay No.3* (European première)—15 November / Royal Festival Hall / RPO c. Leonard Slatkin.

RICHARD RODNEY BENNETT. *Actaeon* (U.S. première)—8 December / Cincinnati / Barry Tuckwell / Cincinnati SO c. Walter Susskind.

HARRISON BIRTWISTLE has been commissioned by the Leeds Festival to compose a work for the Festival Chorus and the Grimethorpe Colliery Band; and also by the London Sinfonietta to write a new work for them. Both commissions are scheduled for performance in 1981.

DAVID BLAKE. *Nine Songs of Heine* (London première)—15 November / British Music Information Centre / Jane Ginsborg, George Nicholson.

ATTILA BOZAY. *Sorozat* (U.K. première)—6 December / London, R.A.M. (BBC College Concert) / London Sinfonietta c. Peter Eötvös.

JACOB DRUCKMAN. *Viola Concerto* (European première)—30 November / Berlin Radio / John Graham, Berlin Radio SO c. Arthur Weisberg.

MICHAEL FINNISSY. *Alongside* (première)—19 February 1980 / St. John's Smith Square / London Sinfonietta c. Ronald Zollmann. *Kagami-Jishi* (première)—2 January 1980 / Purcell Room / Marianne Ehrhardt (flute), Susan Drake (harp). *Talavva* (première)—17 January 1980 / St. John's Smith Square / Suoraan.

JOHN FOULDS (d.1939). *Pasquinade Symphonique No.1* (1935) (première)—4 December / Morley College SO c. Guy Woolfenden.

JEAN FRANCAIX. *Violin Concerto No.2* (première)—30 November / Braunschweig / Leon Spierer, Staatstheater orchestra c. Heinz Zeebe.

PETER RACINE FRICKER. *Laudi Concertati* (première)—5 December / Royal Festival Hall / Gillian Weir (organ), BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Michael Gielen.

ALBERTO GINASTERA. *Sonata for cello and piano* (première)—13 December / New York, Alice Tully hall / Aurora Natola-Ginastera and Samuel Saunders.

ALEXANDER GOEHR. *Babylon the Great is Fallen* (première)—12 December / Royal Festival Hall / BBC Chorus, BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Michael Gielen. Goehr has been commissioned by the London Sinfonietta to compose a new work for performance by them in 1981.

HK GRUBER. *Phantombilder* (Austrian première)—10 March 1980 / Austrian Radio / Kontrapunkte Ensemble c. Peter Keuschnig.

OLIVER KNUSSSEN. *Coursing* (première of complete work)—10 January 1980 / London, R.A.M. / London Sinfonietta c. Ronald Zollman. Knussen has been commissioned to write a work for the piano duo of Penelope Rowland and Keith Williams.

BARBARA KOLB. *Chromatic Fantasy* for chamber ensemble and speaker (première)—4 November / River Falls, Wisconsin. *Figments* (U.K. première)—9 December / St. John's Smith Square / Lontano Ensemble.

ELISABETH LUTYENS has been elected to honorary membership of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. *That Sun* (première)—7 January 1980 / Purcell Room / Susan Tyrell (contralto), David Owen Norris (piano). *Elegy of the Flowers* (première)—26 January 1980 / Queen Elizabeth Hall / Richard Hickox Singers, London Sinfonia c. Richard Hickox.

WITOLD LUTOSLAWSKI. *Epitaph in memoriam Alan Richardson* (première)—3 January 1980 / Wigmore Hall / Janet Craxton (oboe), Ian Brown (piano). *Novellette* (première)—29 January 1980 / Washington / National SO c. Mstislav Rostropovich.

JOHN McCABE. *The Shadow of Light* (première)—6 December / Royal Festival Hall / RPO c. John Pritchard.

NICHOLAS MAW. *One Man Show* (Australian première)—3 September / Adelaide, Opera

Theatre / South Australian State Opera Company c. Myer Fredman. *La Vita Nuova* (U.S. première)—4 February 1980 / New York.

PETER MAXWELL DAVIES. *The Two Fiddlers* (Australian première)—8 March 1980 / Adelaide Festival. Maxwell Davies, who is at work on a Piano Sonata for Stephen Pruslin, a chamber opera *The Lighthouse* for the 1980 Edinburgh Festival and a children's opera *Cinderella* for the 1980 St. Magnus Festival, has been commissioned by the Boston Symphony Orchestra to compose a large-scale work for the Orchestra's Centenary celebrations. Recently named 'Composer of the Year' by the Composers' Guild, he is to be guest of honour at the next Edinburgh Festival.

DOMINIC MULDOWNEY. *Six Psalm^s* (première)—1 December / Christ's Hospital, Horsham / West Sussex Philharmonic Choir. *Two from Arcady* for basset-horn and tuba (première)—29 November / Goethe Institute, London / John Henley, Melvyn Poore.

THEA MUSGRAVE. *A Christmas Carol* (première)—7 December / Norfolk, Virginia / Virginia Opera Association.

NIGEL OSBORNE. Cello Concerto (première)—16 October / University of London—BBC College Concert / Klaus Heitz, BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Lionel Friend. *The Sickle* (U.K. première)—6 December / London, R.A.M.—BBC College Concert / London Sinfonietta c. Peter Eötvös. *Poem without a hero* (U.K. première)—10 February 1980 / Round House / Electric Phoenix.

ANDRZEJ PANUFNIK is completing a Concerto for percussion and orchestra.

KRZYSTOF PENDERECKI has been commissioned by the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra to write a work for cello and orchestra. The soloist will be Mstislav Rostropovich.

ALLAN PETTERSSON has completed a Concerto for alto saxophone and orchestra.

HENRI POUSSEUR. *Icare apprenti* and *Symphonies a 15 solistes* (U.K. premières)—22 November / University of London—BBC College Concert / BBC Singers, London Sinfonietta c. Elgar Howarth.

JEREMY DALE ROBERTS. *Tombeau* (London première)—22 November / St. James's Church, Sussex Gardens / Ronald Lumsden (piano).

NED ROREM. *The Nantucket Songs* (première)—30 October / Washington, Library of Congress / Phyllis Bryn-Julson (soprano), Ned Rorem (piano).

AULIS SALLINEN has been jointly commissioned by the Savonlinna Festival, the BBC, and the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, to compose an opera for performance in 1984/5.

KURT SCHWERTSIK. Piano Trio (première)—17 December / Vienna / Haydn Trio. Schwertsik has been commissioned by the Vienna Symphony Orchestra to compose a work in honour of the Orchestra's 80th Anniversary, for performance in April 1980.

NARESH SOHAL. *Chakra* (première)—13 November / Fairfield Hall, Croydon / Alberto Portugheis.

KAIKHOSRU SHAPURJI SORABJI. *Five Sonnets of Michelangelo Buonarroti* (1923) for baritone and chamber orchestra (première)—2 February 1980 / Toronto New Music Concerts. This will constitute the first performance of any of Sorabji's orchestral music. He has recently completed *Il Tessuto d'Arabeschi* for flute and string quartet, commissioned by the Delius Society of America, and is at work on a piano piece entitled *Villa Tasca*.

JOSEF TAL. Symphony No. 3 (U.S. première)—1 November / New York PO c.

DAVID DEL TREDICI. *In memory of a summer day* (première)—23 February 1980 / St. Louis, Missouri / Phyllis Bryn-Julson, St. Louis SO c. Felix Slatkin.

PETER WIEGOLD is working on a new piano piece commissioned by Ronald Lumsden.

CHRISTIAN WOLFF. *Rock About* (première)—7 January 1980 / Purcell Room / Elizabeth Perry (vln), Alexander Balanescu (vla).

BERND ALOIS ZIMMERMANN, *Dialogue* (U.K. première)—24 February 1980 / London, R.C.M. / Alfons and Aloys Kontarsky, BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Michael Gielen.