

# *St Edward's Chamber Orchestra*

*Weber: Bassoon Concerto in F major Op.75  
(soloist: **Ian Mansbridge**)*

*Bruch: Romance for Viola & Orchestra Op.85  
(soloist: **Phil Ellis**)*

*Beethoven: Symphony no.2 in D major Op.36*

*7.30pm Monday 30th April 2018*

*St Edward's Church, Westville Road, Roath*

*Free admission with retiring collection*

**St Edward's Orchestra**  
**Conductor: Alison Dite**  
**Leader Diana Painter**

**Weber: Bassoon Concerto in F major Op.75**

**Soloist: Ian Mansbridge**

This concerto was composed in 1811 for Munich court musician Georg Friedrich Brandt, and then revised in 1822. There are more than twenty extant bassoon concertos from the Classical and early Romantic periods, but those by Weber and Mozart remain the most frequently performed today.

The work exemplifies Weber's typically lyrical and virtuosic operatic style. It is in three movements, as follows:

- I. Allegro ma non troppo
- II. Adagio
- III. Rondo-Allegro

**Bruch: Romance for Viola & Orchestra Op.85**

**Soloist: Phil Ellis**

Bruch composed this single movement work in 1911 for Maurice Vieux, the principal viola player at the Paris Opera

and Conservatoire orchestras. The piece is in F major and is marked *Andante con moto*.

The solo viola expresses a variety of moods, becoming increasingly agitated through the use of mixed rhythms, triplets and dotted notes, fast arpeggios and abrupt chords; but the main theme remains to the forefront throughout the piece, played by different instruments of the orchestra in turn, whilst the viola elaborates.

### **Beethoven: Symphony no.2 in D major Op.36**

This work was composed in 1802, a time when Beethoven's deafness was becoming increasingly apparent, although the generally sunny nature of the music gives no indication of this. It was dedicated to Karl Alois, Prince Lichnowsky, and was first performed in Vienna in April 1803, conducted by the composer. The same concert also featured the first performances of the Third Piano Concerto and the oratorio *Christ on the Mount of Olives*.

The Symphony is full of the rhythmic and thematic surprises which we often associate with the essence of Beethoven's compositions. It is in four movements as follows:

- I. Adagio-Allegro con brio
- II. Larghetto
- III. Scherzo-Allegro
- IV. Allegro Molto

We are delighted to present our latest orchestral concert this evening. It has been a pleasure to work with our soloists Ian Mansbrige and Phil Ellis, and we are sure you will enjoy both their performances.

Many thanks, as always, to Di for leading us so ably, and also to Nori for deputising for her whilst she was on the other side of the world for a few weeks! Many thanks to the whole Orchestra for their regular attendance and commitment to rehearsals - without this, the orchestra could not exist. Here, in St Edward's orchestra rehearsals, we try always to strike a balance between hard work and having fun, and I think this is a combination that has always worked very well for all of us.

We were extremely sorry to hear the news that our former oboe player John Blackmore passed away a few weeks ago. John played with us for many, many years and had known our previous conductor, Fred Waite back in the 1960s when they played side by side in the Cardiff Municipal Orchestra (with Fred on clarinet). Aside from being an excellent player, John was a quiet, very pleasant man and frequently performed on oboe or recorder in our Soloists' Concerts, as well as in many of our Good Friday performances.