

Summer Concert
Sunday 26th June 5pm 2011
Queen Victoria Hall, Oundle



Polka from 'The Bartered Bride'	Smetena
Polka from 'Schwanda the Bagpiper'	Weinberger
String Quartet <i>Salut d'Amour</i> Toreador's Song	Elgar Bizet
Three Swedish Folk Dances <i>Allegretto Tempo di Valse Allegro</i>	Mehler
Viola solo <i>Bei Mannern, welche liebe fuhlen</i>	Mozart
<i>Adagio</i> from Spartacus	Khachaturian
Dance of the Tumblers	Rimsky-Korsakov
Tuba solo Wand'rin' Star	Loewe
John Henry	Copland
Wind trio When the Saints are marching in	Black
Symphonic Reflections	Lloyd Webber

Concert Sponsored by:

 **BulleyDavey**

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ABOUT THE RUSTY PLAYERS OF OUNDLE.....

When Alexander McCall Smith spoke at the Oundle Festival of Literature in 2009, he *en passant* extolled the virtues of his Edinburgh-based 'Really Terrible Orchestra', with its attractive philosophy of less-than-highly-talented friends playing their instruments informally in an orchestra with plenty of breaks for alcoholic refreshment.

This seed must have fallen on fertile ground in Oundle, because a few months later, and with only word-of-mouth publicity, 22 players assembled in November 2009 for the first rehearsal of 'The Rusty Players of Oundle' (RPO).

A year later, the RPO numbers around 36 players who often attend the fortnightly rehearsals, with a further 6-8 who seldom do.

In truth, we aspire to produce a sound that is better than terrible, but the main aim is to enjoy the opportunity to play together and the audiences at our first two gigs (July and December 2010) seemed to survive the experience.

Players, age range 20 to 70, fall into three categories:

♪ Those who started playing in their teens, before the everyday pressures of life . . . forced their music into the background, and who now want to resume and enjoy . . . orchestral playing.

♪ Those who are very competent amateur players on one instrument, but who have . . . a second or third instrument that they want to exercise

♪ A small number who have taken to music later on in life, for whom this is their first . . . orchestral experience

We are always keen to welcome new players, especially strings and brass. Currently there are no auditions. Rehearsals are on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, February – June and September – December. Subscriptions: currently just £20 per year.

www.rustyplayersoundle.org.uk

THE PLAYERS....

1st VIOLINS

Douglas Butler
Richard Hartnell
Alan Rayden
Jane Sanders

2nd VIOLINS

Diana Awdry
Julian Fairweather
Tamzin Bailey
Joh Roberts

VIOLAS

Edward James
Ros Southgate
Kate Wishart

CELLOS

Lisa Emerson
Sue Healey
Clare Warman

BASS

Andy Lear

FLUTES

Gill Bathurst-Hoile
Emma Hartnell
Jake Palmer
Anna Smith
Lynne Whitehouse

CLARINETS

Stephen Aris
Chris Gill
Peter Irving
Kate Pathak
Holly Wiggins

SAXOPHONE

Sarah Chase

OBOE

Glenys Seymour

HORN

Barry Morrison

BASSOON

Lynette Blanchford

TUBA

David Webb

PERCUSSION

Chris Davy

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Vincent Davy

We would like to thank Messrs Bulley Davey (Accountants) for sponsoring this afternoon's event

ABOUT THIS AFTERNOON'S PIECES.....

Having anaesthetised your critical faculties with tea and cakes, we invite you to listen to some of the pieces with which we have been battling over the past few months.....

SMETENA Written in Prague in 1866, this opera "soon found favour although, as with his other operas, foreign performances long remained rarities." Think of this performance therefore as a rarity! Persons wishing to dance the polka – please feel free!

WEINBERGER Another polka and despite the title, not a single set of bagpipes in sight. This was young Jaromir's outstanding success, also written in Prague, but in 1927 – "a brilliant and colourful folk opera." Colour we can do....

ELGAR Written in 1888 under the title '*Liebesgruss*', few copies were sold until Schott's changed the title to "*Salut d'Amour*" with *Liebesgruss* as a sub-title, and the composer's name as 'Ed Elgar'.

BIZET Premiered in Paris in 1875, 'Carmen' (of which this is one of the most well-known arias) was a near disaster. Free tickets had to be offered to attract an audience. Sounds familiar.

These two works by Ed and George will today be played by Douglas Butler, Jane Sanders, Tamzin Bailey, Alan Rayden (violins), Julian Fairweather, Edward James (violas), Lisa Emerson and Sue Healey (cellos).

MEHLER Born in Germany in 1896, Friedrich Mehler was a composer working in Sweden from 1921 until his death in 1981. His work is not well known in the UK. Will this performance enhance his reputation? Mmmm

MOZART Better known than Friedrich above, Mozart composed 'The Magic Flute' (of which this is a much-loved aria) in 1791. Played today on her Magic Viola by Kate Wishart, with Vince Davy accompanying.

KHACHATURIAN Composed in 1954, this ballet is set in Ancient Rome. After assorted massacres, orgies and other mayhem, Spartacus has been reunited with his love Phrygia and they celebrate the reunion with this *Adagio*. From time to time, the theme of a well-known 1970s TV soap opera may – or may not – escape into earshot....

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Written in 1880, 'The Snow Maiden' remained the composer's favourite work. All you need to know is that..... "in a forest reserve that evening, the people amuse themselves with song and dance". You doubtless already know that the proper name of the piece is 'Dance of the Skomorokhi' and that the eponymous Snow Maiden melts into a puddle at the end. She's not the only one.

LOEWE Now here's one for the Grandads to join in! Written as part of 'Paint your Wagon' in 1951, the song was made famous by Lee Marvin in the film of the musical in 1969. Lee Marvin sang all his own songs in the film, and (unless he's had us all fooled) our soloist David Webb will be playing all his own notes too. Vince Davy will accompany.

COPLAND John Henry was an American folk hero, 6 feet tall and weighing about 200 pounds, the subject of numerous songs, stories, plays, and novels. He was notable for having raced against a steam-powered hammer and won. His hammer weighed 20 pounds and he thought it light. John Henry famously died in this feat and so may we.

BLACK Written in 1896 and not, of course, to be confused with 'When the Saints Go Marching In', published much later in 1927 with similar words and music. Intrepidly played by Lynette Blanchford (bassoon), Lynne Whitehouse, Gillian Bathurst-Hoile (flutes) and Peter Irving (clarinet).

LLOYD WEBBER Q: What do you call a robot that composes musicals?

A: Android Lloyd Webber!

You may want to count how many tunes you recognize in this collection – but on the other hand.....

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AFTERWARDS.....

the Players will be very thirsty and you are very welcome to join in the continuing party.

THANK YOU FOR COMING!