

Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society

Chorus Master: **BRIAN WRIGHT**

(63rd SEASON)

ASSEMBLY HALL
ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Sunday, 20th November, 1966
at 3 p.m.

HIAWATHA

(Coleridge-Taylor)

DOREEN PRICE (Soprano)

DAVID HILLMAN
(Tenor)

JOHN LAWRENSEN
(Baritone)

FULL ORCHESTRA

(Leader: **NINA BENTLEY**)

Conductor:

TREVOR HARVEY

The National Federation of Music Societies, to which this Society is affiliated, gives support to this Concert with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain.

It is also supported by the Royal Tunbridge Wells Corporation.

PROGRAMME 6d.

CONTENTS

I.—HIAWATHA'S WEDDING-FEAST.

CHORUS	"You shall hear how Pau-Puk-Keewis"
CHORUS	"Then the handsome Pau-Puk-Keewis"
CHORUS	"He was dress'd in shirt of doe-skin"
CHORUS	"First he danc'd a solemn measure"
CHORUS	"Then said they to Chibiabos"
TENOR SOLO	"Onaway! Awake, beloved!"
CHORUS	"Thus the gentle Chibiabos"
CHORUS	"Very boastful was Iagoo"
CHORUS	"Such was Hiawatha's Wedding"

Short Interval

II.—THE DEATH OF MINNEHAHA.

CHORUS	"Oh, the long and dreary winter"
CHORUS	"Into Hiawatha's wigwam"
BARITONE SOLO	"And the foremost said, 'Behold me!'"
SOPRANO SOLO	"And the other said, 'Behold me!'"
CHORUS	"And the lovely Minnehaha"
CHORUS	"Forth into the empty forest"
BARITONE SOLO	"Gitche Manito, the Mighty!"
CHORUS	"In the wigwam with Nokomis"
SOPRANO SOLO	"Hark! she said, I hear a rushing"
SOPRANO SOLO	"Wahonomin! Wahonomin!"
BARITONE SOLO	"Wahonomin! Wahonomin!"
CHORUS	"And he rush'd into the wigwam"
SOPRANO SOLO	"Then he sat down, still and speechless"
CHORUS	"Then they buried Minnehaha"
BARITONE SOLO AND CHORUS	"Farewell! said he, Minnehaha"

Short Interval

III.—HIAWATHA'S DEPARTURE.

SOPRANO SOLO	"Spring had come with all its splendour"
CHORUS	"From his wand'rings far to Eastward"
TENOR SOLO	"He had seen, he said, a water"
CHORUS	"Only Hiawatha laughed not"
BARITONE SOLO	"True is all Iagoo tells us"
CHORUS	"By the shore of Gitche Gumee"
SOPRANO SOLO	"From the brow of Hiawatha"
CHORUS	"It was neither goose nor diver"
BARITONE SOLO	"Beautiful is the sun, O strangers"
TENOR SOLO AND CHORUS	"And the Black-Robe chief made answer"
CHORUS	"Then the generous Hiawatha"
TENOR SOLO	"Then the Black-Robe chief, the prophet"
MALE CHORUS	"And the chiefs made answer, saying"
BARITONE SOLO	"I am going, O Nokomis"
BARITONE SOLO	"I am going, O my people"
CHORUS	"On the shore stood Hiawatha"

PART 1. (HIAWATHA'S WEDDING FEAST.)

Was composed in 1898, and first performed at the Royal College of Music in the same year. This is the most popular and dramatic of the three movements, and describes the entertainment provided at the Wedding Feast of Hiawatha, when he marries Minnehaha (Laughing Water). We are first told what we are going to hear about "How the handsome Pau Puk Keewis danced at Hiawatha's Wedding" and how "Iagoo, the great Boaster, told his tales of strange adventure." We then have the description of the feast that Nokomis made, and the details of the utensils, "all the spoons of horn of bison, all the bowls were made of basswood" etc. The guests assembled, and then we hear of their apparel, "splendid with their paint and plumage, beautiful with beads and tassels" they then "ate the sturgeon, haunch of deer, and buffalo marrow, and the wild rice of the river." After this they filled the pipes for smoking, and Pau Puk Keewis danced, and Iagoo told his stories. When the guests had departed, Hiawatha was left with "the night and Minnehaha."

PART 2. (THE DEATH OF MINNEHAHA.)

Was composed in 1899, and here we have a complete change of mood—a movement of unutterable sadness, describing the long and bitter winter—Minnehaha's fever and death, and Hiawatha's anguish as he hunts far away in the forest to find food for his dying wife. We then hear the lovely baritone solo, "Wahonomin, would that I had perished for you—would that I were dead as thou art" followed by the description of Minnehaha's funeral rites—sentimental, but wonderfully sensitive scoring for full orchestra and chorus.

PART 3. (HIAWATHA'S DEPARTURE.)

This part completed the trilogy in 1900, and describes the coming of the Spring with all its splendour, and the continued sadness of Hiawatha. Iagoo returns from his travels, tells of many strange adventures, seeing strange bearded warriors and white men. Nobody believes him except Hiawatha. Eventually arrives "The Black Robe Chief, the paleface, with his Cross upon his bosom," who tells his message to the people, that of the Virgin Mary, and her Son, the Saviour, how he fasted, prayed and laboured, and was crucified. Hiawatha is converted to this new teaching, believes, and decides to go with the Black Robe Chief on a journey to the lands he spoke of. The final description is of the peoples sorrow at the departure of Hiawatha, how all the birds and beasts wail "Farewell oh Hiawatha." "Thus departed Hiawatha, the beloved, in the glory of the sunset, to the purple mists of evening—to the islands of the Blessed, to the Kingdom of Ponemah, the land of the Hereafter."

C.W.

SUNDAY, 18th DECEMBER, 1966 at 3 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC and CAROLS

Orchestra Leader: NINA BENTLEY

Two Pianos: MARJORIE VINALL - ROY DOUGLAS

SUNDAY, 9th APRIL, 1967 at 3 p.m.

THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS

(Elgar)

JEAN ALLISTER (Contralto)

RONALD DOWD (Tenor)

GEOFFREY SHAW (Bass)

FULL ORCHESTRA

Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society

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		Mrs. Cyril Wood

The Society is greatly indebted to its Vice-Presidents for their support, which helps to bridge the serious gap between income and expenditure which nearly always arises in giving choral concerts. It is hoped that all those interested in the performance of choral music will become Vice-Presidents by contributing at least two guineas a year.

Singing membership of the Society is open to all who sing. **New members are welcomed.** Those who would like to join may come to any rehearsal or write to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. CYRIL WOOD, 45 High Street, Tunbridge Wells. (Tel. 23264/5)

Rehearsals: Christ Church Hall, High Street, on Mondays, at 7 p.m., from September to April.

Annual Subscription: £2 2s. (reduction for those under 21).

The Society is indebted to many members of the ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA for kindly playing in this concert; their assistance is always appreciated.

Assembly Hall

Sunday 4th December, at 3.00 p.m.

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Leader: LIONEL BENTLEY

Musica Pacifica (First Performance): RICHARD ARNELL

Conducted by Composer

Piano Concerto No. 2 in G. Major—TCHAIKOVSKY

A London Symphony—VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Solo Piano: YONTY SOLOMON

Conductors: JOHN CAREWE and RICHARD ARNELL

Tickets 7/6, 6/-, 4/6 Unreserved 3/6 at Door only