Composers

DOMINICK ARGENTO. The Aspern Papers (première)—19 November/Dallas/Dallas Opera c. Nicola Rescigno with Elisabeth Söderstrom, Frederica von Stade, etc.

DAVID BABCOCK. Saxophone Quartet No.2; Trio (premières)—24 July/Vienna, Szecessjon/Wiener Saxophonquartett, Ensemble Passacaglia Wien. Babcock has completed his Second Symphony, commissioned by the Österreichischer Komponistenband, scheduled for performance in 1990.

NIELS VIGGO BENTZON has recently completed his String Quartet No.14 and a flute trio entitled De Vilde Malere (The Wild Painters). He is now composing his Eighteenth Symphony.

MARC BLITZSTEIN (d. 1969). Orchestral Variations (première)—9 October/New York, Carnegie Hall/ American Composers Orchestra c. Dennis Russell Davies.


EDWARD COWIE. The Roof of Heaven, cantata for tenor and chamber orchestra (première)—9 June/Peterborough Cathedral/London Festival Orchestra.

PETER DAVIDSON. The Banks of Italy for soprano and ensemble (première)—28 August/Edinburgh, St. Cecilia’s Hall/Jane Ginsborg.

ZSOLT DURKO. Octet (première)—11 October/London, St. John’s Smith Square/Budapest Wind Ensemble.

BRJAN ELIAS is composing a song-cycle to texts by Irina Ratushinskaya for the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

HENRYK MIKOLAJ GORECKI. Symphony No.3 (UK concert première)—20 September/Birmingham/ Margaret Field (sop), CBSO c. David Atherton.

HK GRUBER. Nebelstimmen (Violin Concerto No.2) for violin and strings (première)—10 July/St. Florian Festival, Graz/Ernst Kovaec, Vienna Symphony Orchestra.

HANS WERNER HENZE. Sieben Liebeslieder (UK première)—4 September/Royal Albert Hall/Alexander Baillie (cello), BBC Symphony Orchestra.

VAGN HOLMBOE. Translation (première)—11 August/Bornholm, Denmark/Peter Elbæk, Bjørn Bois Rasmussen, Lars Holm Johansen.

ROBIN HOLLOWAY. ‘Mad Scene’ from Clarissa (première)—15 September/London, Barbican Centre/ Anna Steiger (sop), LSO c. Michael Tilson Thomas.

DAVID JOHNSON. God, Man, and the Animals for soprano and ensemble (première)—28 August/Edinburgh, St. Cecilia’s Hall/Jane Ginsborg.

GYÖRGY KURTÁG. Three Old Inscriptions (première) —16 October/Berlin Festival/Adrienne Csengery (sop), Andras Schiff (piano). Kafka Fragments (US première)—5 August/Monadnock, NH/Adrienne Csengery, Rolf Schulte (vln).

KENNETH LEIGHTON (d. 24 September). Missa Christi (première)—12 June/Indianapolis, USA/ Christchurch Cathedral Choir.

WITOLD LUTOSŁAWSKI. Piano Concerto (première)—19 August/Salzburg Festival/Krysztof Zinman, ORF Orchestra c. composer.


STEVE MARTLAND. Glad Day, theatre songs for voice and 13 instruments (première)—6 June/Holland Festival, Amsterdam/Sarah-Jane Morris, ASKO ensemble.


ANDRZEJ PANUFNIK. String Sextet (Polish première)—17 September/Warsaw/Varsovia Quartet with Skula and Kanasa.

STEVE REICH. Electric Counterpoint (UK première)—23 September/Royal Festival Hall/Steve Reich and Musicians. Three Movements (European première); The Four Sections (UK première)—29 September/Royal Festival Hall/LSO c. Michael Tilson Thomas. Six Marimbas; Different Trains (UK première)—2 November/Queen Elizabeth Hall/Steve Reich and Musicians; Kronos String Quartet.

NED ROREM. Hail and Farewell (première)—16 October/New York, Alice Tully Hall/Anthony Newman (organ), Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

ROBERT SAXTON. Rex Gloriar (première)—8 July/ Gloucester Cathedral/Westonbirt School for Girl’s Choir c. John Slater.

GIACINTO SCELSI died on 9 August at the age of 83.

ALFRED SCHNITTKE. Concerto for piano and strings (UK concert première)—11 November/Edinburgh/ Viktoria Postnikova, Scottish National Orchestra c. Gennadi Rozhdestvensky.
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KURT SCHWERTSIK. Concerto for timpani (tom-tom) and Orchestra (première)—5 July/Vienna/Martin Kerschbaum, Vienna SO c. Bergl. Starledutsche Lieder und Tänze (US première)—28 October/Brooklyn/Karl-Friedrich Durr (bass), Brooklyn Philharmonic c. Dennis Russell Davies.


GILES SWAYNE. Harmonies of Hell (première)—7 August/Harrogate Festival/Endymion Ensemble.

MICHAEL TORKE. Black and White (première of orchestral version)—5 November/Long Beach, California/Long Beach Symphony c. David Alan Miller.

DAVID DEL TREDICI. Tattoo (US première)—19 November/New York/NYPO c. Leonard Bernstein.

MARK-ANTHONY TURNAGE. Greek, opera in 2 acts (première)—27 May/Munich, Carl-Orff-Saal/Ensemble Modern; (UK première)—25 August/Edinburgh Festival/Alineida Ensemble.


Books Received

(A listing in this column does not preclude a review in a future issue of TEMPO)


GUSTAV MAHLER: An Introduction to his Music by Deryck Cooke. Faber paperback, £4.95 (new edition).


LIPATTI by Dragos Tamasescu and Grigore Bargaianu, edited by Carola Grindea, with a Foreword by Yehudi Menuhin. Kahn & Averill, £16.95.

RAVEL ACCORDING TO RAVEL by Vlado Perlemuter and Helen Jourdan-Morhange. edited by Harold Taylor. Kahn & Averill, £18.95.