NEWS SECTION

Composers

DAVID BEDFORD. The Death of Baldur, school opera (première) — 22-20 March / Gordonstoun School.

LEONARD BERNSTEIN. The Dybbuk (U.K. première) — 17 May / London, St. John’s Smith Square / Young Musicians’ Symphony Orchestra c. James Blair.


BRIAN CHAPPLE. Venus Fly Trap (premiere) — 11 March / St. John’s Smith Square / London Sinfonietta c. Elgar Howarth.

GEORGE CRUMB. Celestial Mechanics (Makrokosmos IV) has been commissioned by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.


JACOB DRUCKMAN. Bo (premiere) — 3 March / New York, Juilliard Theatre / Daniel Druckman (marimbas), Barbara Allen (harp), Dennis Smiley (bass clarinet).

BRIAN FERNEYHOUGH. New work for string quartet (premiere) — 3 June / Freiburg / Berne String Quartet. Funerailles Versions I and II (premiere of complete work) — 30 June / La Rochelle Festival / Ensemble 2E2M. Ferneyhough has been awarded the 1979 Koussevitsky Prize for Decca’s recording of Transit.

MICHAEL FINNISSY. ... fairest noonday ... (premiere) — 5 March / University of Leeds / Martyn Hill, John Constable. Piano Concerto No.4 (premiere) — 30 April / Logan Hall, London University / Michael Finnissy. Sea and Sky (premiere) — 16 May / Royal Festival Hall / LPO c. Elgar Howarth.

WOLFGANG FORTNER. Variationen für Kammerorchester (premiere) — 27 March / Basle / Basle Chamber Orchestra c. Paul Sacher. Madrigal for 12 celiors (premiere — 8 April / Munich / 12 cellists of the Berlin PO.

JOHN FOLDS (d. 1939). Quartetto Intimo (premiere) — 30 April / Bromsgrove Festival / Endellion Quartet.

MICHAEL GIELEN. Pentaphonie (Ein Tag tritt hervor) (U.K. première) — 20 February / Royal Festival Hall / Karin Ott, Sarah Walker, Philip Langridge, Michael Rippon, Karlheinz Donauer, BBC SO c. the composer.


CHRISTOBAL HALFFTER has been commissioned to write an opera for the Deutsche Oper, Berlin. The libretto, by Ingeborg Drewitz, is based on Lorca’s play Mariana Pineda.

RICHARD DAVID HAMES. Ku for recorder, dancer and multiple tape delay was the only British work to be chosen from 110 scores submitted for the 1980 International Gaudeamus Musicweek. Hames is currently completing commissions from Gerald English and Harry Sparnay.


ROBIN HOLLOWAY. Ode for chamber orchestra (premiere) — 4 June / Queen Elizabeth Hall / English Chamber Orchestra c. Steuart Bedford. He-He-Together (premiere) — 21 June / Queen Elizabeth Hall / Oriana Choir.

WILFRED JOSEPHS. Equus (premiere) — 21 March / Baltimore / Maryland Ballet. ‘Piano Piece’ (premiere) — 1 March / St. John’s Smith Square / Anton Weinberg (clarinet), Helen Robertson-Baker (piano).
BENJAMIN LEES. Mobiles for orchestra (première) — 12 April / New York, Carnegie Hall / Fort Worth (Texas) Symphony c. John Giordano.

GYORGY LIGETI. Szene und Zwischenspiele aus Le Grand Macabre (U.K. première) — 16 May / Royal Festival Hall / LPO c. Elgar Howarth.

JOHN McCABE. Violin Concerto No. 2 (première) — 20 March / Birmingham / Erich Gruenberg, CBSO c. Christopher Seaman.

JOHN McLEOD. Symphony in One Movement (première) — 30 March / Wembley Conference Centre / Philharmonia c. Norman Del Mar.

ELIZABETH MACONCHY. Romanza for viola and ensemble (première) — 12 March / Queen Elizabeth Hall / Paul Silverthorne, John Bate Orchestra c. John Bate.

ROBIN MACONIE. Commedia for 4 instruments and electronic amplification (première) — 2 March / Surrey University / Quorum.

IGOR MARKEVITCH. Le paradis perdu (Spanish première) — 8 February (further performances 9, 10) / Madrid, Teatro Real / Marianne Seibel, Ria Bollen, Andre Malabrera, Manuel Bermudez, Orquesta y Coro Nacionales de Espana c. the composer. Psalme (German première) — 8 May / Weimar.


PETER MAXWELL DAVIES. The Two Fiddlers (Australian première) — 8 March onwards (12 performances) / Adelaide Festival. Maxwell Davies is at work on his Symphony No. 2, commissioned by the Boston Symphony Orchestra for its 100th Anniversary Season.

USKO MERILAINEN. String Quartet No. 1 (première) — 11 February / Wigmore Hall / Medici Quartet.

THEA MUSGRAVE. Mary Queen of Scots (London première) — 2 April / Sadler’s Wells / Scottish Opera.


NIGEL OSBORNE. Flute Concerto (première) — 2 May / Queen Elizabeth Hall / Aurel Nicolet, City of London Sinfonia c. Richard Hickox. Osborne is writing a new work for the Nash Ensemble.

LUIS DE PABLO. A modo di Concerto for percussion and strings (U.S. première) — 13 February / Pasadena / Donald Knaack (perc.), Symphony of the Verdugos.

ANDRZEJ PANUFNIK. Kayn Epitaph (U.K. première) — 29 May / Glasgow / BBC Scottish SO c. the composer. Panufnik has recently completed a Concertino for solo percussion and string orchestra. A new ballet by David Binkley, choreographed to Hommage à Chopin, was premièred by the Royal Ballet at Sadler’s Wells on 22 February.

PAUL PATTERSON. At the still point of the turning world (première) — 2 February 1980 / Stockholm / Nash Ensemble; (U.K. première) — 13 April / Queen Elizabeth Hall / Nash Ensemble. Patterson is writing a new work commissioned by the Feeney Trust for the 80th anniversary of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra.

KRZYSZTOF PENDERECKI. Symphony No. 2 (première) — 1 May / New York / New York PO c. Zubin Mehta.

KURT SCHWERTSIK. Irdische Klänge (Symphony in two Movements) (première) — 16 April / Vienna / Vienna SO c. Theodor Guschlbauer.

NED ROREM. Double Concerto for violin, cello and orchestra (première) — 16 May / Cincinnati / Cincinnati SO c. Walter Susskind.


ALFRED SCHNITTKE. Symphony ‘St. Florian’ (Missa Invisibilia) (première) — 23 April / BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Gennadi Rozhdestvensky.
ROBERT SIMPSON. Symphony No. 6 (première) – 8 April / Royal Festival Hall / LPO c. Sir Charles Groves. String Quartets Nos. 4, 6 (public premières) – 2/12 April / Wigmore Hall / Delmé Quartet.

DMITRI TIOMKIN. The veteran film composer and former pupil of Glazunov and Busoni died in London on 11 November. His most famous scores included those for High Noon, Giant, Fifty Days in Peking and The Fall of the Roman Empire.

DAVID DEL TREDICI. Adventures Underground (première of revised version) – 13 April / Amsterdam / Concertgebouw Orchestra c. Michael Tilson Thomas. Del Tredici’s latest work is All in the Golden Afternoon for soprano and orchestra, commissioned by the Philadelphia Orchestra for performance in 1981.

IVAN WYSCHNEGRADSKY. The Russian-born pioneer of quarter-tone and 13-tone music died on 28 September in Paris at the age of 86.

Periodicals

DAS ORCHESTER

1/1980
Wolf-Eberhard von Lewinski, Wer entscheidet über die Qualität eines Orchesters?, pp.1-5; Günther Batel, Musik und Medien, pp.8-12.

MUSICA

January-February 1980
A film and television music number. Also Rainer Wehinger, ‘Objets liés’. Eine kleine Anregung Musique concrète zu analyseren, pp.64-68.

SCHWEIZERISCHE MUSIKZEITUNG

No.1, January-February 1980

MENS EN MELODIE

No.2, February 1980

No.3, March 1980

MUSICAL QUARTERLY

Vol.LXVI, No.1 January 1980

Books received

(Britten by Imogen Holst (3rd edition). Faber, £3.95.


BEETHOVEN STRING QUARTETS by Basil Lam. BBC Music Guide, £2.50.

SIMPLE COMPOSITION by Charles Wuorinen. Longman, £7.95.


ERNEST CHAPMAN 1914 - 1980

As we go to press we learn with sorrow of the death of Ernest Chapman, the distinguished writer on music and first editor of TEMPO. An obituary will appear in a future issue of TEMPO.