

THE ORGAN MUSIC SOCIETY

SECOND RECITAL

(SIXTEENTH SERIES)

AT
ST. JOHN'S, RED LION SQUARE, W.C.1.

*(By kind permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens and the
Organist—Mr. F. Darwin Fox)*

THURSDAY, 12TH. NOVEMBER, 1936, at 8.15 p.m.

ANDRÉ MARCHAL

Committee:
ARCHIBALD FARMER, *President*.
HARVEY GRACE.
NICHOLAS CHOVEAUX.
L. C. SMART.



FELIX APRAHAMIAN, *Hon. Secretary*.
8, Methuen Park,
Maxwell Hill, N.10.

Programme . . . SIXPENCE.

SPECIAL NOTE.—Members are asked to present this programme, as a means of identification, when purchasing tickets.

PROGRAMME.

It is earnestly requested that strict silence be observed. Those who wish to enter or leave during the recital are asked to do so between the numbers.

(a) TOCCATA IN D MINOR *John BLOW* (1649-1708)

“ Blow, the organist of Westminster Abbey and the teacher of Purcell, was also organist and composer to the Chapel Royal. His pieces for harpsichord or organ are highly characteristic of English keyboard music at the end of the 17th century. This one comprises three parts; to the first, of a meditative type, succeeds a more rapid and developed movement, leading to a brilliant peroration, the interesting stretto of which will be noticed.”—(*N. Dufourq.*)

(b) QUESTA FANCIULLA *Francisco LANDINO* (1325-1397)

“ The political troubles of the 14th century did not dry up the sources of poetry and music..... The *ars nova* of the Italian madrigalists was rendered illustrious by the *canzonette a ballo*, the madrigals and the *caccie* of a crowd of authors, among whom Francisco Landino, is distinguished above all—the blind organist of San Lorenzo at Florence. This musician, who was both philosopher and poet, was crowned in the presence of Petrarch by the Doge of Venice, Lorenzo Celsi, at the time of the visit of the king of Cyprus (1364). Some hundreds of his vocal works are preserved in Italian, French or English libraries; but the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris is the only one to possess the transcription in two parts for organ of one of the three-part songs of Landino, entitled *Questa fanciulla*.”—(*F. Raugel.*)

TOCCATA, ADAGIO AND FUGUE IN C MAJOR *BACH*

CHORAL NO. 2, IN B MINOR *César FRANCK*

The great sombre fresco of the Second Choral is not only one of the less often played of the works of our *Pater Seraphicus*, but, in the opinion of many keen Franckists, one of the most valuable. The art of César Franck does not lend itself to analysis, least of all in the three Chorals, where the procedure of variation is carried to such lengths of subtlety. The following plan, however, may be found helpful. It is by Tournemire.

- { Exposition (B minor) with prolongation of the Choral.
- { Short digression.
- { Second prolongation.
- { Short digression, transposed upwards a fourth.
- { Third prolongation.
- { Fantasy.
- { Resumption of the Choral (G minor).
- { Great progressive *crescendo*, and *fortissimo*.
- { Last appearance of the Choral (B minor).
- { Conclusion.

(a) POÈME ÉVANGÉLIQUE (No. 2) ... "Nativité" ... *Jean LANGLAIS* (b. 1907)

Langlais is a pupil of Marchal, Dupré and Dukas, and holds the posts of organist at St. Pierre de Montrouge and professor at the "Institution nationale des jeunes aveugles" of Paris.

(b) "APPARITION DE L'ÉGLISE ÉTERNELLE" *Olivier MESSIAEN* (b. 1908)

Messiaen is organist at the Sainte-Trinité in Paris, and one of the late Paul Dukas' most distinguished composition pupils. Of this piece the composer writes: "An enormous and granitic *crescendo*. It (the Church) appears and disappears. The pedal scans the hammer-strokes of Grace, which erects the divine construction."

IMPROVISATION, IN THE FORM OF A SYMPHONY.

The subjects on which M. Marchal will improvise have been specially submitted, at the invitation of the Society, by four English composers. The scheme of the movements is as follows:—

Fugue	...	...	...	...	<i>Alan Bush.</i>
Adagio	...	...	...	...	<i>William Walton.</i>
Scherzo	...	...	...	...	<i>Benjamin Britten.</i>
Toccata	...	...	...	...	<i>Constant Lambert.</i>

ANNOUNCEMENT.

Members and Visitors are invited to an informal Reception, with refreshments, to be held at the Church House, Fisher Street, at the conclusion of the Recital. It is hoped that M. Marchal will be present.

The Third and last Recital of this series will be given by RALPH DOWNES at St. John's, Red Lion Square, on TUESDAY, 24th NOVEMBER, at 8.15 p.m. The programme will include the Messe des Pauvres by Satie, three movements from Widor's Symphonie Gothique, the Finale of the Seventh Suite by Tournemire, and pieces by Dandrieu, Mulet, Vierne and Reger.