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Book Review

"Making Friends with more Symphonies," covers a further seventy symphonies 'most likely to appear in concert and broadcast programmes, and on records.

A major problem confronting the writer of a listener's guide to music, in a society where music is not a 'fine qua non' of education, concerns the extent to which technical data should be included. To exclude it entirely results in subjective generalisations about the music rather than discussion of the music itself. Such generalisations, drawing heavily upon metaphor, are often an affront to the intelligence of the average listener, if they have a place in the appreciation of music it can only be at the kindergarten stage. Mr. Glennon steers between the Scylla and Charybdis of this problem more satisfactorily than many reputable writers in best-selling paper-back 'guides', whose value exceeds the value of the volume only because of their music examples. (Which is a doubtful advantage if you can't read music notation.) The writer's approach is largely objective. He gives biographical background to each symphony and a commentary on each movement, indicating particular factors of interest concerning structure, tonality, rhythm or orchestration as they demand attention in their context, rather than the relentless filling-in of texture to a preconceived scheme (e.g. sonata form) practised by some highly respected 'academic' commentators. The reader-listener is generally speaking, left to form his own opinion about the music, whether the composer is Mahler (whom a contemporary composer recently described as 'the greatest composer of all time') or Goldmark (whose emergence from obscurity is indicated by a recent recording of his "Rustic Wedding" Symphony, released since this book went to press).

Only occasionally do hoary epithets appear, e.g. Schumann's "defects in orchestration." Defection from what? A change in method from that of his contemporary Mendelssohn certainly, but is there a 'correct' style in music? The present so-called permissive, egalitarian attitudes within society provide a helpful climate for deunking the hierarchic concept which for the past hundred years has evaluated music according to an aristocratic chain of being. The 'soleil': recognition of a Beethoven symphony as a great work of art without an equal awareness of its relevance to society, from Hummel to Bob Dylan, is as despicable a piece of superstition as the 'Christian' reverence for Christ and his Sermon on the Mount without an equal reverence for the thieves, prostitutes, murderers (and even Communists) whom Christ represented. Another "holier-than-thous" attitude is perpetuated in the writer's reference to the opinion that Bruckner composed "not nine symphonies but the same symphony nine times." The 'greatness' of Haydn has never been questioned with the remark that he wrote the same symphony ninety-nine times, yet it would have equal appropriateness. There are one or two inaccuracies in historical data, viz. Vaughan-Williams' morality 'The Pigs's Progress' was written after his 8th Symphony, which consequently cannot 'owe much' to the morality of some six years later; the link with Nyman's work, particularly in the third movement of the symphony is suggested through his use of material from the composer's "Shepherds of the Delectable Mountains," a 'pastoral episode' written in 1922. William Walton was not born in London but in Oldham, Lancashire.

Finally one must register disappointment that although room could be found for fifteen Haydn symphonies, which give the most uninitiated listener little trouble, only two symphonies (both by Shostakovich) written during the past decade find a place. There is no lack of material which has been recorded and which occasionally appears in concert programmes, e.g. the six symphonies of Henze (Germany's most prominent post-war symphonist), the two symphonies of Richard Rodney Bennett (the first was performed during the 1966 Adelaide Festival) and Dreyfus' Symphony, (written in Canberra in 1967 as an outcome of the first Commonwealth Fellowship given to a composer).

Britten's Cello Symphony of 1960 might, with greater profit, have been included rather than his 'Simple' and 'Spring' symphonies, while its definition qualifies for inclusion as much as D'Indy's Symphony for orchestra and piano.

Despite these limitations, however, this book is a useful companion, in simple and concise language, for the average listener who wants more information about what he hears.

John Wesley Barker.

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

MARCH 21ST

14-ON DIT, MARCH 24, 1970
What is now?

"What is now? What is now? What is now?"
The bird at dusk calls to time,
Ending its day of happenings,
And breaks its heart against the unanswerable why
of its rejection.

Meanwhile, the vortex of fear
Waits on silence,
And the shifts of reason chasing its echo,
Close its mouth.

Finding it has no place in now,
The bird, falling from the bough,
Like death delivering the outsider to the instant,
Breaks the confines of its love.

And, leaving to now, the sufficiency of is,
Discovers the freedom to fly past hope of morning,
And the deep of night,
To break awake the rapture of inclusion.

Here, words cannot delimit
Its all-inclusive state,
And speech, redundant, stops,
When each with each in heart communes,
For speech and thought come afterwards,
And this is now. This is now. This is now.

James Bald

the dead

The dead lay on a wooden board,
copying a better original;
animal bodies held together by clasps
(whose forelegs attached at right angles,
raised in blessing, adapted
to the local flora),
content with the minor arts
(the classical singer was
likened to a fish:
the head grew out of all proportion,
the skull was not filled with bitumen
but worn around the neck
as a symbol of sweet song
They have judged Provenance,
worked from the bottom upwards.
And a hare nibbles the fruit!

Richard Maddileen

Catullus 2: Mutatation

Sparrow my darling’s special boy
she loves to play with you like a toy
in the low bosom of her clothes:
then she tells you little jokes:
then she laughs. She loves to give you
her finger to bite hard into:
and harder; it breaks the sorrow.
Sometimes I wish I were a sparrow:
she might go for me in a big way.

Christopher Folkins

In 1969 the A.U. Literary Society produced a periodical for student poetry, BARBITOS, which came to an unhappy end. Now read on.

Barbitos is now resurrected in the affiliated pages of ON DIT. As a regular feature Barbitos will present a selection of the best young poetry submitted from local (and interterrestrial) sources. Poems can be sent to Barbitos/SA/English Dept. Office/University of Adelaide/Adelaide, 5001—or deposited in the English Dept. Office or SRC Office.

The Monks’ Chant

Broken spinet, broken wheel
Love done; empties I kneel.

Swollen nipples, parted, dried
Loom threads twisted—so Christ cried
Broken spinet
— broken wheel.

Love done, the weaver fled
And left love’s baby dead.

Monks’ chant in golden blood so real
Broken spinet
— broken wheel.

Jacques Moncrieff

“Kiss the sky
and commit adultery with
the clouds”

Negligeé-d women walking pretty in the
skimming streets, of sleeping cars,
travelling beds, yawning trains,
neon-invitations, drowsing milkmen,
bicycles making love, pornographic dogs.

The uncovered bodies of young girls,
in love, in need, in trouble,
in hospital, in a car, in a jam,
in a flat, in a mess, in time,
in the last resort, in a jar, in a poem.

Uncovered bodies of young girls see
their negligé-d mothers, walking pretty,
sleeping, travelling, yawning, inviting,
looking, making love.
(How can you make love?
2 of sand, 3 of metal, 1 of cement
and 1½ buckets of water)

They see the smoke ooze from the train
just after it leaves the tunnel, the birds
kiss the sky and commit adultery with
the clouds, the sun come central over their bedrooms,
their mothers feeding the dogs with ‘girlie’ magazines.

But their daughters are their daughters for
the rest of their lives.

A. D. Flavell

ON DIT, MARCH 24, 1970–15
FENCING

It is disheartening to note the lack of support for Australian Track and Field competitions that have taken place in Adelaide on March 20-22. If it had been Australian Rules Football there would have been a saturation publicity for a couple of weeks beforehand. But no! Australia has some of the best athletes in the world and yet they do it despite the lack of public support, the lack of Government and private financial backing, lack of facilities, and the lack of money. It doesn't matter in West Germany, Russia and America where they have all of these things. Perhaps the Australians can do so well without them.

But Australia might cease to be a parochial backwater one day. Just past "the footy," the races and the pulp, and start to recognise our athletes, the way people overseas recognise and support their athletes and recognise ours.

Pity about the Channel Nine Sports Show. It no longer continues past 90 minutes of Australian Rules Football. It is now 120 with RUGBY. There was a time when you could see results from some 8 to 9 in a row. The only result that you could not get was a national, let alone international, restricted as it is to the southern states.

The University Athletics Club is now coming near to the end of an extremely busy season. The A grade team in Inter Club competition went through the season undefeated to finish minor premiers. They then won the A grade title for the fourth time in 5 years (and the 3rd in a row). The C grade side also had an untroubled premiership win, and Adelaide University has 6 victories in both grades became known as the "A-grade" team this year - as the St. Valentine's Day Massacre.

The victory dinner at the Aurora (they serve a great but expensive smorgasbord) was an event unmarred by public spectrals (thank God) because 200 people were too many to eject by any means. There were several more for the club that night: the award presentation of The Australian Sportsman Magazine. It has been awarded to one Michael McKenna for his work in windsurfing. Meanwhile, back at Fentle's pool, the team lined up for the A.V. P.U. relay. Aside from 2 narrow victories, a shark attack, and 100m swimmer who led at a member of the opposition, the 400m Freestyle relay was a well-fought race with Fentle's according to the score sheet. One judge had been pressed in and the other had hidden away with the boat of rum.

ATHLETICS

AUGUST

The Interarsity (late 2nd term holidays) is more than 1 year away. The prime target for 1979. This year the competitions will be held at Sydney and, assuming volunteers for the Interarsity form a problem, the Interarsity competition will be held on the next 100m. All these, and whatever other requirements a person can see, are for the most part started in the early months of training in early March.

This year the club is concerned mainly with the art of boating. Perhaps more than any other club, the Boating Club offers its members the opportunity to learn the full art of boating. To lose that "spare time" to someone, to be involved in an organisation, to be passionate and to be successful. It is a no-nonsense sport.

The State Championships produced 2 University champions in Alan Bradshaw (100m) and David Stiles (200m). And in the Australian Championships to be held on March 20-21, there will be 5 E.S.R.U. champions. The State championships are for A.S.: Alan Bradshaw (100m, 200m, 400m), David Stiles (100m, 200m, 400m), Jeff Pentleman (200m, 400m) and Bill Gosch (Ducks). It will also be interesting to watch the progress of several of the State junior team (M. C. U. and Fentle's). The Australian Championships will be held on Saturday and will be conducted on University Oval on Saturday, March 24th, and a.m.

Intending players, old and new, are invited to attend training as soon as possible. The program commences on April 4th and the Club has extensive training facilities in Division III, II, I and IV.

A.U. R.F.C.

THE RUGBY CLUB ADVISES THUS FROM APRIL 5TH HOME GAMES WILL BE PLAYED ON THE UNIVERSITY OVAL, FULLarton ROAD, GLEN OAK.

TRAINING WILL CONTINUE ON UNIVERSITY OVAL TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 6.00 PM.
DAVID FITZSIMONS
(Civil Engineering III)

One year ago David had just won 2 silver medals in the Australian Track and Field championships in Melbourne.

Now, after his first season as a senior David has proved himself to be one of the best middle-distance runners in South Australia. As such he will represent the State in the 1500 metres during the Australian Championships this year.

Aside from his ability as an outstanding individual, he is also a good competitor and team-member, being a member of the Athletics Club committee as evidence of his popularity within the Club.

David has also become a legendary figure on interservices, but for apparently desperate and undisclosed reasons.

GLIDING

Gilding is one of the most exciting and rewarding sports ever devised, and South Australia has superb facilities in which cross country flights and races are flown almost every weekend. In this, as in few other sports, men and women are on terms of complete equality and there is no age limit. Anyone in normal health can fly a glider and a student starting this week can look forward to forty years or even more of active flying. The sport is one where experience and sheer low cunning, together with a good deal of scientific knowledge, count for more than high speed reflexes. No question of being on the shelf at thirty years of age! The current Australian Champion is 29 years old, but the World Champions over the past decade have all been over forty.

On an average day, with good thermal upcurrents, a good pilot can average sixty or seventy miles per hour on a cross country task. He (or she) might declare in writing the intention to fly around a triangular course of two or three hundred miles, and after take off would endeavor not merely to complete this task but to achieve it, at a high average speed. Sometimes things don’t work out — recently one of our University Gliding Club members attempted a 500 km. (310 miles) triangle and after a struggle in very poor conditions had to choose a paddock and land in it after doing two-thirds of the distance. But this was a good effort on a day when other pilots did only a few miles. To attain high average speeds, pilots fly very fast at thermals to compensate for the time lost while circling in the upcurrents. It is usual, in modern sailplanes, to accelerate to 150 or 120 m.p.h. to cross the gaps between thermals. Gliders now are superbly designed and built creations which conceal under a slender, graceful shell a tremendously strong and reliable structure. The wings usually span fifty to sixty feet, the pilot is seated in a narrow but comfortable cockpit with a battery of instruments, radio, maps, possibly oxygen and occasionally even a small electronic computer to help him read the weather and make his decisions.

Accidents are very rare and hardly ever serious. One pilot statistics prove that flying without an engine is more dangerous than flying with one. After all, if an aeroplane has engine failure it immediately becomes a very crude and unwieldy glider which is a certain to crash. Gliders land comparatively slowly and can get down with perfect safety in a small paddock. As an example of this, Mr. Stanis Hall a few weeks ago was delivered by glider to the Walkerston High School carpark. The big, all metal two-seater landed with room to spare on the school oval, which is 500 feet long.

Costs are not as high as most people imagine. A normal rate for flying club gliders is $3.00 per hour, some clubs charge less. There is no expensive equipment to buy — the only requirement is keenness and ability to learn.

The Students’Yachting Club which was started at Adelaide University last year has to operate for two years before any Union funds can be made available. Fortunately two of the leading clubs in the State have made special concessions for students to receive instructions and fly until such time as they become proficient “solo” pilots. So far two of our members have taken full advantage of these concessions and have progressed to solo standard. Several other students have visited gliding sites to see what goes on and some have taken short joy rides. Some of these have decided to take lessons and others are still going on with the business seriously. In addition there is half a dozen University people, staff and students, who are sailplane pilots before the University Club was formed.

Further particulars of the University Gliding Club are available from the Union Sports Association or from Martin Simons (Napier Building, Room 503). There will be a film show and dancing for new members early this term and a programme of informal lectures and gliding shows will be arranged. Watch out for notices of these events. Anyone wishing to observe a small gliding competition should visit the regatta to be held over the three days of Easter at Gawler aerodrome.

"Medical students have the best bell!!" — an often stated fact e.g. Orientation Handbook 70. And once again on April 3rd they will prove this ball of the year.

With the venue changed from the non-environment of the barn-like Connaught Hall to the ultra-modern and intimate atmosphere of the new ENLARGED ballroom at the Novoed Football Clubrooms, which provides the best facilities of their kind in Adelaide, the ball is a certain goer.

$2.00 a double is the charge. For this exceptionally low price there is the outstanding big band sound of the Formula, plus the fabulous Harts. To add to the whole environment, there is one of the best lighting displays in town including "BOTTOMS UP!" theme decorations (sofas dressed etc.). Free cigarettes and free chips are also provided. Drinks are available. While it is realized that these must be purchased, it is pointed that most Uni batts cost $6. Thus it is expected that with $2 to spend on drinks, most people will be more than satisfied. The big advantages gained with this system are seen in the fact that with all types of drink available, you can purchase to your own taste and the girls are not forced to drink the cheap and nasty hook or claret of normal footy garb. Added to this is the fact that light drinkers do not find themselves subsiding the heavy drinkers — also typical of normal free booze Uni, shows. Waiters and waitresses are also to be on hand to serve.

This year to be at the Med. Ball, BOTTOMS UP, will mean a tremendous time and something to really remember.

Ticket are available from the S.R.C. office.
Numbers are limited to 450 couples, due to licensing laws. So get in early!
an exercise in “free enterprise”

BELIEVE in the class structure of our society -- a society in which the owners of the means of production are able to share in the profits made from the exploitation of the working class.

The relevance of examinations to our society has its basis in the myth, upheld by bourgeois values, that “every society must have its rulers and its ruled, its masters and its slaves, those who give the orders and those who carry them out” (Feudalism).

For non-university students, the exam determines who will work on a factory belt, and who will become a clerk. That is, in these three little stints in salaried, and the judgement made upon the hurried scribblings of unawed students, by one, perhaps two peers, determines whether a student will be a white collar or a blue collar worker. The same rule is fulfilled by the examination’s euphemistic euphemistic euphemistic euphemism, the system of continuous assessment.

Therefore, I think White is wrong in "proposing alternative methods of assessment" if the results of such assessments help the functioning of big business as they do now.

For University students, their relegation to the status of raw material in the degree factory is indeed an "imperialist" one. The University has as its aim the perpetuation of capitalist society by instilling what Cohn-Snabl sees as the "social aim of the university, the production of a managerial elite." The level of academic achievement of the student, measured in terms of his success during assessment, is in fact, nothing more than "a prize tag... for the existence of his future purchasers" (Hippit Underground).

As White did point out, the exam conditions students to accept competition (a fundamental requirement of "free enterprise" or capitalism) in the place of co-operation. Another point worth mentioning is that the stress attached to a "pass" and hence the disgrace attached to a "fail" seem to force people to be evidence that the inequalities of capitalism are a natural feature of human existence.

Thus, the abolition of examinations necessitates the abolition of the society, whether capitalist or remanent (Russia) which has the inherent evils of clan structure, economic exploitation and competitive monopoly.

The alternatives to the present system of examinations and continuous assessments, can only take place in a truly socialistic environment, and must be based upon a completely humanistic method of education, which is one in which the student is trained to find out things for himself. Therefore, the alternatives must include the following:

1. complete staff-student control of schools and universities (including work control of factories)
2. staff-student committees to administer the direction of study, with the emphasis on criticism, not parrotry
3. independent assessment of the student's work by his own teacher or tutor, to be done only at the student's request, not by his presence and his participation.

The last alternative. No. (3) is a good test of the relevance of a particular course to the student's aims in life. The argument that "examinations provide an incentive to study" is a good attempt to justify the irrelevance of exams to anything else but the demands of big business i.e. capitalism.

I hope I have not been too critical of Chris White's observations. I have tried merely to develop them into a definition of the outcome of assessment to capitalism.

Perhaps is worthwhile to quote from his final sentence, as an analysis of what it is to be done, for the principles of true education "can only be acted upon by the students concerned — or by the university administration or just by a small group of interested radicals."

Michael Villia.

DARLINGS

On Dit needs you

If you can literate or create or draw
or photo, then we need you on our staff

Book, film, play reviews
Articles of any nature
Cartoons cover designs, artwork
Photographs
Short stories, poems
Gossip for our gossip page
Birds of the week

Prizes, tokens of esteem, loot, bribes, rewards, payments, in the form of book tickets from the Union Bookshop, will be provided for Bird of the Week, Sportman of the Week, and the writer of the best contribution for each issue.

We also have vacant positions on our staff: the positions of Sports Editor and Special featured editors are now open. We also need people for odd jobs and general reporting.

TRADE AND AID!

1. Is foreign aid a NON issue?
2. Should donations to Foreign Aid be tax free?
3. Is there sufficient action on both matters of Acquaintance and Foreign Aid?

ASK US FOR:—
"...case for tax deductibility on Overseas Aid Donations."

ALSO
Support our sales of Asian Handicrafts, proceeds are ploughed back into self help development projects.

Community Aid Abroad,
5a Gay's Arcade Balcony
off Adelaide Arcade.
Phone 23-3569

18-ON DIT, MARCH 24, 1970
MISS FRESHER 1970

Disneyland is great, New York is friendly, Las Vegas an experience, Paris unique, Toledo is beautiful and ANITA BAROUCH is all of these things, no? is it any wonder that she is Miss Fresher 1970? And to think that she braved the onslaught of hundreds of frustrated males, not to mention Women's Liberation. Still, this is the sort of ordeal that increases a woman's confidence and individuality or so our Miss Fresher thinks.

If you groove over Led Zeppelin, then you have something very important in common with Anita; however, if you don't happen to love Led Zeppelin, there are plenty of other things that appeal to her. Joe Petelli, the Corollay's, poetry, drama, swimming, music, here and overseas travel. Not a bad range one might say, however goes, don't wear your hair shoulder length and vote Liberal.

To all those who are studying for a Science degree majoring in psychology, the envy of all those who are not, and to Anita Barouch, may the blue bird of happiness NOT crap over your birthday cake.
WHAT IF THEY GAVE A WAR and nobody came?