

Guildford Corporation Concerts

Director of Music : J. CROSSLEY CLITHEROE

SATURDAY, 14th MARCH, 1959, at 7 p.m.

TECHNICAL COLLEGE, GUILDFORD

PHILHARMONIC CHOIR GUILDFORD MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA

Leader : TATE GILDER



“MERRIE ENGLAND”

A Concert version of Edward German's Light Opera

ANTONINA CHILD - Soprano

JEAN ALLISTER - - Contralto

ALFRED HALLETT - - - Tenor

BRYAN DRAKE - - - Baritone

Conductor: CROSSLEY CLITHEROE



PROGRAMME - - PRICE SIXPENCE

PROGRAMME

PART ONE

INTRODUCTION

- OPENING CHORUS "Sing adown, adown"
SONG (*Jill*) AND CHORUS "Oh where the deer do lie"
QUINTET (*Bessie, Jill, Raleigh, Essex, Long Tom*)
"Love is meant to make us glad"
BALLAD (*Bessie*) "She had a letter from her love"
SONG (*Essex*) AND CHORUS "The Yeomen of England"
DUET (*Bessie and Raleigh*) "Come to Arcadie"
MARCH AND CHORUS "Long live Elizabeth"
SONG (*Elizabeth*) WITH CHORUS "O Peaceful England"
FINALE "It is a tale of Robin Hood"

PRINCIPALS AND CHORUS

INTERVAL

PART TWO

- INTRODUCTION AND CHORUS "The Month o' May"
SOLO (*Jill*) "Cat, Cat, where have you been?"
QUARTET (*Bessie, Jill, Raleigh, Essex*)
"In England, Merrie England"
QUARTET AND MALE CHORUS ... "The Sun in the Heaven is high"
DUET (*Jill and Raleigh*) "It is the merry month of May"
RUSTIC DANCE AND JIG
SONG (*Raleigh*) "The English Rose"
DUET (*Essex and Raleigh*) AND CHORUS
"Two merry men a-drinking"
WALTZ SONG (*Bessie*) "Who shall say"
SONG (*Essex*) with TRIO (*Bessie, Jill, Raleigh*)
"When Cupid first"
FINALE "Robin Hood's Wedding"

PRINCIPALS AND CHORUS

THE ARGUMENT

THE ARGUMENT, as developed in the Opera (omitting the principal humorous characters and incidents) is that Sir Walter Raleigh is in love with Bessie Throckmorton, one of Queen Elizabeth's Maids of Honour. He writes an acrostic to her, which, being lost, is found by Jill-all-alone, a dweller in the woods, who is suspected of being a witch; she gives it to the Earl of Essex, who, considering Sir Walter Raleigh to be his rival for the hand of Queen Elizabeth, uses it against him by handing it to the Queen. She reads the praises of a certain Bessie, and taking the compliment to herself, is not displeased thereby; when, however, she discovers that the acrostic was intended for her maid (Bessie Throckmorton) she orders Raleigh to be banished and Bessie to be imprisoned. Jill, who has further incensed the Queen by some mocking words, is ordered to be burnt as a witch.

Essex, when he discovers that Raleigh is not his rival, attempts to repair the mischief he has wrought by the following device:—

He arranges that one of the foresters shall impersonate Herne the Hunter and appear in an apparition to the Queen while she is seated in the forest beneath Herne's Oak. According to tradition the appearance of the weird huntsman occurs only when the monarch contemplates a crime. The device succeeds, the Queen relents, and both the lovers and Jill are pardoned.

CHARACTERS

BESSIE THROCKMORTON (Maid of Honour to the Queen) ...	<i>Soprano</i>
JILL-ALL-ALONE (a supposed Witch) } QUEEN ELIZABETH } <i>Contralto</i>
SIR WALTER RALEIGH	<i>Tenor</i>
THE EARL OF ESSEX	<i>Baritone</i>
CHORUS OF LORDS, LADIES, TOWNSFOLK, ETC.	

METHODIST CHURCH HALL
Saturday, 11th April 7.30 p.m.

E. M. I.

presents

A GRAMOPHONE RECITAL
of
New Classical Record Releases

In association with the Guildford Concertgoers' Society

METHODIST CHURCH HALL
Saturday, 2nd May 7.30 p.m.

BY POPULAR REQUEST

A Return Visit of

The Occasional Wind Players

Music by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Ibert and Jean Francaix

In association with the Guildford Concertgoers' Society

TECHNICAL COLLEGE
Saturday, 9th May 7 p.m.

VERDI'S REQUIEM

MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA

FESTIVAL CHOIR

ELIZABETH FRETWELL (Soprano) RONALD DOWD (Tenor)
MONICA SINCLAIR (Contralto) MICHAEL LANGDON (Bass)

GUILDFORD THEATRE

WEEK BEGINNING MARCH 16th

EPITAPH FOR GEORGE DILLON

By JOHN OSBORNE and ANTHONY CREIGHTON

WEEK BEGINNING MARCH 23rd

THE PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK

BY JEROME K. JEROME

(The theatre will be closed on Good Friday)