The Grove Forum

German-English Connections

Autumn Series 2011

29th September, 5.15pm (Museum of Instruments)

Gellert, Haydn and C.P.E. Bach: the poetic and musical origins of the German Lied
Norbert Meyn, Natasha Loges & Amanda Glauert

This session explores, through performance and discussion, the role of the poet Christian Fürchtegott Gellert and his contemporaries in inspiring the aesthetics and practice of eighteenth-century German song writing.

Grove Forum Plus:

Beethoven's Variation sets: explorations in structured improvisation

13th October (Parry Room 1) 9.00-11.00 & 12.00-14.00: Masterclass via videoconference

14th October (Parry Room 1) 10.00-12.00: Round Table discussion

13.00-14.00: Performance of *Diabelli* Variations by Julian Jacobson

Julian Jacobson, with Amanda Glauert & Barry Cooper

Led by Julian Jacobson, this two-day project takes the theme of Beethoven's variation sets, from solo piano to chamber ensemble. This includes two masterclasses led by Julian and professors from the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory, Singapore (via video-conference). The session will conclude with a roundtable discussion featuring Amanda Glauert and Barry Cooper, on Beethoven's concept of variations and the demands they make on performers, followed by a performance of the *Diabelli* Variations op.120 by Julian Jacobson.

20th October, 5.15pm (Parry Room 1)

"Ein englischer Componist" – "und wahrhaftig ein englischer": William Sterndale Bennett and the re-discovery of English music
Peter Horton

To mark the inauguration of a research project to edit the piano concertos and investigate the life and work of William Sterndale Bennett (1816-75), Peter Horton will examine his unique position at the crossroads of musical life in 1830s England and Germany.

3rd November, 5.15pm (Parry Room 1)

Brahms in the Home: An introduction
Natasha Loges & Katy Hamilton

In preparation for the forthcoming conference *Brahms in the Home,* Natasha Loges and Katy Hamilton offer an introduction to the topic of domestic music-making in Brahms's social circle. This will be followed by performances of chamber music by Brahms's contemporaries Albert Dietrich and Julius Röntgen.

10th November, 5.15pm (Parry Room 1)

The Studio Brahms
Graham Johnson

Following the RCM's *Brahms in the Home* conference and concert series, Graham Johnson discusses the challenges, problems and rewards of casting, programming and performing a complete version of Brahms Lieder on record.

17th November, 5.15pm (Parry Room 1)

The producer says: 'Recording has had an insidious effect on performers'...
Stephen Johns & Amy Blier-Carruthers

Stephen Johns and Amy Blier-Carruthers outline the pros and cons of this statement. They will discuss what impact the recording process has had on music and musicians, whether perfection is the ultimate aim of a recording, and the possibilities for re-educating critics and audiences.

Grove Forum Plus:
Novello: A Celebration of 200 years

24th November (Parry Room 1) 17.15-19.15, followed by wine reception

Peter Horton, David Wright, Richard Chesser & Fiona Palmer

The publishing house of Novello celebrates its 200th anniversary this year; and its most famous editor, Watkins Shaw, would have been 100 years old in 2011. Staff from the Royal College of Music, the British Library and Queen's University, Belfast offer insights into the foundation of the Novello firm, its place in music printing and the importance of Watkins Shaw's famous *Messiah* edition. There will also be an exhibition of associated material from the RCM Library and British Library.

Thursday 1st December, 5.15pm (Parry Room 1)

Mahler's 'symphonic poem in symphonic form'
Paul Banks

In anticipation of the forthcoming performance of Mahler's *Blumine* and the 1898 version of his First Symphony by the RCM Philharmonia conducted by Peter Stark, Paul Banks will outline the complex and sometimes surprising creative and performance history of the work.

Tickets are free and available from the RCM Box Office
Visit www.rcm.ac.uk/groveforum for more information