

SOLENT CONCERT ORCHESTRA CONCERT REPORT

The newly formed Solent Concert Orchestra recently gave a well-attended performance of popular classical music in aid of church funds at St. Mary's Church, Twyford under the baton of musical director Simon Wilkins.

The programme opened with Mussorgsky's 'Night on a Bare Mountain', vividly depicting evil spirits and demons. This was followed by Edvard Grieg's Piano Concerto in A Minor with soloist Christopher Cole and what a superb performance it was, ably and sensitively backed by the orchestra. The well-known melodies were beautifully punctuated by flowing cadenzas.

After the interval the afternoon continued with Franz von Suppe's 'Light Cavalry Overture'. The jaunty theme captures the image of horses' hooves confidently cantering on the battlefield prior to the charge.

Next on the programme was the 'Bacchanale from Samson and Delilah by Camille Saint-Saens. The orchestra managed to convey images of wild partying along with interjections of mysterious and exotic Arabian dancing. This was followed by extracts from the ballet, 'Sylvia' by Delibes with the delightful pizzicatos clearly depicting the lightness and daintiness of the ballerinas.

What better way to conclude a cadenza of popular classical music than with Tchaikovsky's '1812 Overture'! This cacophony of musical battlefield images, so well depicted by the brass section, intermingled with the quieter, sumptuous melodies painting the reflective pauses between the fighting which is a feature of most battles, rounded off the concert with a bang, or two from the percussion section!

The orchestra's next concert takes place at The Cornerstone United Reform Church, Hythe at 7.30pm on Saturday 9 October 2019 and features music through the ages. More details can be found at:

www.solentconcertorchestra.org.uk