

# The Music & Vision

## Classical Music Newsletter

*Patric Standford — Issue 74, 1 May 2014*



Patric Standford in Glasgow. Photo © 2011 Sophie Standford

Award-winning composer published by Peters Edition, teacher and lecturer of repute, writer, music journalist, occasional broadcaster and a musician who played a major role with many British music organisations, Patric Standford passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on 23 April 2014 at his home in Suffolk, and he'll be greatly missed.

Born in Barnsley on 5 February 1939, Patric was chairman of the Composers' Guild and the British Music Information Centre from 1977 until 1993. His First Symphony gained the *Premio Città di Trieste* in 1972, and a large scale oratorio *Christus Requiem* earned him the Yugoslav Government's Arts Award after performances in Skopje in 1976; his Third Symphony has the *Ernest Ansermet Prize* from Geneva, and he received the *First International Composers' Award* in Budapest in 1997 for a choral masque *The Prayer of St Francis*. He also received awards from Spain, Finland and Belgium. The BBC commissioned his Fifth Symphony in 1986. He worked as an arranger for West End shows in London, composing and directing light music recordings and an album for the jazz group Continuum, and ghost writing for Rod McKuen's classical American recordings.

A regular visitor to Hungary and France as a jury member for choral competitions, he taught composition and orchestration at the Guildhall School of Music in London for fifteen years, moving to Yorkshire in 1980 to become Head of Music at the Leeds University college at Bretton Hall from which role he retired in 1995 to devote himself full time to composition and writing. More recently he wrote and taught home study courses in composition for the OCA, and became something of an expert in modern music for the recorder.

Last but not least, Patric was a tireless supporter of this magazine since its launch fifteen years ago, producing many CD reviews, the extended *Provocative Thoughts* series, crafted deliberately to ignite reader feedback, and other occasional features such as *Creating 'The Emperor's Orchestra'*.

[Patric Stanford at M&V](#)

[Patric Stanford tribute at BASCA](#)

[Patric Stanford's web page](#)

[Patric Stanford at Wikipedia](#)

[Patric Stanford obituary at GSMD](#)

[Patric Stanford by David Wright](#)

We also mark the passing of Gailene Stock, Idris Sardi, Konstantin Orbelyan, Benjamín Brea, Brian Priestman, John Shirley-Quirk, Jacques Castérède, Harris Goldsmith and Lyndsie Holland.

Julian Lloyd Webber announces his retirement from cello playing, with a final concert in Malvern on 2 May 2014, and San Diego Opera raises funds in an attempt to stay operational.

[Read this news in detail ...](#)

## PERFECT INDEED - JAMES BRAWN'S BEETHOVEN ODYSSEY, VOLUME 2

'The first volume of Brawn's *Beethoven Odyssey* left me speechless, at least until time forced me to put pen to paper. I eventually wrote that his 'journey through these towering [sonatas] is one of the most convincing I've heard in a long time'. That same assessment applies twofold to the second volume of his ambitious project, which dispels any possibility that the brilliance of his first essay was a mere fluke.' — Andrew Schartmann, who also investigates the world of Toshio Hosokawa (Wergo).

Howard Smith listens to Yoon-Hee Kim play Khachaturian and Tchaikovsky violin concertos (Royal Philharmonic Orchestra), to Karl Fiorini's violin concertos (metier), and to Conspirare's *The Sacred Spirit of Russia* (harmonia mundi).



Gerald Fenech is impressed by recordings of J S Bach as performed by Mary Costanza (The Six Cello Suites, MSR Classics) and by Freiburger Barockorchester (Brandenburg Concertos, harmonia mundi), and finds a wondrous sense of joy in Joyce Yang and Alexander Lazarev's Tchaikovsky (Bridge Records).

Robert Anderson hears how Christoph Rademann's forces infectiously impart their delight in C P E Bach's Magnificat (harmonia mundi), finds splendid unanimity between pianist Géza Anda and conductor Ferdinand Leitner performing Tchaikovsky on a Hänssler Classic disc that also includes music by Bartók, and notes Laura Buruiana's triumph in Enescu's exacting *Symphonie Concertante* (Ollecello Classics) and very stylish playing from the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra in Meyerbeer Ballet Music (Naxos).

[Browse our latest CD reviews ...](#)

## COMING SOON — LIVE PERFORMANCE IN MAY 2014

[Coming soon — live performance in May 2014](#)

[Add your concert here if not listed](#)

## INNOCENCE ABUSED - BRITTEN'S 'DEATH IN VENICE' ON DVD

'Inspired by the music he had heard in Bali, Britten conjures weird and wonderful sounds from his orchestra to emphasise Aschenbach's fundamental dislocation. It is such that, though following the family towards St Mark's Square, he cannot bring himself to warn the mother of possible danger. He gets another chance to spell out the truth, but again he holds his tongue. Perhaps Dionysus has won, but I fear it is the more gloomy god of the underworld.' — Robert Anderson is relieved that director Deborah Warner has kept her head in this production. **More ...**



## QUI NON C'È PERCHÉ BY ANDREA MOLINO



David Moss as himself and members of the Institute for Living Voice in Andrea Molino's *Qui non c'è perché* at Teatro Comunale di Bologna.  
Photo © 2014 Rocco Casaluci

'The outcome is fascinating and was thoroughly enjoyed by the preview audience. It is likely to be a shock to part of the upper middle class subscribers to Teatro Comunale's opera season, but in spite of this, the 24 April opening night went quite well.' — Giuseppe Pennisi, who also investigates British music and Rossini's *Maometto II* in Rome and *Les Troyens* in Milan.

'It could be argued that in times of conflict, religion has a forceful additional role to play. Perhaps that applies nowhere more in Europe than Kiev and the Ukraine, where tensions in the east of the country accentuated by the loss of

Crimea mean this Easter has seen an intense flow of worshippers hoping the Paschal story will fire some measure of hope and optimism and brotherly love at a time when the gun seems set to take over.' — Roderic Dunnett makes an inspiring visit to Kiev to hear Pavlo Hunka and the Bulava Chorus, and also finds deep gratification in Ian Venables' new clarinet quintet.

Mike Wheeler attends Derby Cathedral Choir's biennial performance of Bach's *St John Passion*, listens to Andrew Dunlop and the Eblana String Quartet comes face to face with Orff's *Carmina Burana*, listens to Górecki, Chilcott, Thompson and Bernstein from Malcolm Goldring and the Sitwell Singers, experiences the almost physical impact of Verdi's Requiem and finds a concert by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Nicholas Collon hugely enjoyable.

Maria Nockin appreciates *La bohème* in high definition from New York Metropolitan Opera, makes a special trip to Mexico for a wonderfully amusing performance of Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore* and enjoys Jack Perla's *Jonah and the Whale* in Los Angeles.

Ron Bierman was at *Don Quixote* - a production that could still be San Diego Opera's last.

Alice McVeigh was impressed by Thomas Bowes' absolutely luminous playing in the Barber Violin Concerto.

**Browse all this month's live concert and opera reviews ...**

## ASK ALICE - WOLF TONE ELIMINATORS

Alice discusses wolf tone eliminators, tennis balls, mice and getting stuck in the Tower of London. **More ...**

**Any classical music-related questions?  
Ask Alice here ...**



## ANNIVERSARIES IN MAY 2014

We celebrate the 75th birthday of **Heinz Holliger**.

**Jonathan Harvey** was born 75 years ago, **Beverly Sills** was born 85 years ago, **Carlo Maria Giulini** and **Boris Christoff** were born 100 years ago, **Benny Goodman** 105 years ago, **Richard D'Oyly Carte** 170 years ago, **Louis Moreau Gottschalk** 185 years ago and **Stanislaw Moniuszko** 195 years ago.

We mark the deaths of **Elliot del Borgo**, **Henri Dutilleux**, **Steve Martland** and **Harold Shapero** a year ago, **Ryosuke Hatanaka**, **Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau** and **Tamara Brooks** two years ago, **Denis Aplvor** and **Ronald Smith** ten years ago, **Ethel Smyth** seventy years ago, **Gustav Holst** eighty years ago, **Isaac Albéniz** 105 years ago, **Antonín Dvořák** 110 years ago, **Bedrich Smetana** 130 years ago, **Giacomo Meyerbeer** 150 years ago, **Franz Joseph Haydn** 205 years ago and **Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber** 310 years ago.

This newsletter, edited by Keith Bramich, is a monthly taster for Basil Ramsey's high quality and colourful online classical music magazine, published every day since January 1999.

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