

THE PRESS

Academy of St Olave's rediscover lost Schubert 'symphony'

11:36am Friday 7th January 2011

THE Academy of St Olave's will give the world premiere performance of a newly reconstructed work by Franz Schubert at St Olave's Church, Marygate, York, next Saturday night.

After raising more than £1,200 for the DEC Pakistan Floods Appeal at last autumn's concert, the York orchestra will kick off 2011 by playing fragments from what are believed to be Schubert's sketches for a first symphony. The Academy will then perform the celebrated reconstruction of Schubert's last symphony, No 10 in D.

Both reconstructions have been researched painstakingly and realised by Schubert scholar Professor Brian Newbould.

"Schubert's tenth symphony demands to be heard: not only out of historical curiosity, but because it is great music of grandeur, unexpected vitality, and unearthly beauty," says Academy publicist Martin Chapman.

"Indeed, since its premier performance, given at the [University of York](#) and on BBC Radio 3 in 1985 by Academy conductor Alan George, it has been taken up by a number of distinguished conductors over the ensuing 25 years, notably Mackerras and Marriner.

"Schubert's last symphony – probably his last musical thoughts – suggest with tantalising clarity that these were moving in quite new directions: a premonition of Mahler is unmistakable in the Andante; likewise of Bruckner in the scherzo/finale, where he displays a contrapuntal ingenuity and imagination previously unmatched and un-attempted in his life's work."

The Academy's Viennese-themed concert also will feature Beethoven's Overture Coriolan and Mozart's light-hearted Horn Concerto No 3 in E Flat, played by Les McCormack, former principal horn player with the Black Dyke Band.

A facsimile of Schubert's sketches will be available for public viewing at next Saturday's concert, during which Prof Newbould will relate his own story of the Schubert works.

Tickets are available at £9, concessions £8, students £3, in advance from Visit York, Museum Street or on 01904 550099 or on the door. A collection will be made at the 8pm concert in aid of Jessie's Fund, the York charity that helps seriously ill and disabled children across Britain through the therapeutic use of music.

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