

of the *Ritratto di Don Chisciotte to Nobilissima Visione* with its Franciscan subject is inescapable.

Another factor was the revival of Vivaldi's instrumental music, in particular the all-important *Concerto per l'orchestra di Dresda*, at the hands of Petrassi's older colleague G.F. Malipiero. The brilliance and sharp delineation of concerto writing would have seemed more in keeping with the Italian genius at a time when Italy was looking to its preclassical past in the attempt to steer clear of German academicism.

A third signpost is the *Concerto romano* by Alfredo Casella. Casella was born in Turin, the first capital of united Italy, which is as handy to Paris as it is to Rome. His early music reflects this fact, but later on Casella was caught up in the passion for *romanitas* as Rome became the symbol of a resurgent Italy at a time when few people would have predicted the ultimately disastrous outcome. The *Concerto romano* with its hieratic

modal colouring and its 'imperial' scoring for organ and brass is a founding document of the modern Roman style. Respighi, an Emilian composer who made his career in Rome rather than the north, made his well-known contributions to the genre, to which should be added the *Quartetto dorico* and the *Concerto gregoriano*. But it was the Roman Petrassi – a native of Zagarolo, seat of the Rospigliosi princes, and a former chorister at the church of San Salvatore in Lauro – who was to raise all this to the level of abstract musical argument and weave it into a monumental cycle. Thanks to Petrassi the concerto for orchestra remained part of the Italian scene, as the lesser cycle of the Milanese Bruno Bettinelli is there to attest.

S. Angelo in Pescheria
Rome

News Section

Composers

THOMAS ADES is composing a new piano work for performance at the Cheltenham Festival.

STEPHEN ALBERT (d.1992). *To Wake the Dead* (Netherlands première)—22 February/Utrecht/Combustion Chamber Orchestra c. Rutger van Leyden.

JULIAN ANDERSON. *Three Parts Off The Ground* (première)—6 December 1995/London, St John's Smith Square/London Musici c. Mark Stephenson.

PAUL BARKER. Violin Concerto (première)—17 February/Croydon, Fairfield Hall/Tasmin Little (vln), London Mozart Players c. Matthias Bamert.

ERIK BERGMAN. *Mana* (UK première)—19 February/London St Olave's Church/City of London Sinfonia Soloists.

SIR HARRISON BIRTWISTLE. Celan Setting No.6 (première)—27 April/Basle/Christine Whittlesey (sop), Ensemble InterContemporain c. Pierre Boulez. Movements for String Quartet Nos.4-8; Celan Settings Nos.7 & 8 (premières; first performance of complete cycle)—28 April/Witten/Arditti String Quartet, Claudia Barainsky (sop), Klangforum Wien c. Hans Zender. *Pulse Shadows* (première)—29 April/London, Queen Elizabeth Hall/Arditti Quartet, Claron McFadden (sop), Capricorn c. Lionel Friend. Chorale Preludes (première)—4 May/London, Queen Elizabeth Hall/London Sinfonietta c. Diego Masson.

MICHAEL BLAKE. *Olive Schreiner* for 2 pianos (première)—31 March/London, ICA/Tony Gray and Sally Rose (pianos). This is part of a concert by Michael Blake's group London

New Music featuring new keyboard music from South Africa, with the UK premières of works for piano(s) and clavichord by MARTIN SCHERZINGER, DAVID KOSVINER, PETER SMIT, RUDIGER MEYER, DIRK DE KLERK, MATTEO FARGION and ROELOF TEMMINGH.

RONALD CALTABIANO. *Preludes, Fanfares and Toccatas* (European première)—16 February/Edinburgh/Royal Scottish National Orchestra c. Andrew Litton.

ELLIOTT CARTER. *Figment* for solo (UK première)—3 April/Manchester, RNCM/Thomas Demenga (vlc). String Quartet No.5 (German première)—28 April/Witten/Arditti Quartet.

RICHARD CAUSTON. *The Persistence of Memory* (première)—25 January/London, Queen Elizabeth Hall/London Sinfonietta c. Oliver Knussen.

JAMES DILLON. *Blitzschlag* (première)—18 February/Paris, Maison de Radio France/Pierre-Yves Artaud (fl), Orchestra National de France c. Paul Daniel.

PASCAL DUSAPIN. *Loop* (première)—7 May/Beauvais Cathedral/Octour Tempo di cello.

MICHAEL FINNISSY. *Verdi Transcriptions* (première of complete, revised version); *What the meadow-flowers tell me* (UK première)—26 January/London, Conway Hall/Ian Pace (pno).

VINKO GLOBOKAR. *Eisenberg* (UK première)—9 February/London, Conway Hall/Reservoir dir. Mikels Toms and Ian Pace.

BERTHOLD GOLDSCHMIDT. Cello Concerto (Canadian première)—20 February/Montreal/Yo Yo Ma (vlc), Montreal SO c. Charles Dutoit.

HK GRUBER. *Zeitstimmung* (première)—19 May/Bath Festival/HK Gruber (chansonnier), Bournemouth Sinfonietta c. Nicolae Moldoveanu.

JONATHAN HARVEY. String Quartet No.3 (première)—23 January/Birmingham, Pebble Mill/Arditti Quartet. *Hidden Voice* (première)—8 February/London, St John's Smith Square/Sinfonia 21 c. Martyn Brabbins.

HANS WERNER HENZE is writing a work in homage to Schubert, commissioned for the 200th anniversary of his birth by the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France. Symphony No.4 (French première)—3 May/Montpellier/Montpellier PO c. F. Layer.

MANUEL HIDALGO. *Desastres del la guerra* (première)—9 March/Seville Festival Internacional de las Artes/Klangforum Wien c. Johannes Kalitzke.

PAUL HINDEMITH (d.1963). *Sancta Susanna* (first UK stage production)—1 May/London, Goldsmiths' College/c. Marion Wood.

ROBIN HOLLOWAY. Third Concerto for Orchestra (première)—16 April/London, Barbican/LSO c. Michael Tilson Thomas.

NICOLAUS A. HUBER. *En face d'en face* for orchestra and tape (première)—12 February/Hamburg, Musikhalle/Philharmonisches Staatsorchester c. Gerd Albrecht.

ROBERT KEELEY. Symphony (première)—7 February/Cardiff/BBC National Orchestra of Wales c. Stefan Asbury. *Three Latin Motets* (first complete performance)—18 February/London, Jackson's Lane, Highgate/The Cryes of London c. David Temple.

WILHELM KILLMAYER. *Merlin-Liederbuch* (première)—11 January/Munich/Vocart, Instrumental Ensemble c. Kay Westermann.

JOHN KINSELLA. Symphony No.6 (première)—2 February/Dublin/National SO of Ireland c. Proinnias O'Duinn.

BABETTE KOBLENZ. *Das Buch über die Substanz der Zeit* (première)—24 February/Stuttgart/Stephan Hussong (accdn), Olaf Tzschoppe (actor & perc), Uta Sedlock (vla).

GYORGY KURTAG. Double Concerto, Op.27 No.2 (UK première)—24 February/London, Queen Elizabeth Hall/Christopher van Kampen (cello), Csaba Kiraly (pno), London Sinfonietta c. Markus Stenz.

MARCEL LANDOWSKI. *Galina* (première)—17 March/Lyon/Opera de Lyon c. John Nelson. (This is an opera about the life of Galina Vishnevskaya and Mstislav Rostropovich in Soviet Russia.)

GYORGY LIGETI. Étude No.15, *White on White* (première)—26 January/The Hague/Pierre-Laurent Aimard (pno).

STEVE MARTLAND. *Horses of Instruction* (première)—22 January/Brighton, Gardner Centre/Bang On A Can All Stars.

BEN MASON. String Quartet No.2 (US première)—27 February/New York/Speculum Musicae.

DAVID MATTHEWS. Sinfonia (première)—29 February/Reading, The Hexagon/English Chamber Orchestra c.

NICHOLAS MAW. *Hymnus* for chorus and orchestra (première)—1 June/Oxford, Sheldonian Theatre/Oxford Bach Choir, CBSO c. Christopher Robinson.

THEA MUSGRAVE. *Songs for a Winter Evening* (première)—1 June/Dumfries/Marie McLaughlin (sop), BBC Scottish SO c. Joseph Swensen.

ARNE NORDHEIM. *Magma* (UK première)—23 February/London, BBC Maida Vale Studios/BBC Symphony Orchestra c. David Porcelijn.

PER NORGARD. *Adagio di Preludio* (première)—1 February/Kokkola/Ostrobothnian Chamber Orchestra c. Juha Kangas.

STEVE REICH. Duet (orchestral version) (première)—25 April/Bochum/Bochum Sinfoniker c. Steven Sloane.

ARIBERT REIMANN is composing a work for the same instrumentation as Schubert's Octet, commissioned for the bicentenary by the Köln Philharmonie.

NED ROREM. *My Sad Captains* (première)—11 May/New York/92nd Street Y vocal ensemble.

CHRISTOPHER ROUSE *Envoi* (première)—9 May/Atlanta, Georgia/Atlanta SO c. Yoel Levi.

KAIJA SAARIAHO. *Oi Kuu* (US première)—14 February/New York, Manhattan School of Music/New Music Consort.

DAVID SAWER. *Life and Death of 9413 - A Hollywood Extra* (première)—22 March/London, Queen Elizabeth Hall/Matrix Ensemble c. Robert Ziegler.

DMITRI SMIRNOV. Cello Concerto (première)—2 May/Manchester, RNCM/Karine Georgian (vlc), BBC Philharmonic c. Yan Pascal Tortelier.

LUMINITA SPINU. *Of Tears and Saints* (première)—25 January/London, Queen Elizabeth Hall/London Sinfonietta c. Stefan Asbury.

KARLHEINZ STOCKHAUSEN. *Weltparlament aus MITT-WOCH aus LICHT* (première)—3 February/Stuttgart/Sudfunk-Chor c. Rupert Huber.

TORU TAKEMITSU. *Fantasma/Cantos II* (European première)—31 January/St Andrews/Christian Lindberg (tbn), Scottish Chamber Orchestra c. Gilbert Varga.

TAN DUN. *Silk Road* (French première)—11 February/Paris/Ensemble 2e2m c. Paul Mefano.

SIR MICHAEL TIPPETT. *The Rose Lake* (French première)—16 February/Montpellier/Montpellier SO c. John Fiore.

MICHAEL TORKE. *The Great Crossing* (première)—12 May/Utrecht/Smith Quartet. *Book of Proverbs* (première)—25 May/Amsterdam/Netherlands Radio PO & Choir c. Edo de Waart.

JOAN TOWER. *Valentine Trills* (première)—14 February/New York, Merkn Concert Hall/Carol Wincenc (fl). *Stepping Stones* (première of version for synthesized piano and tape)—22 February/Columbus, Ohio/Ballet Met.

MARK-ANTHONY TURNAGE. *Greek* (Dutch première)—1 March/Amsterdam, Stadsschouwburg/Taller Amsterdam, Rotterdam Conservatory Ensemble c. Arie van Beek.