

Programme Notes

WORKS BY ANGELO GILARDINO

SONATA No 2, "HIVERN FLORIT"

(Solo Guitar)

- I. *Allegretto semplice*
- II. *Andante molto tranquillo, quasi adagio*
- III. *Allegro vivo e brillante*

The *Sonata No 2, Hivern Florit*, (A Blossomed Winter) written in 1986 intends to pay homage to *Ramón Nadal* a renowned painter from Mallorca (Spain). The Sonata was written in 1986 and was inspired in a Nadal painting of Mallorca's landscape. It portrays a tender and lukewarm winter being the snow replaced by flowers of delicate colours surrounding a farm seen from afar under a grey blue heavenly sky. This was an unusual Mediterranean new look and Maestro Gilardino commented... "not a warm brilliant one, but a sweet one and – again – under a melancholic light. The *Sonata* form is evocative: the style of Italian masters of XVIII century is recalled, where the themes were also melodies and the developments were expansions of those melodies"...

3 STUDI DI VIRTUOSITA E DI TRASCENDENZA

STUDIO No 13

Canción Triste,

Ommagio a Pablo Neruda

STUDIO No 35

Ommagio a

Manuel María Ponce

STUDIO No 40

Ommagio a

João Guimarães Rosa

Angelo Gilardino decided to abandon his career as a guitar performer by mid-1981 and concentrated his efforts to write, research work and teaching music. The three *Studies* belong to the cycle entitled *Studi di virtuosita e di trascendenza* which absorbed the period from 1961 to 1988. In seven years Maestro Gilardino wrote 60 *Studies* and two *Sonatas*, published by *Edizioni Musicali Bèrben*. Since then, the *Studies* are part of the repertoire of every international guitar player around the world. The *Studies* are of high level of virtuosity due to their exotic character. In Maestro Gilardino own words... "The 60 *Studies* exploit many sides of the traditional virtuosity with a new approach; also offer a series of new patterns, but above all they are poetical works. Each of them is dedicated to an artist... either a relevant historical figure or a local Italian artist often a painter – as a *homage to...* When such a *homage* is paid to a musician, no attempt is made to imitate

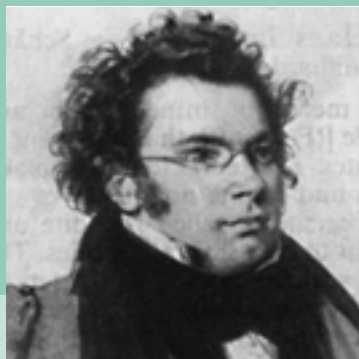
his style, but the poetical world of each dedicatee (writers, poets, painters, composers) is evocated from within the style of the author of each study"...

Sante Tursi has chosen three *Studies* for tonight's concert; they pay homage to Latin American artists, as in the case of the Chilean poet *Pablo Neruda*, the Mexican composer *Manuel María Ponce* and the Brazilian writer *João Guimarães Rosa*. Each one of the *Studies* called up memories and emotions related to these three great influential personages. However, there is an element in common; they are bound up with a touch of sadness or melancholy.

LIEDERKONCERT (World première)

For Two Guitars and Chamber Orchestra

- I. ABENDLIED – *Andante calmo*
- II. ERLKONIG – *Un poco agitato*
- III. AN DIE ENTFERENTE – *Adagio*
- IV. HARFENSPIELER – *Allegro vivo e fluente*



Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

The *Liederconcert* for two guitars and chamber orchestra was written in 2000 and is part of a series of six concertos. Here the guitar combines its sound in harmony with the rest of string instruments as well as solo parts or combined with another solo instrument. Gilardino was inspired on Schubert's *Lieder*, some few titles were taking as a starting point during the four movements of the piece in where the two guitars are not taken separately, but as two different instruments in dialogue so on they constitute a unique 12 string guitar which allowed the composer to expand the contrapuntal capacities of the instrument, as well as, its colour palette of the ordinary solo guitar. The composer said... "The work has been scored so as to allow a performance either with a chamber orchestra or with just one of the string and wind instruments, plus a celesta and timpani - as in this occasion. No quotation has been made from Schubert's *Lieder*, beyond their titles, but again – as in the *Sonata No 2* for Guitar, the basic principle is the identification of 'theme' and 'song' – hence the nature of the thematic elements and of their expansions"...



Angelo Gilardino (b.1941)

© Programme Notes provided by Maestro Angelo Gilardino
Layout by J Sylvester, LACCS, 2004.

ROBIN O'NEILL (b. 1961)

Conductor, ECO

Robin O'Neill is Principal Conductor and member of the artistic committee of the Orchestra Citta Aperta, L'Aquila, a newly formed orchestra which specialises in contemporary music, 20th century music and neglected masterpieces. In the past few seasons he has conducted the English Chamber Orchestra in London, Windsor, Eton and Boxgrove with solosits such as Angela Hewitt and Melvyn Tan. It was with the ECO that he performed his own transcriptions of the *Langsamer Satz* by Webern.

He has also conducted the Orchestra Ensemble Kanazawa Japan in a variety of repertoire including Beethoven's *9th Symphony* and Handel's *Messiah*. Last season he made his debut conducting the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra and also the City of London Sinfonia in Beethoven 'discovery' concerts in collaboration with writer and broadcaster John Suchet.

During his career a bassoonist, Robin O'Neill has worked with all of the world's finest conductors (including Karajan, Giulini, Solti, Abbado, Levine, Kubelik, Boulez, Muti, Barenboim and Gergiev) both as soloist and orchestral principal (with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, English Chamber Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra and the World orchestra for Peace).

ROMILIO ORELLANA

(b. 1970)

Romilio Orellana won the "Friends of the Municipal Theatre" scholarship, presented to the most promising young talents, for five consecutive years, and also many other prizes in International Guitar competitions including the Benicassim in Spain.

Romilio has appeared at several prestigious international festivals around the world; Expolisboa '98; Hanover International Book Festival, Guadalajara, Mexico and the 50th Anniversary of the King of Thailand Celebration. He is regularly to be seen touring as a recitalist in Argentina, Venezuela, Mexico, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, Russia, Portugal and Thailand.

Romilio Orellana is performing the world première written by Angelo Gilardino, with fellow LACCS artist, guitarist Sante Tursi at the Purcell Room.

