# CONCERTS AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

## FEBRUARY-MARCH 1992

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9 Bradford Gowen, pianist

Bach/Busoni/Hess: Chorale Transcriptions

Leon Kirchner: Sonata (1948) Mendelssohn: Three Pieces Irving Fine: Music for Piano

Faure: (Four Pieces

16 The Lafayette String Quartet Resident String Quartet of the University of Victoria, Mozart: Quartet, K. 421 Barber: Quartet, Opus 11

Tchaikovsky: Quartet No. 1, Opus 11

23 David Buechner, pianist

British Columbia

Henry Martin: Preludes and Fugues Manuel de Falla: Dances from The Three-Cornered Hat Joaquin Turina: Bailete, Opus 79 Gershwin: Rhapsody No. 2

#### **MARCH 1992**

1 National Gallery Orchestra George Manos, Conductor (Honoring the exhibition: John Singer Sargent's "El Jaleo") De Falla: El amor brujo

Dvorak: Symphony No. 9, "From the

New World"

8 University of Wisconsin Concert Choir Robert Fountain, *Director*  J.S. Bach: Jesu, meine Freude Britten: Hymn to St. Cecilia Messiaen: O sacrum convivium Argento: In Praise of Apollo

15 Paul Galbraith, guitarist (Honoring the exhibitions: Guercino Drawings from Windsor Castle and Guercino: Master of the Baroque) Laurencini: Fantasia Di Milano: Ricercari Frescobaldi: Variations Britten: Nocturnal on John Dowland

22 The Vienna Trio

Bach/Mozart: Adagio and Fugue Von Einem: Trio, Opus 74 Beethoven: Serenade, Opus 8

29 Peter Vinograde, pianist

Music of J.S. Bach: Fifteen

Two-part Inventions, BWV 772-786 Goldberg Variations, BWV 988

Concerts at the National Gallery are broadcast live on Radio Station WGMS, 103.5 FM. The use of cameras or recording devices during the performance is not allowed.

# THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL and F. LAMMOT BELIN CONCERTS

at the

# **National Gallery of Art**



# 1991-1992 Season

Celebrating Fifty Years of Free Concerts in the Nation's Capital

George Manos
Director of Music

Sunday Evenings at Seven O'clock West Building, West Garden Court

#### 2033rd Concert

# February 2, 1992

### NATIONAL GALLERY ORCHESTRA

# GEORGE MANOS, Conductor

## **PROGRAM**

INTERMISSION (Twelve minutes)

Sergey Prokofiev ...... Cinderella Suite No. 3, Opus 109 (1891-1953)

- I. Pavane
- II. Cinderella and the Prince
- III. Three Oranges
- IV. Dance of Seduction
- V. Orientalia
- VI. The Prince Finds Cinderella
- VII. End of the Fairy Tale
- VIII. Amoroso

The Fitzwilliam Virginal Book, a collection of keyboard pieces assembled and copied by political prisoner Francis Tregian while he was incarcerated in London's Fleet Prison from 1609-1619, is among the most significant collections of sixteenth century keyboard music in existence. When Sir John Barbirolli selected pieces from it to arrange for his Elizabethan Suite in 1943, the material was little known and rarely performed. One reason for this obscurity was the fact that few of the pieces sounded interesting when played on the piano. Some, however, did lend themselves to transcription for other instruments, and it was by this means that Barbirolli chose to remind the concert-going public of the existence of this unique English treasure.

Frederick Delius was the son of a stern English merchant who did not consider music a fit profession for any of his children. Frederick obtained a traditional education and entered the family business, but all the while he studied music on the side and spent his free time associating with professional musicians and attending concerts and operas. In 1884, he persuaded his father to lend him enough money to branch out on his own as an orange grower in Florida. He invested in orchards near Jacksonville, but spent almost no time tending the fruit; instead, he sought out the company of and took lessons from one of the few musicians who lived and worked in Florida at the time, a pianist and composer by the name of Thomas Ward. Delius later stated that he owed a great deal to Ward's instruction as well as to the exposure he gained to Black American folk singing during his Florida sojourn. After two years of witnessing his son's lack of success in business in the United States, Delius' father finally relented and allowed him to enroll at the Leipzig Conservatory. Delius decided to call one of his conservatory examination compositions the Florida Suite and to dedicate it to the people of that state who had helped him earlier.

Prokofiev's Suite for Orchestra, Opus 109, contains not only excerpts from the ballet, Cinderella, but also one movement from his parody opera, The Love for Three Oranges, which had been an avant-garde phenomenon when it was first performed by the Chicago Opera in 1921. Between 1939, when Prokofiev began to work on Cinderella, and 1945, when it was finally performed for the first time, Prokofiev's work on the ballet was subject to frequent interruptions. Not only was he affected by the disruption of cultural activity caused by the war with Germany, but he was also preoccupied with a project which the Soviet authorities felt was more in tune with the times, an opera based on Tolstoy's War and Peace. Ironically, the end of World War II did not bring for Prokofiev an opportunity to resume his previous prodigious output as a composer. Not only did he have to contend with failing health (the combination of heart disease and the after-effects of a bad fall), but his work was also officially blacklisted by a post-war decree which was intended to bring the arts back into line with Communist dogma after the "undisciplined" years of the war. Prokofiev's works were rarely performed after that date, and the only subsequent commission to which he really applied himself was the Symphony-Concerto for Cello and Orchestra, which he wrote in 1950 in close collaboration with Mstislav Rostropovich.