

Basingstoke Symphony Orchestra chose to remind us of halcyon days of spring ahead by performing Beethoven's marvellous *Pastoral Symphony* with descriptive passages of scenes by the brook, the shepherds' thanksgiving that the storm had passed, the song of the nightingale, the quip, quip, quip of the quail and the call of the cuckoo.

This lovely work, superbly played, filled St. Michael's Church with harmony of the highest brand with the strings, woodwind and horn developing a delicate tone. Occasionally, the tranquility would be shattered as the timps produced a sound to depict thunder. It was all a great tribute to a dedicated team of players conducted by Stephen Scotchmer.

The *Pastoral* was soothing and

made a great contrast to what had gone before, which, without trying to detract, was music of a different texture, but nevertheless given the right interpretation. This was Poulenc's *Concerto for Organ, Strings and Timpani*, with Tim Rishton the organist.

This is a weird work with the organ offering sudden outbursts of joyous notes to nullify the discords. At times the strings had a buzzing rôle to perform and the timpani a deafening one. Nevertheless, it was a work of some splendour intelligently interpreted by strings, timps and a top-class organist.

Earlier, we had the rare experience of listening to a work performed in the presence of the composer - Joy Holland's *Triptych for Viola and Strings* with the leader of

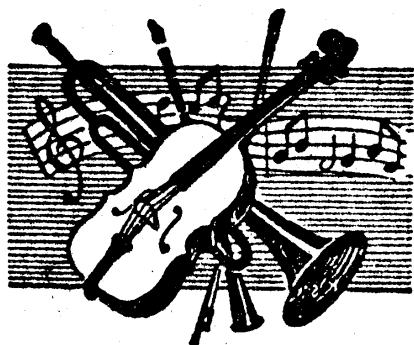
the orchestra, Tim Griffiths, as soloist. Joy Holland composed this very tuneful piece while living on the Isle of Wight. She is now director of music at King Edward VI High School, Stafford.

Instead of beginning with an overture of the more raucous kind we were entertained to the delicate music written by Cimarosa for his opera *The Secret Marriage*. Not an easy composition, especially for the strings.

Another gem of a composition performed was Ravel's *Pavane pour une Infante* with its lovely horn introduction. Originally written for the piano, it is full of lovely chords and has a moving theme. Truly an outstanding concert with music to enhance the beautiful setting of the 16th-century church

*Review by Arthur Attwood*  
*The Basingstoke Gazette*

31/3/83



Cimarosa - *Overture The Secret Marriage*  
Holland - *Triptych - Viola and String Orchestra*  
Ravel - *Pavane pour une Infante*  
Poulenc - *Concerto for Organ, Strings and Timpani*  
Beethoven - *Symphony No. 6 (Pastoral)*  
Conductor - *Stephen Scotchmer*  
Leader and Soloist - *Tim Griffiths*  
Organist - *Timothy Rishton*

## BASINGSTOKE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

in  
**St. Michael's  
Church,**  
**Saturday, March**  
**26, 8 p.m.**  
**Tel. Basingstoke**  
**22156**  
**Tickets £2, £1**



# 52nd Season

Programmes  
for  
1982 - 1983

**20th NOVEMBER 1982**

Queen Mary's College.

<b>Brahms</b>	Tragic Overture
<b>Beethoven</b>	Violin Concerto <i>Soloist: Susan Lynn</i>
<b>Tchaikovsky</b>	Symphony No.5

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**26th MARCH 1982<sup>3</sup>**

St. Michael's Church.

<b>Poulenc</b>	Concerto for Organ, Strings and Timpani <i>Soloist: Timothy Rishton</i>
<b>Ravel</b>	Pavane
<b>Stravinsky</b>	Pulcinella
<b>Beethoven</b>	Symphony No.6 (Pastoral)