

15 March 2018

Opera Gala 3 March 2018 — CONCERT REPORT — to Members

Performance on the day: The evening reflected well upon the performers and all those who made it possible, enjoyed by an appreciative audience.

We thank all those who participated; the conductor and performers for their long hours of practice and delivery on the night, the librarian who conjured pristine hard copy music out of the electronic chaos of IMSLP online files (over 500 hours of work), the Fixers and organisers whose work is mostly unseen, and Darwin for contributing the programme printing.

Financial: Overall the concert produced a loss of £727.

Gross revenue: £1,753

ticket and programme sales, and members subs

Attendance (paid): 115

compares with an average of 131 for the previous two March concerts

Commentary: While congratulating ourselves on a great performance musically, we should also learn from the process of preparation and delivery, taking note of the additional costs associated with such a complex project and in particular the considerable *non-cash costs* involved. We are extremely grateful to those who give their time, energy and talent so generously.

To be blunt, preparation was poor in its early stages and our “collaboration partners” were allowed to miss key deadlines. As a result, unprecedented demands were made upon our Librarian, our Fixers were inconvenienced, and there were also associated cash costs that otherwise might have been avoided.

As Chair, I must take responsibility for this. At the time of my appointment, 12 November ‘17, I failed to recognise the extent of the task. I should have undertaken a thorough review immediately with those involved notwithstanding our 25 November concert and 9 December participation in the LKCS inaugural concert. In the event, detailed organisation did not begin until mid December. For this I apologise and do not intend to repeat the mistake.

Measures being put before the Cttee should ensure smooth running in future. On that note, preparations are well advanced for 16 June: Sibelius — Finlandia; Violin concerto; Symphony 5 — links to notes on these pieces are on the 2018 Rehearsals page of our website.

Members and friends comments to the Chair are always welcome. These will be used to guide the direction of TP. You may be assured that our use of the feedback you provide will adhere to strict data protection rules. In particular, after collation the original submission will be destroyed, there will be no attribution, and any material used will be anonymised.