



12 December 2018

Concert Report to Members: Beethoven Saint-Saëns Bloch

This report relates only to data and practical organisational matters.

Players and Rehearsals

Players (total 46, 11 profs)

Strings: 27 players: Violin (14 players, 6 profs), Viola (5 players, 1 prof), Cello (5 players, 1 prof), Double Bass (3 players)

Wind/Brass: 19 players: Flute (3), Oboe (2), Cor A (1), Clarinet (2), Bassoon (2), Horn (4, 2 profs), Trumpet (2), Timp (1), Percussion (1 prof paid directly by sponsors), Harp (1)

Thanks due to John Haworth for recruiting professional strings and ACLB the horns (paid) and Cor A (unpaid, who also loaned the harp/keyboard), percussion snare/cymbal (paid directly by Bloch sponsors) all of exceptionally high quality. It should be noted that we were especially lucky to secure the services of these people at short notice at such a busy time of year.

Preparation

Bowing by JH: String parts with bowing for the Beethoven were provided online and in print by post to those without internet access well before the start of the rehearsal schedule — downloaded from IMSLP, bowed by JH and posted to our drive; Saint-Saens and Bloch as soon as the parts became available. All players were sent links and the same referenced via the rehearsals page of our website. ACLB provided wind parts to players.

Bloch score, Spotify link and CD were provided to BYY in June '18. The rehearsals page or our website carried information, links, sound recording from June '18.

The only cash cost charged to TP for this preparation was postage. Stationery was donated by APB and ACLB.

Attendance at rehearsals

See the linked sheet (largely correct, I believe, though there may be errors). Soojin Han's concerto rehearsal lacked horns. This does not include the strings rehearsals arranged by Carole Kaldor for which I have no record of attendance.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1SDKyoxRn4ThbgRgB-IF5J34POQ_9V2kiFfpHzL59ykY/edit?usp=sharing



Non-musical administration/preparation

Publicity

LAC brochure entry (RA) was submitted before the July deadline.

Electronic: Making Music (free), Concert Diary (10 points of 50 point £40 credit used), Classical Events (free), Teddingtontown (free), Kingston Online (free), Bloch Society newsletter (free). Numerous related institutions were contacted directly (ACLB). Physical flyers: designed by APB commercially printed delivered to Richmond libraries (RA), Teddington libraries (APB, ACLB), Teddington High St. (APB, ACLB, Juergen Fruehn), NMMC, Normansfield and Landmark [+banner] (APB, ACLB): cash cost £103.00. This complemented regular Facebook and Twitter, and website entries (APB).

Programme was written by ACLB, pre-press by APB, printing donated by John Warran of Darwindidit. [Note: in all cases “free” means “no cash cost” to TP, not free of time or effort.]

Soloist liaison

We were not informed that Soojin Han’s performance would be recorded (sound and video) and had no opportunity to ask permission of the orchestra or ensure that there was no inconvenience caused to the audience. There was confusion over the number of complimentary tickets Soojin Han’s entourage would receive. Initially 6 names were given to LAC before the concert started, but we believe LAC complied with direct requests for more.

Liaison with the soloists needs to be more robust, and in particular soloists should be made aware that we invite a family audience, as a result there may be young children and infants among them. TP and LAC have no obligation to provide a recording studio-like environment.

Concert returns

The concert produced a deficit of approximately £800 after apportioning membership and concert subscriptions.

Income and Expenditure

Income: Tickets sold 148, ticket revenue £1,934 plus programme receipts £121 (programmes donated by Darwindidit). In addition, Bloch sponsors donated £200, music hire and shipping and extra instrumentation costs (snare drum, cymbals). Concert contributions by players totalled £345, not including any allocation of annual membership subscriptions: £1010 collected for 2018–19.

Expenditure: The cost of staging the concert increased compared with previous productions due to (1) payment of soloist fees to Soojin Han (unexpected given earlier assurances), (2) additional hiring of professionals for rehearsal and concert (strings and horns), some of which was anticipated with the plan for a rehearsal as full as possible on the last Sunday: Total expenditure £3,668.



LAC Concert	Tickets sold	Promoter Comps	Gross rev £*	Main item (*Gross rev £ = tickets and programme sales)
1 Dec 18	148	38**	2,055	Beethoven, Saint-Saëns, Bloch **BBY 20, Bloch sponsor 6, Darwindidit 2, Soojin Han 6+, other 4?
16 Jun 18	151	12	2,089	Sibelius Violin Concerto: Hee-jin Kwon
3 Mar 18	115	6	1,459	Opera Gala

No one factor can explain the sustained increase in paying audience achieved during 2018, but it is likely the combined effect of programming, publicity and performance. All these factors received much more attention during 2018 than before; still to cover the December deficit an additional 50+ tickets needed to have been sold.

Calendar	Tickets sold	High	Low	Gross Revs £
2018	138	151	115	5,603
2017	96	134	73	3,048
2016	118	128	102	3,336
2015	59	84	32	1,854
2014	90	106	78	3,062

Further details via this link:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1W8qCsX84plhg4CqYII1B60BUqNn74vLYN7XSC7DW5kc/edit?usp=sharing>

Complimentary tickets

38 issued (14 names listed at LAC reception and 20 unnamed physical tickets, 4 unaccounted): Soloist entourage 6+, Bloch sponsors 6, Darwindidit 2, Musical Director 20. The request by the retiring Chair that complimentary entry be organised using a list of names given to LAC reception prior to the concert was ignored in respect of physical tickets.

Sponsors

An official letter of thanks to the Bloch sponsors on behalf of TP was delivered today, 12th December 2018.

General Thanks

A mailchimp email "December Thank You" was sent 2nd December 2018, and by post to those without internet access.

Alan Bell 12 December 2018

Note: APB Alan Bell, ACLB Anna Bell, RA Richard Allan, BYY Byung-Yun Yu, JH John Haworth