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IL DISSOLUTO PUNITO, ossia il

PHILOSOPHICAL GAS no.60

MARCH 1982

Published by Giovanni Bangsund, PO Box 171, Fairfield, Victoria 3078, Australia Aesoluta, for members of ANZAPA, FAPA and GRAPPA, as always. This issue should be no.61, but that nuk-b (whee! this machine sure has a mind of its own!) number was accidentally used last time, and I know no-one would ever notice, but it irritates me to think I missed such a good wholesome round number, so back we go. The typesetter regrets to advise that his supply of Korrektur Lack für Schablonen has congealed in its bottle. You'd think a bottle of corflu would last more than four years, wouldn't you? No wonder this country is going down the drain.

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7 March (early) Listening to Ole Bull's 'Visit to a Summer Farm' earlier this morning, around 1am actually, reminded me that it was probably my grandfather who introduced me to classical music, but I am not entirely sure about this, and it was Norwegian music he was introducing me to, not specifically classical music.

Sigurd Johan Bangsund was born and bred in Tromsø, up there beyond the Arctic Circle, and when we first met in 1939 Captain John — most people called him that, apparently — was master of a smallish ship called the Reliance, which did a good trade between the wars and maybe earlier carrying day-trippers around Port Phillip. He lived in a fascinating old house in Carlisle Street, Preston; it had a cellar, which he'd excavated himself, and a shed where he made a kind of sand-soap, and there were pictures of sailing ships all over the place and photos of odd-looking relatives (you could tell from the way they dressed that they weren't Australian, not even British), and altogether there was an atmosphere of fuggy foreignness, of old people with quaint accents, their books and old things, and reminders everywhere of that ultimate lure and mystery, the sea. The water-colour by Gregory (J. V. Gregory? 1910? — the frame obscures most of the name and date) of the Reliance that hangs on our wall now, that hung in those days in my grandfather's room, brings back that feeling of the sea's mystery when I let myself see it through the eyes of the boy who first saw it in that place at that time.

As well as books, most of them in Norwegian, my grandfather had a gramophone and some records. The only record I remember him playing for me was Grieg's Piano Concerto. I do not remember when that was. I can't be sure that the pianist was Dinu Lipatti, but the name of that unfortunate musician stuck in my mind early, and certainly he recorded the work in the late 1940s, so it is possible.

Other names I learnt early were Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson (partly because my father's Christian names were Leif Edvin Gordon Bjørnstjerne, and he

told me where the fourth came from — but no-one has ever explained the third, which he passed on to me) and Ole Bull. I tried to read Bjørnson years ago, but he was a bit too dull for me. Maybe it wasn't a good translation. Today I have heard a piece of music by Ole Bull, and I am forced to admit that it left me unmoved.

But the other thought that occurred to me while I was listening to 'Visit to a Summer Farm' was that I have probably heard more music by Scandinavian composers than my grandfather ever managed to. I could be wrong about that. For all I know, he may have been familiar with the entire output of Bull, Sinding, Svendsen, Grieg, Halvorsen and the rest, right back to Johan Roman.

What I am quite sure about is that I have heard more 'classical' music by Scandinavian composers than my father ever did. I'm sorry he missed out on so much — he had the ear for good music — but then I remember how much enjoyment he got out of singing at church, a pleasure long since denied me (along with other advantages said to attach to attending church), so I guess we're about square.

Long-playing records, tape-recorders, cassette-recorders and FM radio (the latter introduced here in 1975) have made 'classical' music available to Australians in a way unimaginable to working-class people who grew up with crystal sets and valve radios — wirelasses, I'm sorry, we didn't really start calling them radios until transistors came in — and hill-and-dale records and wind-up gramophones with steel needles, who lived to see microgroove records and black-and-white television, and just long enough to afford a console radiogram and a 17-inch TV. (My father was always interested in these advances. I remember him taking me to the Exhibition Building to see television about 1947. I remember him saying, when my mother's mother died in 1964, that it was a pity I had never recorded her voice on my tape-recorder. A few months later I realized that I had never recorded him.) My interest in classical music — I'll stop using the quotation marks — started in earnest, and very loudly, about the time that my father must have been in the decline that ended with his death, and neither he nor my mother was keen to encourage my interest: they both showed great love and forbearance in putting up with the noise. I can get some idea of what they put up with by playing the tape I made in 1963 or 1964 of Janacek's Sinfonietta — wonderful music still, but the signal-to-noise ratio of my recording was considerably below the accepted standards of the time.

At this point I can either get to work on the article I intend to write some time about 'paperback music' or do what I vaguely had it in mind to do when I started typing stencils tonight (this morning, that is -- 2.55am Eastern Standard Time, 3.55 by my watch, because between 1 and 2 we switched back from Eastern Summer Time), and I think I'll do the latter — which, following my remarks about Scandinavian music in PG61, is to list all I have.

The Scandinavians in FAPA may be interested to see how much of this music seeps through to Australia, Leanne Frahm will be delighted to learn how many of these composers I am on second-name terms with, and the rest of you can do what you like. I will start off by illustrating my point about the incredible range of music that FM stereo radio has made

available to us. The following is ABC-FM's program for Friday evening, 19 March. (There is no advertising. The times are provided in the monthly program guide.)

7.00 MUSIC FROM SWEDEN

ALFVEN Midsummer's Vigil, op.19 - Kungl Hovkapellet/ Tonsattaren	
Swedish Society SLT 33 145	13'
WIREN Serenade for Strings, op.11 - Melbourne Sym Orch/Leonard Dommett	
ABC/RCA VRL 1 0115	14'
ROMAN Concerto in D - Alf Nilsson, oboe d'amore; Stockholm Sinfonietta/Jan-Olav Wedin	
Bis LP 165	16'
KOCH Oxborg Variations - Stockholm Phil Orch/Stig Westerberg	
Swedish Society SLT 33 227	17'
ALFVEN Dalecarlian Rhapsody, op.48 - Stockholm Phil Orch/Stig Westerberg	
Swedish Society SLT 33 145	21'

8.30 ADELAIDE FESTIVAL, 1982: DIRECT BROADCAST

Elisabeth Soderstrom, Soprano
John Winther, Piano

SIBELIUS Jubal; Tennis at Trianon; The Maiden's Tryst
NIELSEN Irmelin Rose; Apple Blossom
PETERSON-BERGER Longing; Aspaker's-Polska
GRIEG Way of the World; Spring; I Love Thee
TCHAIKOVSKY The Nightingale; None but the Lonely Heart
RAKHMANINOV Oh, never sing to me again
MUSSORGSKY The Nursery: With the Nurse; In the corner;
The Beetle; Doll's Lullaby; Evening Prayer; Hobbyhorse;
Cat and the Bird

10.00 ACOUSTICA NOVA: NEW FINNISH MUSIC

MERILAINEN Summer Sounds for Flute and Grasshoppers - Mikael Helasvuo, f	
NFM TA 8103	7'
BERGMAN Colori ed Improvvvisazioni, op.72 - Finnish Radio Sym Orch/Leif Segerstam	
Finlandia FA 330	20'
LINDEMAN Ritual	6'
HONKANEN Awakening	6'
HEININEN Maiaandros	13'
SERMILA Electrocomposition	8'
RUOHOMAKI Pisces	6'
RECHBERGER Cordamix	6'
ROMANOWSKI Nocturne	6'
Fennica Nova FENO 5	
HEINIO Notturmo di fiordo - Ilari Lehtinen, f; Marjatta Haahti, h	
NFM TA 8103	17'

11.55 NEWS

25 March After listing all that splendid music I, um, didn't actually get around to hearing it. Instead, on the evening of the 19th, I was engaged in discussion of an intellectual but not too tiring nature with Damien Broderick, Di Hawthorne, Bruce Gillespie and Elaine Cochrane, not to mention several cats and a large friendly dog. At one stage Damien turned on ABC FM, and we heard noises like an amplifier about to self-destruct, and he hastily turned to something else, but that must have been some of the contemporary Finnish music. I have come some way in my appreciation of electronic music, at least to the point of having an open mind about it, but the bit we heard wasn't what you might call immediately engaging.

I am trying to remember why I wanted to list all the Scandinavian music I have. There's a fair bit of it, but I don't need to list it to convince you of that. I think it's mainly to find out whether there's anyone in fandom apart from Harry Warner Jr, Lee Harding and me who likes classical music this much (Denny Lien does, I think), and also to find out what I'm missing in Scandinavian music. Harald Saeverud and Fartein Valen, for example, are composers I gather are highly regarded, but I have never heard any of their work.

I am not fond of Danish ballet music, though you will notice that a bit has crept in here and there. Where I list a composer only by surname, you may assume that I have no further information; in many cases I have had to guess at spelling. Finally, I have excluded (I think) composers earlier than Berwald, and included composers I have heard of (whether I have heard any of their music or not).

ALFVEN, Hugo

Symphony no.4

Westerberg

Gustav Adolf II - incidental music

Midsummer Vigil: Swedish Rhapsody no.1

Fjelstad

ALMQUIST,

ARNESTAD, Finn

AULIN, Tor

Violin Concerto no.3

Tellefsen

BACK, Sven-Erik

BENTZON, Jorgen

BENTZON, Niels Viggo

§ ATTERBERG, Kurt

The Wise and Foolish Virgins

Suite in the Ancient Mode

Suite no.9 for violin, viola and string orchestra

BERGMAN, Erik

BERNWALD, Franz

Symphony in G minor (Serieuse)

Bjorlin

Symphony in D (Capricieuse)

Bjorlin, Dorati

Symphony in C (Singuliere)

Ehrling

Symphony in E flat

Ehrling, Bjorlin

Piano Concerto

Violin Concerto

Festival of the Bayaderes

Bjorlin

Racing

Queen of Golconda - overture

Grand Septet in B flat

Nash, Melos

Piano Quintet no.1 in C minor	Vienna
Piano Quintet no.2 in A	Vienna
Piano Quartet in E flat	Knardahl
String Quartet in G minor	Chilingirian
String Quartet in A minor	Copenhagen
BLOMDAHL, Karl-Birger	
Symphony no.2	Dorati
Symphony no.3	Ehrling
Little Suite for Bassoon and Piano	
BRAEIN, Edvard	
BULL, Ole	
Visit to a Summer Farm	
CARLSTEDT, Jan	
COLDING-JORGENSEN, Henrik	
To Love Music	Schmidt
EGGE, Klaus	
EKLUND, Hans	
ENGLUND, Einar	
FERNSTROEM, [Bjorn?]	
Concertino for Flute, Women's Chorus and Chamber Orchestra, op.52	
FOUGSTEDT, Nils-Eric	
FRUMERIE, Gunnar de	
GADE, Niels	
Echoes of Ossian - overture	Hye-Knudsen
GRIEG, Edvard	
Symphony in C minor	Andersen
Piano Concerto in A minor	Lipatti, Novaes
Peer Gynt - suites 1, 2	Rozhdestvsky
Peer Gynt - selections	Dreier
Lyric Pieces	Rozhdestvsky
Elegiac Melodies	Jones
Holberg Suite	Jones
Landkjenning: cantata, op.31	Dreier
Funeral March in Memory of Richard Nordraak	Jones Brass
'Even, how tender'	Soderstrom
Violin Sonata no.3, op.45	Wilkomirski
Cello Sonata in A minor	Hoelscher
Album Leaves, op.28	Mourao
Ballade, op.24	Mourao, Knardahl
Four Pieces, op.1	Mourao
From the Carnival	Knardahl
Holberg Suite	Mourao
Humouresques, op.6	Mourao
Improvisations, op.29	Mourao, Knardahl
Lyric Pieces, op.65	Mourao, Knardahl
Lyric Pieces, op.68	Mourao, Gilels
Lyric Pieces, op.12, 38, 43, 47, 54, 57, 62, 71	Mourao
Moods, op.73	Mourao
Norwegian Dances, op.35	W. & B. Klein, Ingebreetsen/Knardahl
Norwegian Dances and Songs, op.17	Mourao
Norwegian Farmers' Dances, op.72	Mourao

- Norwegian Folk Melodies, op.66
 Poetic Tone Pictures, op.3
 Sonata in E minor, op.7
 Songs from Peasant Life, op.19
- GROVEN, Eivind
 Sunlight Mood
- HAHN,
 Suite for Flute in Folk Style
- HALL, Pauline
- HALVORSEN, Johan
 Ancient Suite, op.31
 Fossegrimen
- HAMBRAEUS,
 HEININEN,
 HEINIO,
 HOLMBOE, Vagn
 Notturmo, op.9
- HOVLUND, Egil
- JENSEN, Ludvig Irgens
- JEPPESSEN, Knud
 La Primavera - wind trio
- JERSILD, Jorgen
 Love's Rose
- KILPINEN, Yrjo
 Five Songs of Love
- KLAMI, Uuno
- KOCH, Erland von
 Oxberg Variations
 Song and Dance for Flute and Guitar
- KOKKONEN, Joonas
 Cello Concerto (1969)
- KOPPEL, Herman
 Cello Concerto, op.56
- KOSTIAANEN,
 Mass for Organ
- KVANDAL, Johan
 Three Slatter Fantasies
- LANGE-MULLER, Peter
 Once Upon a Time - incidental music
- LANGGAARD, Rued
 Symphony no.4 (Leaf Fall)
- LARSSON, Lars-Erik
 Pastoral Suite
 A Winter's Tale - incidental music
 Violin Concerto
 Little Serenade
 Concertino for Flute and Strings
 Concertino for Bassoon and Orchestra
- LEIFS, Jon
 Symphony, op.26 (Saga Heroes)
 Icelandic Overture, op.9
- LERCHE, Nils
- LIDHOLM, Ingvar
- Mourao, Steen-Nokleberg
 Mourao
 Mourao
 Mourao, Knardahl
- Andersen
- Westerberg
- Noras
- Bengtsson
- Baekkelund
- Hye-Knudsen
- Frandsen

LINDBERG, Oskar	
Leksands Suite	
LINDEMAN,	
LINNALA, Eino	
LUNDSTEN, Ralph	
Stromkarlen: Nordisk Natursymfoni no.1	
MADETOJA, Leevi	
Symphony no.2	Simila
Symphony no.3	
MELARTIN, Erkki	
MERIKANTO, Aarre	
MERILAINEN,	
MORTENSSEN, Finn	
MORTENSSEN [?], Jan	
Morendo	Howarth
NIELSEN, Carl	
Symphonies: 1	Schmidt
2 (The Four Temperaments)	Blomstedt, Garaguly
3 (Espansiva)	Bernstein, Schmidt
4 (Inextinguishable)	Markevitch
5	Bernstein, Schmidt
6 (Semplice)	Landau
Clarinet Concerto	Stevensson, Erikson, Deak
Flute Concerto	Rampal
Violin Concerto	Varga
Little Suite for Strings	Jones, Marriner
Helios Overture	Senkow, Gibson
Saga-Dream for Orchestra	Markevitch
Rhapsody Overture: Imaginary Journey to the	
Faroe Islands	Gibson
Hymnus Amoris	Woldike
Fynske Forar	Woldike
The Mother — incidental music: 3 pieces	West Jutland
" — The Fog is Lifting	Bahr/Langebo
String Quartet, op.13	Nielsen
String Quartet, op.14	Nielsen
String Quintet	Nielsen
Wind Quintet	Athena, Danish, Melos
Commotio, op.58	Hansen
(From) 29 Preludes for Organ, op.51 — 20	Hansen
" — 5	Westenholz
Serenata in Vano	Athena, West Jutland
Festival Prelude	McCabe
Piano Music for Young and Old	McCabe
Symphonic Suite	McCabe
Five Pieces, op.3	McCabe
Three Pieces, op.59	McCabe
NILSSON, Bo	
NORBY, Erik	
Illuminations: Capriccio for Flute and Orchestra	Rampal
NORDHEIM, Arne	
The Tempest	
NORGAARD, Per	
NYSTEDT, Knut	

NYSTROEM, Gosta	
OLSEN, Poul	
OLSEN, Sparre	
ORBECK [?],	
Pastorale and Allegro	Oien
PALMGREN, Selim	
PESONEN, Olavi	
PETERSON-BERGER, Wilhelm	
(Songs from) A Walk in the Mountains	
PETTERSSON, Allan	
Symphony no.7	Dorati
Symphony no.10	Dorati
Violin Concerto no.2	Haendl
PYLKKANEN, Tauno	
RAITIO, Vaino	
RANGSTROM, Ture	
RANTA, Sulho	
RAUTAVAARA, Einojuhani	
A Requiem in Our Time	
RECHBERGER,	
RIISAGER, Knudage	
Qarrtsiluni, op.36	Semkow
Etude - suite from the ballet	Semkow
RINGBOM, Nils-Eric	
ROMANOWSKI,	
ROSENBERG, Hilding	
Symphony no.2	Blomstedt
Symphony no.6	Westerberg
Voyage to America - excerpts	Dorati
Small Piece for Cello and Orchestra	
RUOHAMAKI,	
SAEVERUD, Harald	
SAIKKOLA, Lauri	
SCHULTZ,	
Dancing Song	
SEGERSTAM, Leif	
Divertimento for Strings	
Plays for Two Celli, Percussion and Little Orchestra	
SERMILA [Simila, Martti?]	
SIBELIUS, Jean	
Symphonies: 1-7	Barbirolli
1	Serebrier
2	Karajan, Ashkenazy
3	Kamu
5	Karajan, Maazel
6	Davis
Violin Concerto	Sarbu, Oistrakh
Four Legends, op.22	Ormandy
(From ") - The Swan of Tuonela	Barbirolli
Rakastava	Jones, Barbirolli
Romance in C for Strings	Barbirolli
Pelleas and Melisande - excerpts	Barbirolli
The Oceanides (Aallottaret)	Jalas, Berglund
6 Humoresques for Violin and Orchestra	Rosand

En Saga	Kamu
Scaramouche -- incidental music	Jalas
Romance in A	
String Quartet in D minor	Copenhagen
Funeral Music	
The Trees	Tateno
Three Lyric Pieces	Gould
'Black roses'	Nilsson
Five songs	Walker
SINDING, Christian	
Symphony in D minor, op.21	Fjelstad
Rustle of Spring	
SOMMERFELT, Oystein [?]	
Spring Tunes for Solo Flute	
Mountain Yearning	
Spring Play in the Hills	
SONNINEN, Ahti	
STENHAMMAR, Wilhelm	
Symphony no.2	Westerberg
Serenade in F, op.31	Kubelik
Piano Concerto	
SVENDSEN, Johan	
SWEYNSSON [?],	
Flute Concerto	
THOMMESSEN,	
Barbaresque	Kamu
TOLONEN, Jouko	
TUUKKANEN, Kalervo	
TVEITT, Geirr	
VALEN, Fartein	
WERLE, Lars	
WIREN, Dag	
Symphony no.4	Ehrling
Serenade for Strings	
Sinfonietta in C	

Next time I probably won't include the people I've only heard of, if there is a next time. About the point where I realized I'd left Kurt Atterberg out I also realized it would be very easy to compile a list of, say, science fiction authors I've heard of but haven't actually read. Even easier would be a list of sf authors I've met but never read, but let's not get personal.

I'm just looking round this room to see what I can list next.

How about a list of Chopin? Elizabeth Darling would appreciate that. Or all the recordings I have of Jean Gilles's Requiem of 1696? (Three now, thank you for asking -- two by Louis Fremaux, and one 'authentic' performance by someone whose name I didn't catch. Great stuff.)

Actually I'm getting a bit tired of lists.