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Thursday 18th April de
2024
11:30 h

**EDUCATIONAL
CONCERTS**

Symphony N°1 Johan De Meij

*The
Lord of
the
Rings*

CSMA
SYMPHONIC
BAND

Charly Taylor, narrator
Carlos Ocaña, conductor



HIGHER MUSIC CONSERVATORY OF ARAGÓN

**AUDITORIO DE ZARAGOZA
SALA MOZART**

Calle Eduardo Ibarra 3, Zaragoza



PROGRAM

Johan De Meij 1953
Symphony No. 1 "The Lord of the Rings" (1988)

I: «Gandalf (the magician)»

II: «Lothlórien (the forest of the Elves)»

III: «Gollum (Sméagol)»

IV: «Journey in the dark»

to. "The Mines of Moria"

b. «The Bridge of Khazad-dûm»

V: "Hobbits"

Johan De Meij's Lord of the Rings

THE LITERARY WORK

In 1954 Professor J.R.R. Tolkien, an English philologist and writer, published *The Lord of the Rings*, an epic fantasy novel published in three volumes and which was the sequel to his first publication (*The Hobbit*). The story takes place in Middle Earth, a fictional place populated by men and other anthropomorphic races such as hobbits, elves and dwarves, as well as many other real and fantastic creatures. The novel narrates the journey of the main protagonist, Frodo Baggins, hobbit of the Shire, who together with nine companions, undertakes a journey throughout Middle-earth, to destroy the One Ring and the subsequent war that will be caused by the forces of evil, as it is the main source of power of its creator, the Dark Lord, Sauron.

Johan De Meij's Lord of the Rings

THE SYMPHONY

In 1984, exactly 30 years after the publication of the novel, the Dutch composer Johan de Meij began the work of composing what would become his Symphony No. 1 "The Lord of the Rings", and also the first symphony written for symphonic band. , a creative process that would last until 1987. Premiered on March 15, 1988 in Brussels by the Groot Harmonieorkest van de Belgische Gidsen, it is inspired by the famous story written by J.R.R. Tolkien and comprises five different movements, which evoke some of his most relevant characters or episodes.

Johan De Meij's Lord of the Rings

JOHAN DE MEIJ (Holland, 1953)


De Meij is a Dutch composer, conductor, euphonium player and trombonist. He studied conducting and trombone at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague. In addition to his activities as a musician and conductor he has an outstanding international career as a composer and arranger. His catalog includes original works, transcriptions of works for orchestra, arrangements of film soundtracks and musicals. As a trombonist he is a member of the Volharding Orchestra and the Amsterdam Wind Orchestra and the Dutch Radio Chamber Orchestra.




DESCRIPTION

Although it is not easy to summarize such an extensive and complex work, the main outline is as follows: the central theme is the Ring, manufactured by primordial forces that determine the safety or destruction of the world. For years it was in the possession of the creature Gollum, but when the ring falls into the hands of the Hobbits the forces of evil awaken, and the fight for the ring begins. There is only one solution to save the World from disaster: the ring must be destroyed by the fire in which it was forged: at Mount Doom, in the heart of Mordor, the country of the evil Lord Sauron.

It is the hobbit Frodo who is commissioned to carry out this task, and, to help him, a company is formed - the Fellowship of the Ring, under the leadership of the wizard Gandalf, which includes the hobbits Sam, Peregrin and Merin, the dwarf Gimli, the elf Legolas, Boromir and Aragorn, the later King. The companions are secretly followed by Gollum, who does not shy away from any means, however perfidious, to recover the valuable ring from him. However, the companions are soon separated and, after many pernicious adventures and a surprising outcome, Frodo and Sam are finally able to return to their family home, The Shire.

 I. GANDALF (The Wizard) The first movement is a musical portrait of the wizard Gandalf, one of the main characters of the trilogy. His wise and noble personality is expressed through a majestic motif that is used differently in movements IV and V. The sudden opening of the Allegro vivace is indicative of the gray wizard's unpredictability, followed by a wild ride on his beautiful horse, Shadowfax. .
"The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band - GANDALF

 II. LOTHLORIEN (The Elven Forest) The second movement is an impression of Lothlórien, the elven forest, with its beautiful trees, plants and exotic birds, expressed through the wind solos. The meeting of the hobbit Frodo with the Lady Galadriel is captured in a charming Allegretto; In the Mirror of Galadriel, a pile of silver in the forest, Frodo glimpses three visions, the last of which, a great ominous Eye, disturbs him greatly.

"The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band - LOTHLORIEN



III. GOLLUM (Sméagol) The third movement describes the monstrous creature Gollum, a slimy and timid being represented by the soprano saxophone. He mumbles and talks to himself, hisses and lisps, he whines and laughs, he is alternately pitiful and malicious, he is continually on the move and searching for his precious treasure, the ring.

"The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band - GOLLUM



IV. THE JOURNEY IN THE DARK The fourth movement describes the laborious journey of the Fellowship of the Ring, led by the wizard Gandalf, through the dark tunnels of the Mines of Moria. The slow marching cadence suggesting fear is clearly audible in the monotonous rhythm of low brass, piano and percussion. Following a wild chase by hostile creatures, the Orcs, Gandalf is drawn into battle with a hideous monster, the Balrog, and plunges from the underground bridge of Khazad-Dûm into an unfathomable abyss. To the melancholic tones of a funeral march, the bewildered companions press on, seeking the only exit from the mines, the East Gate of Moria.

"The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band - THE JOURNEY IN THE DARK



V. HOBBITS The fifth movement expresses the carefree and optimistic character of the hobbits in a cheerful folk dance; The anthem that follows exudes the determination and nobility of the hobbit people. The symphony does not end on an exuberant note, but rather concludes peacefully and in resignation, in keeping with the symbolic mood of the final chapter, The Grey Havens, where Frodo and Gandalf sail away in a white ship and slowly disappear beyond the horizon.

"The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band - HOBBITS



CSMA SYMPHONIC BAND

The *Banda Sinfónica del Conservatorio Superior de Música de Aragón* began its journey in the academic year 2001/2002 as an ambitious and innovative project sponsored by the Government of Aragon, and making its official presentation in 2001 in the Mozart Hall of the Zaragoza Auditorium conducted by Juan Luis Martínez. The Higher Conservatory of Music of Aragon has become a point of reference for Conservatories in the European Framework of Higher Education in Spain and a place where a good number of our country's most talented students have set their sights on starting or continuing music studies at a higher level. This has contributed greatly to guaranteeing a qualitative increase in the level of all the representative training at this centre for higher learning.

In this renowned orchestral format, all the musicians that partake will have a formative artistic experience, beyond creative study and personal development, where the concerts are indicators of artistic level and quality, giving meaning to the efforts of teachers with very specific orchestral jobs, professional prestige and extensive experience in the preparation of young orchestras, totally involved in the project. The work attitude of its preparatory teachers and students combines the highest teaching demands on performances with demanding repertoires and attractive programs for the public, where the work done is shown, with a level of excellence proven in professional cycles and festivals.

The CSMA Symphonic Band has accompanied soloists of international prestige, such as Fernando Arias and Jacques Mauger and has been led by conductors such as Juan Luís Martínez, Miquel Rodrigo and Pieter Jansen among others. It has also performed in various venues throughout the nation. Since 2024 its Carlos Ocaña has been the Principal Conductor.

CARLOS OCAÑA, conductor

Carlos Ocaña is the founder and current conductor of the MDC Symphony Orchestra. He has been awarded at the International Conducting Competition Città de Brescia-Giancarlo Facchinetti for contemporary music in Brescia (Italy) as well as at the Lake Como International Conducting Competition in Bellano (Italy) for symphonic repertoire. He recently won second prize in the Bétera International Symphonic Band Conducting Competition (Valencia, 2022).

He has conducted both orchestras and smaller ensembles throughout Spain, such as the Bilbao Symphony Orchestra, members of the Euskadi Symphony Orchestra (Tantris Ensemble), the soloists of the Madrid Symphony Orchestra, the Symphony Orchestra of Castille and Leon, the Katharsis Ensemble (Zaragoza) and the Verum Symphony Orchestra (Madrid). He has also performed in Europe, conducting the Lake Como Philharmonic Orchestra and the Dèdalo Ensemble in Italy. He has also conducted the Youth Orchestra of the Community of Madrid and the Intermezzo choir in the Donostiarra Musical Fortnight on many occasions.

Currently he works at the CSMA conservatory as a professor of Orchestral Conducting. He has also worked at the Higher Conservatory of Music of Castille and Leon as a Chamber Music teacher. Among his upcoming commitments is his debut in Germany conducting the Sinfonisches Jugendblasorchester Baden-Württemberg.



YAGO DE MATEO, performances and visual intercessions
from professional cycling to the art of movement

This versatile artist works as a DJ, has worked with Fura dels Baus and also
delves into the worlds of dance and video creation.
Yago de Mateo's repertoire combines knowledge of dance, theater, video
creation,
and performance, as well as sound and lighting installations.
Whether in an urban or natural space, the body – as transgressor - is a constant
in investigating it, with narratives that weave visual and aural poetry.



CHARLY TAYLOR, narrator

Charly Taylor has been performing shows in Spain as a professional comedian for over 20 years. He has recorded for Paramount, Comedy Central, participating as a stand-up comedian in Telecinco's Sopa de Gansos with "Extranjerismos" and "El Fin de la Comedia" (Comedy Central).

Founder of the Club DeSastre Improvisation group in his post-natal Zaragoza, he is also founder of the Zaragoza Celtic Football Club and a follower of Chelsea FC.

Charly is the main presenter and scriptwriter of the sessions and concerts for young people "music that is not music", the renowned educational sessions in Aragon promoted by the Higher Conservatory of Music of Aragon since 2006.

Charly has done more than 3,000 comedy shows, including in Las Chocitas del Loro in Madrid and elsewhere - and this year he will continue doing stand-up, improv, cycling (he now lives in the cycling paradise of the Pre-Pyrenees), confused Celtic music (he is also a violinist) and enjoying life if an asteroid does not collide with the earth... which would be terrible!!!



SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (BSCSMA)
HIGHER MUSIC CONSERVATORY OF ARAGÓN

Solo Clarinet

Víctor Serrano

Flutes

Helena Carralero
Sara Abarca
Mario Pérez
Olana Shvets

Piccolos

Minerva Civera

Oboes

Isabella Torrijo
Diego Mira
Nicolás García
Alvaro Sanz

French Horn

Alvaro Sanz

Clarinets

Laura Gallardo
Oliver Lapuente
María Guerrero
Laura Lletí
Heli Asensio
Luis Olaverri
Federico Arranz
Candela Cortijo
Andrei Locic
Lorena Jimeno
Nel Pérez
Helena Quintiá
Víctor Serrano

Bass Clarinets

Luis Olaverri
Víctor Serrano

Saxophones

Paula Soriano
Antonio Menchaca
Francisco Alonso
Celia Verdú
Samuel Cerrillo
Víctor Orts
Eduardo Perea
Jerónimo Fernández

Bassoons

Inés Sáez
Alvaro Peña
Xavier Alonso
Clara Santiso
Elena Segura

Contrabassoon

Elena Segura

Horns

Ana Magallón
Paula San Martín
Gemma Torlà
Joseba Alberdi
Lidia Fornés

Trumpets

Alejandro Más
Eric Vedrí
Beñat Otxoteko

Trombones

Pedro José Pérez
Rubén López
Clara Durán
Pablo Muñoz
Iker Sanz

Tubas

Adrián Rodríguez
Angel de Nova
Adán Pedro
Carlos González

Euphoniums

Jesús Luna
Santiago Suray

Timpani

Cecilia Sánchez
Antía Pérez
Víctor Sapiña

Percussion

Cecilia Sánchez
Antía Pérez
Víctor Sapiña
Sara Cobos
Elies Castillo
Francisco Moreno
Antonio Jiménez
David Blanco
Sandra Blasco

Piano

Harp

Cellos

Andrés Díaz
Xan García
Sergio Terán

Double Bass

Alvaro Gómez
Eric Pelegrí

ARTISTIC COORDINATION CSMA

HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS
SUBMANAGEMENT

Director Asistente

Rubén Catalán

Conductor Carlos Ocaña

CSMA SYMPHONIC BAND

The Symphonic Band of the Higher Conservatory of Music of Aragon stays faithful to the spirit of creating a youth symphony orchestra in this community, which will become an exportable and exchangeable cultural asset, as well as an symbol of identity of the educational-cultural development of Aragon, and – therefore - an invaluable platform for the promotion and development of these promising young Aragonese musicians.

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CONSERVATORIO SUPERIOR
DE MÚSICA DE ARAGÓN