

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART CONCERTS

January and February, 1990

January

- 14 National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, *Conductor*
Works by Mozart, Borodin and Ravel
- 21 Coleman Blumfield, *piano*
Works by Schubert, Mussorgsky and Babin
- 28 The Charleston String Quartet
Works by Mozart, Castaldo and Schumann

February

- 4 National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, *Conductor*
Concert in honor of Richard Bales' 75th birthday
Works by Bales, Franck and Debussy
- 11 Ben Holt, *baritone*
John Keene, *piano*
Works by Spohr, Ravel, Nathaniel Dett and Hall Johnson
- 18 Dmitry Feofanov, *piano*
Works by Sergey Prokofiev
- 25 National Gallery Vocal Arts Ensemble
Works by Hindemith, Debussy and Ravel

Concerts at the National Gallery are open to the public, free of charge.

*The use of cameras or recording devices during the performance
is not allowed.*

THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL CONCERTS

National Gallery of Art

1952nd Concert



NATIONAL GALLERY ORCHESTRA
GEORGE MANOS, *Conductor*

Music of Vienna

Sunday Evening, January 7, 1990
at Seven O'clock
West Building, East Garden Court

PROGRAM

Franz von Suppé Beautiful Galathea Overture
(1819-1895)

Johann Strauss, Jr. Tales from the Vienna Woods
(1825-1899)

Processional March from "The Gypsy Baron"

Neue Pizzicato Polka

Thousand-and-One Nights Waltz

INTERMISSION
(*Twelve minutes*)

Johann Strauss, Jr. Explosions Polka (Polka française)

Richard Strauss Rosenkavalier Waltzes
(1864-1949)

Johann Strauss, Jr. Perpetuum mobile

Thunder and Lightning Polka

These concerts are broadcast live on Radio Station WGMS, 103.5 FM.

The U.S. Recording Companies furnish funds in part for the instrumental music for this performance through the Music Performance Trust Funds, as arranged by Local 161-710, American Federation of Musicians.

Since New Year's Day of 1939, the Viennese have enjoyed the annual presentation of a concert of favorite waltzes, polkas, overtures and marches by their fellow Viennese composers, played by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra in the renowned *Grosser Saal* of the *Musikverein*. This great hall, otherwise known as the "*Goldener Saal*" on account of its resplendent interior trim, was designed by Theophil Hansen and completed in 1870, and has figured importantly in the history of Vienna on many occasions. It has housed not only the Society of the Friends of Music and the Vienna Philharmonic, but also the famous piano-maker Bösendorfer, the Universal Edition publishing house, a violin-maker and a number of singing clubs. Its archives contain a number of relics of great significance to musicians, including Haydn's harpsichord and pianos that belonged to Schubert and Schumann. Over a hundred pages of Beethoven manuscript are preserved there, including the title page of the *Eroica Symphony*, with its famous hole, cut out by the composer himself, where there had been a dedication to Napoleon. In the perilous first half of 1945, when much of Vienna was damaged by bombing and artillery, the majestic hall served as a temporary shelter for members of the Philharmonic whose homes had been destroyed. All of the windows and part of the roof were damaged. It is indicative of the attachment of the Viennese to this great building that it was already repaired and ready to reopen by mid-September of 1945.

All those who make their way toward the historic *Musikverein* building on New Years Day are part of an illustrious musical history, which includes such giants as Brahms, Bruckner, Mahler and, of course, the Strauss family. Through the medium of recordings, radio and television, this annual celebration of Viennese music has become a world-famous musical event. The presence of the audience and its reaction to the sublime moments, favorite tunes and musical jokes on the stage are as important as the players in this festive drama.

The spirit of these gala, joyful concerts is the spirit of Vienna, and for many throughout the world who follow them faithfully, the spirit of celebration of the New Year. In this lovely music there is nostalgia for beauties and happiness now past. But there is also energy, liveliness, humor and hope, as the music carries us, now whirling in a waltz, now pulsating in a march, through the present time and into the future.