Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 - 1827) lived during one of the most creative and artistically revolutionary periods in the history of music. His contemporaries included such figures as Haydn, Mozart, and Schubert, as well as countless lesser names whose reputations have now been obscured by the shadows of these greater musical giants. The 1970 Guelph Spring Festival will mark the bicentenary of Beethoven's birth with a program which will be devoted particularly to the music of that exciting period.

But a Festival cannot only look backwards. It must also, as Toronto music critic John Kraglund pointed out, "present the rare, the new, the unusual." Under the general theme Beethoven: The Man and His Time artistic director Nicholas Goldschmidt has achieved a brilliant synthesis of new and old, romantic and modern, familiar and unfamiliar. He has brought together a series of concerts that will include some of Beethoven's most popular works, as well as other compositions which are only rarely performed. In addition he will produce the North American premiere (in English) of an opera by the eighteenth-century composer, Johann Schenk. Although practically unknown today, Schenk was Director of the Vienna Opera and, for a time (with Haydn), a teacher of Beethoven.

The Festival will continue to encourage Canadian artists and performers and to feature the production of new works. To this end, the Edward Johnson Music Foundation (spon- sor of the Festival) has commissioned a new ballet to be presented by the Toronto Dance Theatre. This work will be choreographed by David Earle, and appropriately enough, be set to a composition by Beethoven based on a duet for Clarinet and Bassoon. The newly created dance will be entitled Operetta. Three world premiere performances will be given during the Festival in an imaginative counterpointing of contemporary and classical music. Compositions by Dr. Charles Wilson of Guelph, Talivaldis Kenins of Toronto, and Gerhard Wuensch of Calgary will share the spotlight with works of the Viennese School.
Program

FRIDAY, MAY 1
Guelph Light Opera Company Chorus
and guest soloists
Beethoven’s Mass in C and a specially commissioned work — Charles Wilson, conductor
Church of Our Lady — 8:30 p.m. — $2.50

SUNDAY, MAY 3
Orford String Quartet
Guest Artist — Joseph Macerollo
World premiere of a Canadian Work
War Memorial Hall — 8:30 p.m. — $2.00

MONDAY, MAY 4
National Arts Centre Orchestra
Guest Conductor — Karl Munchinger, Pianist — Claude Frank
Physical Education building, University of Guelph — 8:30 p.m. — Section A — $5.00, Section B — $3.50, Section C — $2.00

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6
Claude Frank – Recital
in a program of Schubert, Mozart and Beethoven
War Memorial Hall — 8:30 p.m. — $3.00

THURSDAY, MAY 7
Orford String Quartet with Claude Frank
War Memorial Hall — 8:30 p.m. — $2.00

SATURDAY, MAY 9
Toronto Dance Theatre
Commissioned work by David Earle
War Memorial Hall — 8:30 p.m. — $2.50

MONDAY, MAY 11
Orford String Quartet
World premiere of a Canadian work
Harcourt Memorial United Church — 8:30 p.m. — $2.00

MAY 14, 15, 16
The Village Barber
North American premiere of the 18th century comic opera by J. Schenck, a contemporary of Beethoven. Stage Director — Lode Verstraete.
Music Director — Nicholas Goldschmidt, Designer — William Lord
War Memorial Hall
Evening: 8:30 p.m. $3.50
Matinee on May 16 at 2:00 p.m. — $2.50 for adults and $1.50 for students.

Tickets available University of Guelph Central Box Office — Phone (519) 824-7570 or mail cheque to Box 1091, Guelph.

The Guelph Spring Festival is sponsored by the Edward Johnson Music Foundation.

Joseph Macerollo

Joseph Macerollo, who appears as soloist with the Orford Quartet on May 3rd, was born and educated in Guelph.

Canada’s leading accordionist, he began to play the instrument at the age of six, giving his first concert when he was only seven.

Twice Canadian Champion, in 1964 he placed fourth in the World Accordion Championships. Joseph Macerollo became a piano major at the University of Toronto and graduated with his Bachelor of Music in 1966.

Orford String Quartet

In 1965 four young musicians from Western Canada, Toronto and Quebec, met in Mount Orford, the summer camp of Les Jeunesse Musicales. The Orford Quartet was formed and, with considerable financial assistance from the Canada Council and the artistic guidance of Lorand Fenyves, flourished.

Although very young, both individually and as an ensemble, they have already aroused a great deal of international attention and critical acclaim.

Following their debut recitals in New York and Washington critics wholeheartedly acclaimed the quartet as one of the world’s finest.

The Quartet, Andrew Dawes and Kenneth Perkins, violins, Terence Helmer, viola and Marcel St. Cyr, cello, have recently been appointed “quartet in residence” at the University of Toronto.

They will give three concerts during the Festival, on May 3rd, 7th, and 11th, and will feature works by Beethoven and his contemporaries. On their Guelph Spring Festival programs are two world premieres, Music without Pretensions by Gerhard Wuenoch and Quartet No. 2 by Charles Wilson. On May 3rd, their program will feature guest artist Joseph Macerollo and on May 7th Claude Frank will join them for the Mozart Piano Quartet in G Minor.

Guelph Light Opera Company

The opening concert of the 1970 Spring Festival will feature a rarely performed masterpiece by Beethoven, the Mass in C Major. The magnificent Church of Our Lady will once again provide an appropriate setting for this powerful work.

A grant provided by the Edward Johnson Music Foundation has enabled the Guelph Light Opera Company to commission a new Canadian composition for the Festival. The world premiere of Chants of Glory and Mercy (Gloria) by Talivaldis Kenins will open the 16-day festival.

Four soloists, a full orchestra and the 100 voice chorus will be featured in the event.

Since the inception of the festival in 1968, the Guelph Light Opera Company has performed each year under the baton of its founder and director, Charles Wilson. Mr. Wilson is a member of the Canadian League of Composers and is also conductor of the well-known Bach-Elgar Choir of Hamilton. Members of the Bach-Elgar singers will swell the ranks of GLOC to meet the demands of this great Beethoven work.

Soloists are Roxolana Roslak, Soprano, Patricia Rideout, Contralto, John Arab, Tenor and John Dodington, Bass. These singers are leading artists with the Canadian Opera Company and The Festival Singers of Canada.
National Art Centre

On May 4 the National Arts Centre Orchestra of Ottawa will perform for the first time in a music festival outside the capital.

In the program entitled The Viennese School with soloist Claude Frank, the orchestra will highlight works of contemporaries of Beethoven as well as playing one of the Master’s major orchestral works, the Symphony No. 2 in D Major.

Completed in 1802 when his terrible deafness was approaching, the Symphony has been described as the culminating point of the old, pre-Revolutionary style of Beethoven ... “before he burst into that wonderful new region which no man has ever before penetrated.”

Other works include Schubert’s Overture in Italian Style and the Concerto in B Flat, K.V. 456, by Mozart. A rarely performed Beethoven composition (to be announced) completes the May 4 program.

In establishing the National Arts Centre Orchestra one aim was to lure back talented Canadian studying and playing abroad. The primary aim however was to build a small orchestra of first-class calibre with a balance of experience and youthful enthusiasm. Forty-four musicians were selected from auditions held in North America and Europe. An orchestra of this nature is beautifully designed to perform works of the classical period.

Mario Bernardi is their resident conductor. On this occasion Karl Munchinger will be the guest conductor.

The Beethoven Exhibition

May 3 – 31

Beethoven, the Man and His Time an exhibition sponsored by the University of Guelph, promises to be one of the highlights of this year’s Guelph Spring Festival.

The collection of almost 200 prints, photographs and facsimiles will give a visual history of Beethoven’s life and the classical period.

Designed by Dr. Franz Grasberger, Director of the Music Department National Library of Austria, the exhibition will include, for the Guelph appearance only, four originals from the R. F. Kailir Collection in New York. R. F. Kailir is the father-in-law of Claude Frank, concert pianist, who is a featured artist in the May 1–16 program.

After the Festival the exhibit will appear at many universities across the country. The University of Guelph has announced that this special feature of the Spring Festival will be permanently housed on the Guelph campus following the tour.

Several original prints of landscapes and Beethoven memorabilia, including the famous print of his funeral and many musical manuscripts will be displayed.

Dr. Grasberger has taken particular care not to include any pieces readily available in the continent.

A catalogue, containing some 40 reprints of items in the exhibition and an introduction by Dr. Grasberger will be available after April 15th.

Toronto Dance Theatre

Karl Münchinger is guest conductor with the National Arts Centre Orchestra on the May 4 Festival series program.

An internationally famous conductor, he founded the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra 20 years ago and turned it into one of the finest musical ensembles. Critics rave about its clarity, transparency, vigour and perfection. Under Münchinger’s leadership the orchestra has given more than 2,000 performances around the world and participated in International Festivals in Lucerne, Salzburg and Edinburgh.

Münchinger has conducted many of the world’s most famous orchestras including L’Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the San Francisco Philharmonic, L’Orchestre Symphonique de l’O.R.T.F. and the Vienna Philharmonic.

In 1968 he founded the Stuttgart Orchestre Philharmonica Classique and this year will appear again in the U.S.A. and at Expo 70.

For the first time since the Guelph Spring Festival began, an evening of dance will be featured on the program.

In contrast to the predominantly 18th century tone of the Festival, the Toronto Dance Theatre will perform modern works in the Martha Graham tradition.

An interpretation of a rarely performed Beethoven work, Operetta for clarinet and bassoon will provide yet another premiere at this year’s Festival. Commissioned by the Edward Johnson Music Foundation, the work will be choreographed by David Earle.

The Toronto Dance Theatre was founded in 1969 by Patricia Beatty, Peter Randazzo and David Earle. This professional company has received outstanding reviews in United States and Canada.

David Earle, who has created a number of original works for this new company, speaks on “operetta” ... “it is an entertainment in a castle, an impromptu offering, a masquerade, a burlesque. The theme of “the affair” stirs up in the performers a vital, if none too profound, passion.”

In January, the company appeared at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa and in a CBC Television special. After their Festival performance, they will appear at the St. Lawrence Centre in Toronto in a summer session of dance.
Village Barber

A North American Premiere

The same combination of talents that produced the outstanding success of The Prodigal Son will return to stage The Village Barber. A delightful 'opera in miniature', this 18th Century comic singspiel was written by Johann Schenk, a contemporary and teacher of Beethoven.

Lode Verstraete, critically acclaimed for his stage direction during the 1969 Festival season, returns to Guelph from Brussels where he is first director at the National Theatre in Antwerp, to stage the premiere performance. Nicholas Goldschmidt, responsible for some of the most exciting developments in the performing arts in Canada over the past 20 years, is the musical director. Mr. Goldschmidt who was educated in Vienna, had a distinguished career as a conductor in opera houses in Europe before arriving in Canada where he became music director and founder of the Canadian Opera Company. William Lord, set and costume designer, has designed 12 major Toronto opera productions and the Canadian premiere in Ottawa of Britten's Church Opera Noah's Flood as well as last year's, The Prodigal Son. A traditional proscenium setting and period costuming will enhance the 18th Century charm of the late classical period. This festival event should provide an excellent introduction to opera for the younger generation and provide an exciting experience for seasoned opera-goers.

Members of the Cast

Don McManus, playing the barber, in his first appearance at the Guelph Spring Festival, received rave notices for his performance last summer at the Charlottetown Festival. He has been signed by the Canadian Opera Company to appear in Fidelio and Don Giovanni during the coming 1970 season at the O'Keefe Centre.

Eleanor Calbes, Suschen, will be remembered by audiences of the First Spring Festival for her lovely voice and vivacious personality. Miss Calbes has been acclaimed by critics in Canada and the United States for her performances in opera and musical comedy.

Garnet Brooks, another singer making a welcome return to Guelph, will take the part of the young lover. A member of the Canadian Opera Company he has sung many successful roles with them. He received excellent notices for his acting and singing talent in The Prodigal Son at last year's Festival. Mr. Brooks is at present in tour in Prologue.

Gerard Boyd first came to Guelph as a chorus member in The Prodigal Son. Verstraete was impressed with his singing and acting ability and has requested his return to perform in the comic opera. Mr. Boyd was a member of the Canadian Opera Company chorus for the 1969 season.

The Edward Johnson Music Foundation

The City of Guelph, birthplace of Edward Johnson, one of the world's greatest tenors, is now privileged to be the scene of some of Canada's finest musical and artistic talent.

The Edward Johnson Music Foundation was incorporated in 1956 to perpetuate the memory of Edward Johnson. In keeping with this, the Foundation is also dedicated to providing facilities for education and instruction in music and to encourage appreciation of and interest in the performing arts.

In 1967 the Foundation sponsored the National Vocal Competition of Les Jeunesse Musicales du Canada. The first Guelph Spring Festival in 1968 was a continuation of the Foundation's centennial project. The overwhelming response to the festival led to plans for making it an annual event. Festival '69 The Arts in Religion proved an equally successful venture.

A Canadian Artists Series has been offered again this year to make the presence of the Foundation felt for a round and to afford opportunities for Canadian artists and composers. During the winter months, leading Canadian artists including Teresa Stratas, Bernard Turgeon and Mary Morrison are offered in varied recitals for audiences in this area. Proceedings from these concerts are designated for a scholarship fund to encourage promising students.

Acknowledgements

Many generous grants, civic, provincial, federal, Canada Council and Guelph Chamber of Commerce, have been allocated to the Guelph Spring Festival. Members of the community have given generously of their time and talents in organization and administration to ensure the success of the Guelph Spring Festival. Foundation memberships and sustaining patronage help to keep the Festival alive and growing. These are available through the membership treasurer, Mary Wardrope, Box 1091, Guelph. Single — $4.00, Family — $5.00, Patron — $25.00 or more.

Edward Johnson Music Foundation requests the pleasure of your company at Guelph Spring Festival's Annual GALA LUNCHEON

Wednesday, April 1st, 1970

Cutter Club, College Ave., E., Guelph

Traditional Viennese Buffet Bar Privileges

11:30 – 2:30 p.m. $3.00 per person

Reservations — 821-7570

The News Bulletin is published each week by the Department of Information and edited by Mrs. Betty Keeling. Copy for this special edition was prepared by Mrs. Barbara Wolfond, Neil Carson and Mrs. Jo-Anne Watkin, Cover design by Eric Barth.