Columbia Artists & Commercial Union Assurance present the

London Philharmonic Orchestra Bicentennial Tour November 7-26 1976

Conductor Bernard Haitink

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London Philharmonic Orchestra

The London Philharmonic is one of the world's great orchestras and draws larger audiences in London every season than any other. Founded by Sir Thomas Beecham in 1932 with the best British players of the time, the London Philharmonic dominated London music through the nineteen-thirties, playing for the international opera seasons at Covent Garden and the capital's most important concerts.

When war closed the opera in 1939 and disrupted concert life, the orchestra was saved by the players, who took over the management, promoted concerts and for fees shared out the little money that was left when the expenses had been paid. On long nationwide tours, many of which involved playing concerts twice nightly in variety theatres, the orchestra won big new audiences for classical music. Ever since then the London Philharmonic has been managed by a chairman and directors elected annually by the players from their own ranks.

After the war the London Philharmonic played a leading part in restoring the international character of London's music-making, engaging such great conductors as Koussevitzky, Munch and Walter, and giving early opportunities to the young Bernstein and Solti. Eduard van Beinum, Principal Conductor for two seasons, was followed in this post by Sir Adrian Boult, William Steinberg, John Pritchard and, in 1967, by Bernard Haitink, with whom the orchestra has achieved some of the greatest successes in its history. Besides many European tours, including two in the Soviet Union, the London Philharmonic has made three tours of the Far East. In 1973 it became the first Western orchestra ever to tour China, giving immensely successful concerts in Peking, Shanghai and Canton.

It first visited the USA in 1970, playing the Eastern States, and the following year it toured the West Coast and Arizona, winding up a triumphant month in the USA, Canada and Mexico with three concerts in Carnegie Hall, New York. Wrote the San Francisco Chronicle: 'The London Philharmonic is obviously one of the important reasons why London is today the cultural capital of Europe. The performances were gorgeous. A country could not hope for musical representatives of finer integrity.'

In addition to its close association with Haitink the orchestra now has Sir Georg Solti, Daniel Barenboim and Carlo Maria Giulini as principal guest conductors. Since 1964 it has been resident orchestra each summer at the Glyndebourne Festival Opera. The orchestra appears frequently on television and devotes some thirty per cent of its time to recording.

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Bernard Haitink has been principal conductor of the London Philharmonic Orchestra since 1967 and artistic director since 1970. He has held the equivalent position with the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra since 1964. Born in Amsterdam in 1929, he began his career as a violinist in the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra, whose principal conductor he became at the age of 27. He made his British debut in 1959 on a visit with the Concertgebouw Orchestra and first conducted the London Philharmonic in 1962.

Bernard Haitink has made tours with his two orchestras in the USA, Russia, Latin America, Japan and Europe. His eight concerts with the London Philharmonic in Moscow and Leningrad last year were unqualified triumphs. He conducted the London Philharmonic on its first American Tour in 1970 and at Carnegie Hall, New York, in 1971. Haitink has appeared as guest conductor with many American Orchestras including the Boston Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Cleveland, Los Angeles Philharmonic and New York Philharmonic Orchestras.

Haitink's versatile talent has also been disclosed at Glyndebourne Festival Opera in England, where he has conducted operas by Mozart, Stravinsky and Debussy. In 1979 he will succeed John Pritchard as Musical Director at Glyndebourne. He will make his Covent Garden debut in 1977.

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Commercial Union Assurance

Industrial sponsorship of the Arts in Great Britain is now considered an important key to the maintenance and growth of the Arts in all forms throughout the country. Commercial Union Assurance, a leading international composite insurer, is performing a valuable and substantial role in this area. In 1975 it helped to subsidise a new production of Wagner's "Siegfried" at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden and later that year sponsored a North of England and Scotland tour of the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

The 1976 Bicentennial Tour, organised and presented by Columbia Artists with a grant from the British Council's Bicentennial Tour Committee has been made possible through Commercial Union's generous financial sponsorship.

Commercial Union's contribution sustains further its interest in being involved in a wide cross section of general activities within society. One of its better known major sports exploits is its support of the international lawn tennis Grand Prix.

Commercial Union was formed in 1861 and over the ensuing years extended its British-based company by making major acquisitions in Europe and the United States, the most recent being the Dutch company Delta-Lloyd in 1973. The extensive range of its business is illustrated by examples of risks covered by the Group which range from the ocean liner Queen Elizabeth II and the giant Massey-Ferguson works to individual life and personal insurances.

More than 80% of Commercial Union's business is transacted overseas and the Group employs 25,000 people of many nationalities. From its London-based headquarters experts in international insurance handle multinational company accounts and they are supported around the world by a network of specialists offering services to clients wherever they operate.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra Tour will finish, appropriately enough, in Boston – the head office of Commercial Union's American activities.

Malcolm Arnold

When Commercial Union Assurance first agreed to sponsor the LPO's Bicentennial tour to the United States it was felt appropriate to commission a special piece of music which would be played during the tour as a tribute to 200 years of American independence. The orchestra was delighted with this idea and Dr. Malcolm Arnold, the eminent British composer, in accepting the commission, said it was 'one of the most important I have ever had'.



The Rt.Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury

Chairman of the London Philharmonic Orchestra Council and President of the London Philharmonic Society(U.S.A.) Inc.

Lord Shaftesbury has been closely associated with the Orchestra since 1964. His main preoccupation latterly has been with one of the most important aspects of London musical life, the development of the Henry Wood Hall, a full scale rehearsal facility and classical recording centre. The Hall also incorporates the new Angus Menzies Organ Memorial, for which considerable funds were generated by a number of leading American personalities.

London Philharmonic Society (U.S.A.) Inc.

Registered Offices: Spear & Hill, One State Street Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10004 Telephone (212) 344 6200 President The Earl of Shaftesbury Vice Presidents Mr. Charles E. Saltzman Mr. Eric Bravington, OBE (Managing Director, L.P.O. Ltd., 53 Welbeck Street, London, W1M 7HE) Directors Mr. Brownlee O. Currey, Jr. Mr. Henry C. Buhl, III Mrs. Eileen Ford Mr. G. Lauder Greenway Mr. John L. Loeb, Jr. Mr. Richard E. Jenrette Mr. John S. Samuels, III Secretary and Treasurer Mr. Harvey M. Spear Bankers Schroder Trust Company Auditors Price, Waterhouse & Co.

Principal Aims

London Philharmonic Society (U.S.A.) Inc.

Encouraging donations from industry, foundations and private sources:—

- To support the concert-giving activities of the London Philharmonic Orchestra in the United States of America.
- To make possible the spreading of the Orchestra's concerts over a longer period in order to ensure the highest artistic level.
- 3. To enable the London Philharmonic Orchestra to fulfil its role in musical education by promoting concerts specially for schools and universities in conjunction with United States tours.

The Charitable Corporation is supported by two categories of members: PATRONS and SPONSORS

Patrons donate \$20,000 Sponsors donate \$1,000

London Philharmonic Orchestra

The London Philharmonic Orchestra first visited the United States of America during the spring of 1970. Leading American citizens greatly encouraged the Orchestra by forming a sponsoring corporation, without whose support the three-week tour could never have been envisaged. This visit was followed in 1971 by a more extensive tour when the Orchestra gave performances in Canada, the West Coast, Mexico and New York to wide acclaim.

The Orchestra returns to the United States in the fall of 1976. It is hoped that this visit, and those in the future, will prove both stimulating and rewarding, providing music at the highest artistic level of fine European traditions, and making a positive contribution to the cultural life of a great musical nation, in this the Bicentennial Year.

We earnestly feel that the assistance provided by American patronage will serve as a symbol of Anglo-American friendship, and will strengthen the ties between our two nations.

The Orchestra Principal Conductor and Artistic Director BERNARD HAITINK

President

Sir Adrian Boult, CH

Chairman Stephen Crabtree

Managing Director Eric Bravington, OBE

1st Violins

Rodney Friend Leader Co-Leader Dennis Simons Sub-Leader **Richard Layton** George Hallam John Kitchen William Learv John Greensmith* Robert St. John Wright George Apel Geoffrey Lynn Kenneth King Maire Dillon Marie Wilson MBE Philip Sutton Marilyn Germains John Allan

2nd Violins Russell Gilbert Principal Peter Mayes Geoffrey Price Michael Healy Kenneth Weston* John Kuchmy Brian Porter Remo Lauricella David McLaren David Marcou Wolfgang Kellerman Harry Wild Eleanor St. George

Valerie Leary

John Chambers Principal David Newland Anthony Byrne Martin Koster Judith Swan David Godsell Wrayburn Glasspool Frederick Buxton Irmeli Rawson Eileen Engelbrecht Mavis Richards Stephen Gorringe

Cellos

Violas

Alexander Cameron Principal Rod McGrath John Lowdell Santiago Sabino Carvalho Mark Jackson Ronald Calder* Thomas Francis Roger Lunn David Boswell Brown Christina Shillito

Basses

William Webster* Principal Stephen Crabtree* Co-Principal Kenneth Goode Bryan Scott David James George Nevison Rodney Stewart Geoffrey Downs

Flutes Martin Parry Richard McNicol Robin Chapman*

Piccolo Robin Chapman*

Oboes Roger Winfield Principal Harriet Bell Geoffrey Browne Cor Anglais Geoffrey Browne

Clarinets Robert Hill Principal Peter Maunder Stephen Trier

E Flat Clarinet Peter Maunder

Bass Clarinet Stephen Trier

Bassoons Neil Levesley Principal Michael Boyle Valentine Kennedy

Principal

Principal

Principal

Principal

Co-Principal

Asst. Principal

Contra Bassoon Valentine Kennedy

Horns Nicholas Busch* David Lee Patrick Garvey Colin Horton Iain Keddie

Trumpets Lawrence Evans Michael Clothier Stanley Woods Sidney Ellison

Trombones Derek James Colin Busby

Bass Trombone Noel Abel

Tuba Paul Lawrence

Timpani Alan Cumberland Principal Percussion Keith Millar Peter Chrippes Russell Jordan

Principal

Harp David Watkins

Principal

Celeste Frederick Buxton

Personnel Manager John Cobb

Librarian Allan Fry

Transport Manager Michael Quincey Gordon Williams Assistant

Concerts Manager Rosalie Cody

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Bernard Haitink







This tour is presented in association with the British Bicentennial Arts Committee.