



THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION

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Oranges and Sunshine

This powerful film went on general release in the UK in April to widespread acclaim and will be released in Australia in June. It tells the remarkable story of the deportation of thousands of children from the UK to Australia over many years and the extraordinary efforts of Margaret Humphreys, a social worker from Sheffield, to try and reunite these children, now all adults, with their unknown parents. In 1987 she established the Child Migrants Trust whose sole function is to reunite families. The children had often been told that the parents were dead when they arrived in Australia and the parents that the children had been adopted, and so felt they had no identity. In fact most spent their childhood in institutions where often they were exploited and sometimes abused. It is based on her book "Empty Cradles" and is an accurate reflection of the book itself. This programme had the support of both the British and Australian governments and only in 1970 did it end. Recently both the Australian and British governments (Kevin Rudd and Gordon Brown) apologised to these children.

Margaret Humphreys is played superbly by Emily Watson, backed up by Hugo Weaving and David Wenham. Margaret was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia by the Australian government in 1993 and a CBE by the Queen for her services to disadvantaged people in 2010. This is a film telling the story of a remarkable woman and one you must see. As you know Margaret was the Chairman of the OAA UK/Europe for many years.



Dinner hosted by Australian High Commissioner

On April the 13th the High Commissioner, John Dauth, hosted the membership of the Order of Australia Association at Stoke Lodge. We had a very good attendance and firstly were delighted to be able to congratulate John Dauth on the award of an AO. He now has no option but to become a member!

We also had the pleasure of the company of Shane Stone, President of the Order of Australia Association. He addressed us on the importance of nominating appropriate people for awards as this is the only way that potential awardees are brought to the attention of the committee in Canberra who make the decisions. There is no political input into awards in Australia.

It was a delightful dinner which we all thoroughly enjoyed.

Death of Peter Andry

You will be sad to hear of the death of Peter Andry OBE OAM, who died on December 7th 2010 aged 83. Few figures in the classical music record industry achieved the commercial and artistic success of Peter Andry. He also, following retirement, kept up his involvement in two charitable organisations, The Music Therapy Charity and The Australian Music Foundation. This was a remarkable career and he was also a very loyal member and supporter of the Order of Australia Association UK/Europe. We will miss him and obviously have passed our condolences on to his wife Christine.

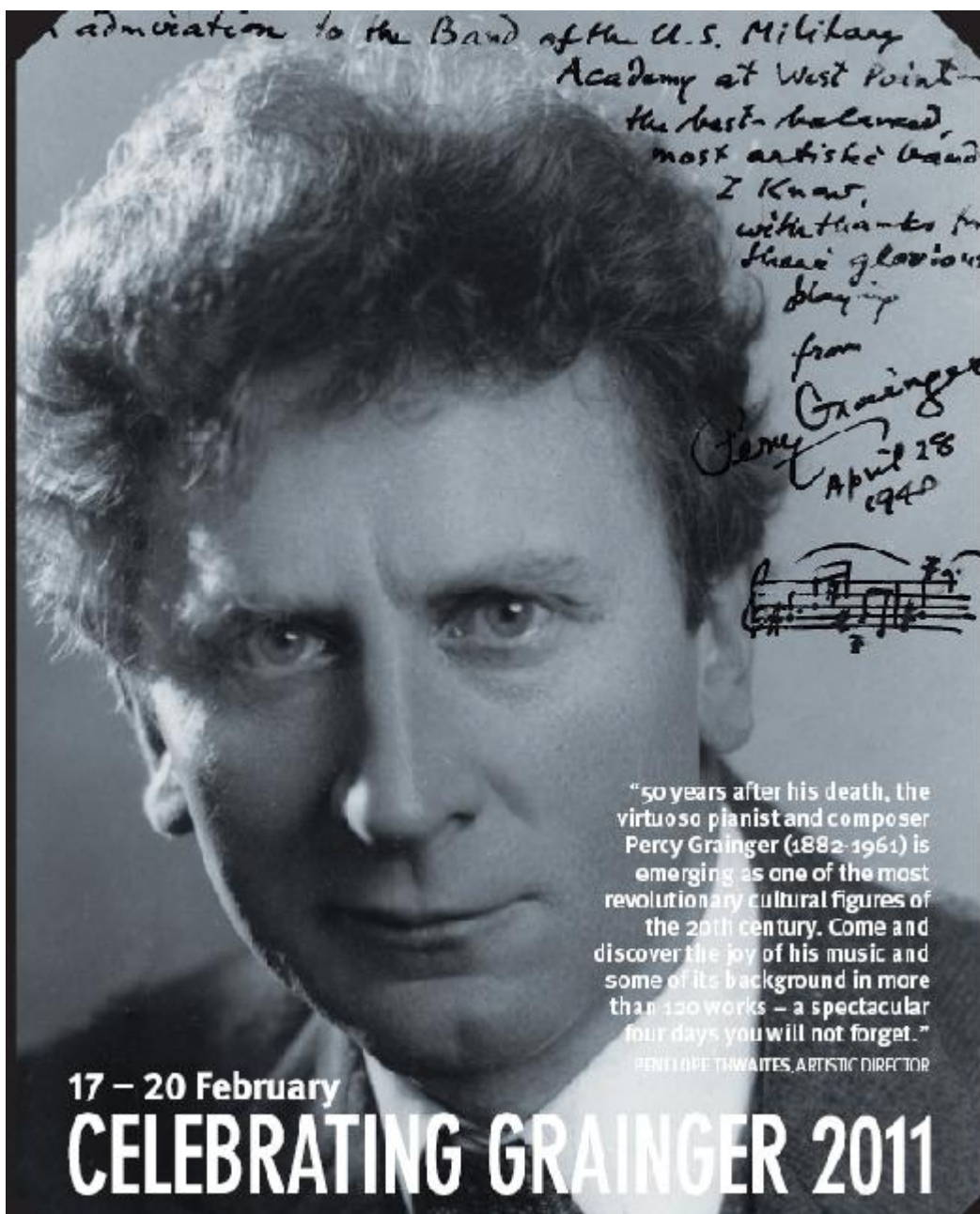
Celebrating Grainger 2011

From the 17th -19th February at the Kings Place Concert Halls. These three days at the concert halls with a final day at the British Library was due to the enormous organisational abilities of Penelope Thwaites and her committee. It was a splendid few days celebrating the 50 year anniversary of the death of Percy Grainger. The concerts drew an international audience from as far afield as Canada, the USA, Singapore and Australia and from all ages and backgrounds. 1,500 seats were filled and some 300 performers took part. These included established world class performers (such as Yvonne Kenny and Penelope Thwaites), young professionals, students from London's music colleges, excellent amateur choirs, musicians from the armed forces and audiences who came to sing Grainger.

For many the venue of Kings Place was a discovery and well worth a visit for those who have not been there. The Australian High Commissioner, John Dauth, opened the festival on the first night and the three evenings of concerts, all different and illustrating different aspects of Grainger's very wide ranging interests in music, were followed on the Sunday by a seminar at the British Library. Distinguished speakers from Canada,

USA, Australia, Britain and Denmark gave valuable context to the 120 works heard during the previous three days and the British Library's Head of Music, Richard Chesser illustrated the collection of Grainger material held at the Library.

In addition the recently published "The new Percy Grainger companion" produced by Penelope Thwaites, and which is the only up-to-date survey of Grainger's music was sold in abundance. It was a great event and a fitting tribute to one of Australia's icons.



A dedication to the Band of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point - the best balanced, most artistic band I know, with thanks for these glorious playing from Grainger
Percy
April 28 1940

[Musical notation]

"50 years after his death, the virtuoso pianist and composer Percy Grainger (1882-1961) is emerging as one of the most revolutionary cultural figures of the 20th century. Come and discover the joy of his music and some of its background in more than 120 works - a spectacular four days you will not forget."
PENILOPE THWAITES, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

17 - 20 February
CELEBRATING GRAINGER 2011

A Century of Scientific Endeavour

Denis Blight has recently published a book with the above title which recounts the history of CAB International (CABI). It once went by the name Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau and before that Imperial Agricultural Bureau. It comprised some 10 information bureaux, attached to British Research Institute. The first step in establishing this set of entities took place in 1910 with the establishment of the Imperial Entomology Research Committee. The Entomology Institute was set up in 1911 and the others followed in 1920, 1928 and 1946. Eight information bureaux were established in 1928 and others followed over subsequent decades. It changed from a Commonwealth organisation in 1987 but kept the acronym CAB, no longer spelt out, and added an 'I' for international under a treaty agreed by some 40 or so member countries, mostly Commonwealth but now including China and Switzerland as well as a few others.

Sir Peter J. Morris AC KB FRS FRCS
Chairman, OAA UK/Europe

Miss Nishanthi Talawila
Secretary, OAA UK/Europe