

Persian) added a new dimension to the musical experience of my students, the majority being of Christian background who had never been inside a synagogue before. A further exercise in the musical background of Judaism came in the form of group-chanting of a portion of the Old Testament of the Bible (transcribed into Western notation) according to the traditional system of cantillation that stretches back some 2500 years. 'Jewish Music East and West' was repeated in Spring 1996 and late Autumn 1996. On special occasions, guest lecturers from London and Jerusalem have been invited to share their expertise. The course is scheduled to be repeated in Spring 1998, and annually thereafter. I now have about 70 lecture-topics to choose from, with about 30 new titles in preparation.

Postgraduate research by Masters degree students has covered subjects such as Anglo-Jewish cantillation, the musical role of women in traditional and ultra-orthodox Judaism, liturgical and folk music idioms as influences upon 20th century recordings made in Eastern Europe and the USA. These students have participated in the public research seminars that are a regular fixture in the academic calendar of the Music Department.

The 'First International Conference on Jewish Music at City University' was held in April 1994. It was the first such event on this scale to be held in London for about four decades, comprising one anthropological film, five concerts of sacred and secular music, and 27 academic papers. Delegates travelled to London from Ireland, Holland, Germany, Hungary, Romania, Lithuania, Israel, South Africa, and the USA, as well as from many parts of Britain. All three Keynote speakers were from the USA. We were particularly delighted to receive a paper from China entitled 'The Jewish Influence on the Musical Life of Shanghai' by Professor Xu Buzeng. The Guest of Honour was Dr. Stanley Sadie, Editor-in-Chief of the 'New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians'. Altogether about 80 people were present during the three days of the conference. The 208-page 'Proceedings' were published in April 1997. Copies are available from me at the Music Department, City University, Northampton Square, London EC1V 0HB.

April 1997 was also the date of the 'Second International Conference on Jewish Music at City University'. The overall theme was 'Jewish Music Today: a musicological and ethnomusicological exploration of sacred and secular music at the end of the 20th century'. This four-day conference attracted about 120 delegates from Britain, Ireland, Holland, Denmark, Germany, Austria,

Israel, South Africa, Canada, and the USA, of whom over 40 gave papers. The three Keynote speakers came from Israel, USA, and UK. A special feature was the 'British Composers' Forum', chaired by the Guest of Honour, our Junior Warden, Malcolm Troup, Emeritus Professor of City University. In addition, there were six concerts, and several meetings, displays and social events. The 'Proceedings' are now being edited, and should be ready for publication in 1998. The 'Third Conference' is scheduled for April 2000, with plans for further conferences every three years thereafter.

Jewish music studies are constantly expanding and the number of requests for information and materials is increasing rapidly. Two significant developments, both taking effect in October 1997, should be mentioned in this context: first, the City University Music Department has upgraded the Joe Loss Research Fellowship to a full Lectureship, following interviews in May 1997, during which I read a paper examining the close modal relationships between traditional East-Ashkenazi cantorial chant and Classical Arabic music; and secondly, the Jewish Music Heritage Trust has appointed Dr. Charlotte De Vires Robbé, a graduate of Cambridge University, to work as my Assistant in the resource centre.

Among future projects are the completion of my book on Ernest Bloch, a study of Chinese elements in three of his works, and insert notes for two CDs devoted to his music; radio broadcasts on the 'golden' and 'modern' age of the cantor, and on the music of certain Oriental-Jewish communities; transcriptions of specific Sephardi and Ashkenazi synagogal repertoires in the UK; a new extended course on Arabic music at City University (based partially on my 'Introduction to Near-Eastern Music' presented to first-year undergraduates in Autumn 1992); articles for the 'Revised New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians' and for various journals; field work, concert and lecture tours, conferences, summer schools and festivals in Britain, Holland, Austria, Hungary, Romania, Eastern Siberia, and China (fourth visit); executive responsibilities on professional committees in Britain, Holland, Austria and the USA; the consolidation of the British and International Societies for Jewish Music (both recently founded in London); and the publication of my anthology of 14 essays on different aspects of Jewish music (You Tai Yin Yue Lun Wen Ji) by the Music Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Arts, Beijing.

TREASURY

Several changes have taken place involving the Company's accounts and investments. Representations have been made to the Charity Commission with the aim of amalgamating many of the trusts which have become excessively numerous over the years. However, their individual aims will still be diligently respected. Confirmation of the proposals are expected shortly. This should have the effect of streamlining the accounts and with the appointment of new auditors, costs are likely to be reduced. It has also been decided that a management fee, fixed between 1-1.5%, should be charged on a consistent basis upon the value of all funds. The Court has also agreed in principle that our investments should be managed on a discretionary basis once the principles and criteria have been agreed with our financial advisers.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Liveryman Maurice Hart FCA (Deputy) has been appointed to succeed Immediate Pastmaster Francis Carnwath as Treasurer from October 1997. He is a Pastmaster of the Fletchers' Company and a Liveryman of the Chartered Accountants' Company.

Liveryman Stephen Borton has been invited to become President of the Livery Club for the year 1997/1998. We wish him an enjoyable year.

DONATIONS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

The following donations have been made:

The Beacon School	£500
Mendelssohn Scholarship	£1000
Early Music Network	£1400
Spitalfields Festival	£1000
Guildhall Library	£300
Victoria and Albert Museum Music Catalogue	£500
Chetham's School	£250
St Michael's Cornhill	£1000
Allcard Awards for 1997:	
Miranda Keys Singer RCM	£3000
Julie Dowser Oboe Newcastle	£3000
Mary-Louise Aitken Singer RCM	£3000

Special Award:

Rebecca Middleton Singer WCMD £500

The following appeals have been agreed:

St Magnus Organ Appeal	£500
London String Quartet	£750
Waitangi Foundation	£250
Lincoln Cathedral	£500