

Midsummer Banquet at the Mansion House in the presence of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, with a quartet of harps playing as the guests arrived and the Collegium Regale singers from Kings College, Cambridge, entertaining after dinner were fine musical experiences.

The promotion of the Company's work both to the liverymen of the Company and to the outside world was an important part of my plan as Master and, to the end of my year, I accepted a myriad of invitations to musical performances, concerts, meetings, charitable lunches, exhibitions, lunches, dinners, church services and speech days. Mansion House invitations, the British Legion Remembrance Day ceremony, Beating the Retreat and a reception at the Foreign Office in the presence of HRH, The Duke of Edinburgh, degree ceremonies, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa's award of an Honorary Doctorate at Marlborough House, the St. Bartholomew's Hospital visit, the Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor engagement, the Chelsea Pensioners and the unforgettable Pancake Races at Guildhall Yard also featured as highlights during my year of office.

There were also engagements outside London at the Military School of Music Kneller Hall, Glyndebourne, Clonter Opera, Snape Maltings, Bedford School for the opening of the new Music Department, Symphony Hall, Birmingham, for the British Open Brass Band Festival, Cambridge for Prof Orr's funeral and memorial service and Treloar's School for the Lord Mayor's Charity. The culmination of the visits came with an invitation from the Lady Mayoress, Liveryman Tessa Brewer, together with Liveryman Russell Jones, to join the City of London Sinfonia's visit to China with concerts in the Forbidden City in Beijing, in Hangzhou and Shanghai Oriental Arts Centre, a magnificent new concert hall – an unforgettable experience.

The Musicians' Company's annual service in St. Paul's Cathedral was greatly appreciated by the Masters of the livery companies, and the invitations from one's



## THE ROYAL MILITARY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

### THE ROGER SWIFT CLASS 2006 at Kneller Hall

**Rear Row:** Mrs B J Norton BMus (Hons) ARCM Foundation Course Academic Professor, Mr R G Page MA (Cantab) LRAM Professor of Conducting, Std BM M D Speight BMus (Hons), Std BM M Y Effendy BMus Std BM K O P Francis BMus (Hons), Std BM E E Freeborn BMus (Hons) BA, Std BM A A Albalushi BMus (Hons) DipABRSM, Std BM E E Frost MusB (Hons) BMus (Hons) LRSM, Dr S G Roberts BMus MA PhD ARCM Professor of Orchestration, Mr M Uglow MA (Oxon) FRCO Professor of Harmony

**Front Row:** WOI (RSM) J P C G Mott WG, Dr T M M Czepiel BMus DPhil (Oxon) Academic Course Director and Professor of History and Analysis, Lt Col S J Smith ARCM LRSM psm CAMUS Principal Director of Music (Army), Mr P Fowler MA FTCL LRAM FRSA Master of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, Col R R Jammes Late RA Commandant RMSM, Maj (Retd) R G Swift LRAM ARCM LTCL psm, Maj P D Shannon MBE BA (Hons) Dip Mus (Open) ARCM LRAM psm CAMUS Chief Instructor, Maj D J Milgate ARCM psm CAMUS Deputy Chief Instructor, WOI (BM) A R Adams GCGI BA LRSM School Bandmaster

fellow Masters to livery dinners and other joint engagements did much to enhance the *camaraderie* of the year, resulting in the formation of the Figaro Masters' Association 2005/2006.

Where have I failed? Well, I have not persuaded many non-contributing liverymen to agree to support the voluntary annual subscription of £120. From the physically able liverymen, who are within reasonable distance of the City of London, fifty percent or so never appear

at any of the Company's functions. This saddens me.

When looking through my photograph album, it brings back many happy memories and my heartfelt thanks go out to the members of the Court, to Tim the learned Clerk particularly with the tragic loss of his wife, Prudi; Maggie, the Deputy Clerk, the stewards, liverymen, freemen and to Janet my wife in my unforgettable year as Master of the Worshipful Company of Musicians.

the setting is essential. We have to make music relevant to modern life. There is nothing wrong with crowd-pleasing. Embrace web delivery: it is unthreatening, allows tasting, but also indulges the connoisseur.

Composer Judith Bingham was passionate about live music and the adverse effect of visual images dominating our lives. She insisted that people respond to challenge, and that children should be taught to concentrate and be still when listening to music. She felt that it is also a mistake to programme contemporary

music on its own. The problems are that there is insufficient previewing, programming and repetition of new work. There is not enough championing of new music. We need to be celebrating it. It is dangerous just to give audiences what we think they want.

There were then several contributions from the floor including many that harked back to our debate the year before. Indeed, conductor Jonathan Brett's impassioned exhortation, that orchestras are not responsible for education but schools are, drew spontaneous applause.

Russell Jones led the debate with great skill and we are grateful to him for his contribution and the support of the Association of British Orchestras in mounting this debate. Music was provided by Adriane Tilanus (a Musicians' Company scholar at the GSMD) who played the *Preludio*, *Loure* and *Gigue* from J S Bach's Violin Partita in E major. Following the debate those attending enjoyed a glass of wine together and the conversations went on for some time!

Senior Warden Leslie East

Chairman, Professional Musicians Advisory Panel