



Shelia Rock

LLOYD'S "PIANO EVENT"

Richard Rogers' Lloyd's Building, in Lime Street, is one of the great new landmarks of the City – an architectural *tour de force* that is home to the world insurance market. At 6.45pm on Thursday 13 April it will be the venue for the Company's unique "piano event", with the celebrated international pianist Melvyn Tan (left) performing on the Broadwood collection of instruments, the earliest being a square piano of 1790.

Five of the pianos in the Broadwood collection will be featured, to illustrate the technical development of the instrument over the last 200 years. And the programme – introduced by John Tusa – will show how the repertoire has similarly developed, reflecting the increasing capabilities of the instrument.

As well as being representative of their time, several of the Broadwood-collection pianos have intriguing

associations. The fortepiano of 1817 is the twin to the instrument that was sent to Vienna by Thomas Broadwood as a gift to Beethoven ... which, after his death in 1887, became the property of Franz Liszt.

The Broadwood grand of 1833 was sold to a family that were friends of Mendelssohn, and it is thought that he used the instrument to compose *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. It came back into Broadwood ownership only in the late 1980s.

The 1848 grand from the collection is from a group of Broadwoods that were placed at the disposal of Chopin when he came to London in that year for what proved to be his final concert – performed in the Guildhall.

And the fifth piano to be featured on 13 April will be the prototype of the technologically-advanced "barless piano", for which Broadwood has received a Millennium Award.



Studio Tristram

QUINCENTENARY BRASS BAND CONCERT

The Musicians long involvement with the brass band movement will be recognised during our quinquennial year with a concert at Birmingham Symphony Hall at 7.30pm on Saturday 9 September, following that day's British Open championship.

The fabulous acoustics of Symphony Hall have made it one of Europe's premier concert venues, and will be explored to the full by the evening's guest bands: Grimethorpe Colliery RJB and (pictured above) Yorkshire Building

Society. Elgar Howarth will be guest conductor, and the programme will delight everyone, with old favourites like *Life Divine*, exciting modern transcriptions such as Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* and some of the latest additions to the brass-band repertoire.

Comper will be liveryman Frank Renton, who, when the future of Grimethorpe was under threat, led the band to a memorable victory in the 1992 National Brass Band Championships at the Royal Albert Hall – inspiring the hit movie *Brassed Off*.

KEY DATES THAT CELEBRATE THE QUINCENTENARY

13 November 1999
Lord Mayor's Show

20 December
Carols in Guildhall Yard, 5pm

13 April 2000
Broadwood "piano event" with Melvyn Tan at the Lloyd's Building, 6.45pm

7 May
Master's Birthday Concert, Thursley, Surrey

4 June
Commemorative Service and Luncheon at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, 11am

3 July
Jazz at The Globe, 7.30pm

9 September
Brass band concert at Birmingham Symphony Hall, 7.30pm

19 December
Quincentenary Prize Competition Concert in The Barbican

