

Music Group Meeting - 15/02/2017

"Music of Conflict (revised)"

Presented by: Peter Franklin

- 1 **Beethoven** Wellington's Victory
(London Symphony Orchestra, Dorati) composed to commemorate the Duke of Wellington's victory over Joseph Bonaparte at the Battle of Vitoria in Spain in 1813, originally for Maelzel's "Panharmonicon", a mechanical orchestra.
- 2 **Shostakovich** Symphony No 7 (Leningrad)
(Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Vasily Petrenko) Composed in Leningrad during the Nazi siege of the city in 1941 - the "invasion theme" in the first movement starts as a banal little tune then is repeated over and over, developing into a more and more menacing march, ending in a tumultuous climax.
- 3 **Nielsen** Symphony No 5
(National Symphony of Ireland, Adrian Leaper) The snare drummer is directed to improvise "as if at all costs he wants to stop the progress of the orchestra".
- 4 **Prokofiev** Romeo and Juliet (complete ballet)
(London Symphony Orchestra, Previn) The fight between Tybalt and Mercutio, then Romeo and Tybalt.
- 5 **Bernstein** West Side Story
(Nashville Symphony Orchestra, Schernhorn) Bernstein's take on the same subject.
- 6 **Various** The Pity of War (compilation)
Charles Ives - He is There! (Christopher Maltman (bar), Roger Vignoles (pno)) May 1917 - Gung Ho view of war
- 7 **Various** The Pity of War (compilation)
John Ireland - The Soldier (Christopher Maltman (bar), Roger Vignoles (pno)) setting of Rupert Brooke's 1914 poem - romantic view of war.
- 8 **Various** The Pity of War (compilation)
Wilfred Owen - Dulce et Decorum Est (Simon Russell Beale) The reality of war - inscriptions on war memorials.
- 9 **Britten** War Requiem
So Abraham Rose (Peter Pears, Friedrich Fischer-Dieskau) setting of the poem by Wilfred Owen, paraphrasing the biblical story of Isaac and Jacob.

Strange Meeting (Peter Pears, Friedrich Fischer-Dieskau) - setting of the poem by Wilfred Owen - possibility of reconciliation after the futile brutality of war.