

GATEWAY TO THE arts

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1964

Fine Arts Calendar

Edmonton Symphony Concert, Open concert, full orchestra	October 10 and 11
Richter, guest pianist	October 15
Jubilee Auditorium, 8:30 p.m.	
Royal Irish Brigade, Edmonton Gardens	October 22

'Five Day Lover' First

Exciting Film Season Slated

The roster of films slated for showing this year by the Edmonton Film Society gives local film fans the most exciting season in years.

Films come from France, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Mexico—with an American comedy to complete the cosmopolitan motif.

From France comes the opening film, de Broca's *Five Day Lover*, with a young wife, a dull husband, a kept man, and his mistress, to open the series in ironical comedy. Other French films, to be shown later in the season, include *Zazie*, a satire based on a 13-year-old country girl's visit to Paris, directed by Louis Malle,

and Francois Truffaut's original version of the eternal triangle, *Jules and Jim*. In February Godard's *Breathless* offers an interpretation of moral nihilism a la Nouvelle Vague.

From Italy comes Antonioni's brilliant *L'Avventura*. Numerous international prizes support this film's reputation as the most important since the war.

Viridiana, from Spain and Mexico, offers an uncompromising dictum on Christian culture and human nature in the savage story of a young nun.

Sweden offers Bergman's *Summer With Monica*, a tender tracing of melancholy love, while from Japan, Shindo's *The Island* portrays simply the struggle for existence of a family alone on an island.

New Conductor-Director Sees Promise For Edmonton Symphony Orchestra

By Marion Raycheba

It was all an accident.

Brian Priestman, director of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, planned a career

in meteorology.

But he won a local musical prize which promised complete university fees for the winner, providing he took a music degree.

Further scholarships took Mr. Priestman from the University of Birmingham, England, to musical studies in other parts of Europe.

Starting as a musicologist, Mr. Priestman left the field of music history for the greater opportunities of symphonic studies.

"A symphony orchestra is the most spectacular form of practical psychology which occurs frequently on a day-to-day basis," he said. "It is exciting work because it involves highly skilled artists in the interplay of human personality."

Although he has never before directed a symphony orchestra in the sense of taking over its organization, Mr. Priestman has been guest conductor with many world-famous symphonies.

Engagements in Stratford, London, and New York have kept him busy during the past summer. But he found time to record "Songs to Shakespeare's Plays" and Handel's "Rodelinda," the first complete recording of Handel's opera for the American market. The records are now available.

"There is no 'best' symphony orchestra in the world because no orchestra plays consistently. It is more a question of preference of the quality of sounds and the conductor's interpretation of the score," said Mr. Priestman.

The Cleveland, Philadelphia and Boston orchestras are, in Mr. Priestman's opinion, the finest on the North American continent with few in Europe to rival them.

"The highly competitive professional business of music is unknown in Canada," said Mr. Priestman. "Toronto and Montreal do have professional orchestras but they are fairly cozy in comparison with the attitude in Europe."

"The Edmonton symphony is full of promise and is moving to a new plateau, administratively and artistically." He added that expenditure and membership have both been increased by 20 per cent.

"But there will be no music-making in Edmonton of the highest quality until the provincial government realizes the fame of a city depends more on its cultural achievements than on its material ones," said Mr. Priestman.

His explanation is a situation must be created in which musicians are encouraged to settle in Edmonton and assured of sufficient work.

For Mr. Priestman, the Edmonton Symphony, he feels, is a training ground where he can develop with the orchestra.

Symphony Changes Policy, Gives Saturday Concerts

A change in policy will mark the opening of the 1964 season of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.

Concerts will be presented Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon rather than two Sunday concerts.

Mr. Brian Priestman, recently appointed permanent conductor and musical director for the 1964 season, will open the season with selections from Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Wagner, and Kodaly.

The first permanent conductor in six years, Mr. Priestman brings with him an impressive musical career in England and on the Continent.

Saturday's concert will open with Brahms' "First Symphony," first presented to the public in 1876. The composer, by this time famous throughout Europe, was forty-three years old. But his symphony was not released until ten years after he started it. The first three movements were sketched fourteen years before the premiere performance.

Brahms was his own severest critic. He indicated in a letter to

a friend, "You have no idea how a man like myself feels when he constantly hears a giant like Beethoven standing behind him."

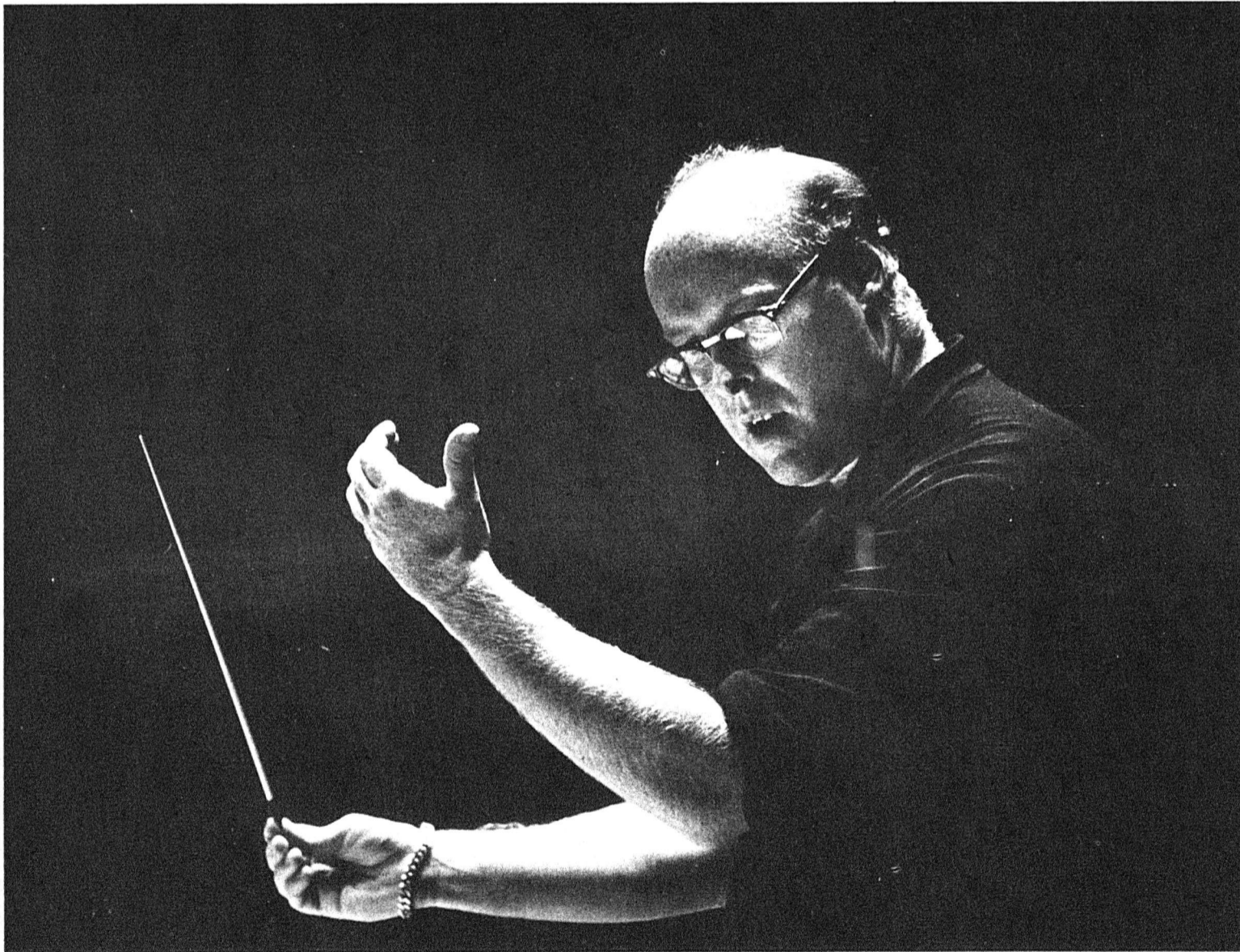
Brahms was always conscious of this and he was determined to be worthy of his inheritance.

The symphony is in four movements, both lyrical and moving, making the work an abiding favourite for orchestral repertoire.

A suite from Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake" will also be presented. The ballet in its entirety is a lengthy work and it is given in its complete form only occasionally. It is probably one of the most well-known of Tchaikovsky's works.

Wagner's longest opera "Die Meistersinger" was first performed at Munich on June 21, 1868. The elements of the drama are drawn from the everyday life of Nuremberg in the 16th century. The concert will perform only the overture.

Zoltan Kodaly is a contemporary Hungarian nationalist composer and colleague of Bartok's. The suite from "Hary Janos," a comic opera written in 1923, will end the program.



BRIAN PRIESTMAN

... new Edmonton Symphony Orchestra director

Photo by Buck Hoeffler

Student Rates For Concerts Now Available

Poverty-stricken university students can still go to symphony concerts.

Special student rates for the Edmonton Symphony concert season are available at the Symphony Box Office in the Hudson's Bay store.

The rate for nine afternoon concerts is \$11 while the evening concerts cost \$14. Main floor space only is open for the evening concerts.

The first concert of the season is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 9 and 10.

Single concert tickets are also available but seats on a donation basis are not being offered.