

CHAMPIONSHIP TEST PIECE
THE TORCHBEARER
SYMPHONIC VARIATIONS ON A THEME BY ERIC BALL

ADJUDICATORS REMARKS

The music flows well to apex
(29) Well shaped Viol Well restrained - all
cohesive (91) Coda fine & all musical =
well shaped (122) Problems of balance
for much Lph from (126)
Viol 3 All under control with excellent
flex. - sensitive
(194) Again musical in its approach
Viol 4 Expansive & elegant & space.
- well done thro (241) Do we love the
Exp? but I admire you for the
restraint (or could just a little temptation
(269) Neat yet rhythmic & all under
control (291) Lovely warm sustained
playing. An enjoyable performance
but not without flaw.

ADJUDICATOR SIGNATURE.....

David Raed.....

DATE 17.10.09

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Good confident start and all quite cohesive.

Var I - lacking in a technically convincing level and not all lines can be heard with cohesion and technical transparency.

Transition well delivered and the Adagio has sense of atmosphere. Well done Euphonium.

VAR II - perhaps could have more of the 'appassionato' particularly at (122) and more dramatically conceived treatment at (132).

Good percussion (mallets) at (142) [Var 3]. A good overall level of playing though not 'everything' is technically convincing after (182) - semiquaver passages.

VAR IV - Cornet Solo beautifully played with good subtle accompaniment throughout. Ditto flugel at 229 - well delivered.

Transition in (241) very well done. Good feel to 241 and soprano cornet plays so well that one can easily overlook the two bars omitted. Some lovely touches of musical playing.

[261] Not entirely convincing. [269] Well balanced and good attention to detail.

Good final statement and sense of resolution.

ADJUDICATOR SIGNATURE..... DATE 17th oct 2009

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DRAW No
12
PLACING
8

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Confident opening. The music flows well - and all links to 27 work
- Bass a bit heavy for mf (35) - Doesn't always hang together
the way it should. In general the detail is missing - so I miss
the drama of this first variation.
TRANSITION - Confident 25 Bass - Euph. projects the solo well
- and shows good style

V2 (104) - Tuba/Perc. played - Cornet also (22) - I'd like a bit
more style in these lines 132. Well contrasted - Close in for

V3 (142) - Break tempo - This drives along - with good perc
beat - just the tone of the technical detail is evident
TRANSITION - Unusually linked to

V4 (205) - Tuba/Perc. also Cornet playing - nicely supported by all
(223) - Good Euph again (229) - Confident by Flug Hornist I - perhaps
this needs to be spread a little more (241) - Contrabass - but not
action - 249 - 261 - works well. 261 - few... The Cornet re-enters
just (269) - Contrabass - and builds well to (283) -
baldly done - and nicely into (291) - where controlled playing
ensues. Agit - not-overdone 307 - for least for a sense of
good conviction, with many great moments heard.
Tone entirely ones, with ton of detail specified in
places.
Thank you very much