

issued 16 August 2011

# **Warlock and Bartók**

# at 2pm on Saturday 24 September 2011 on the pavement outside Malvern Court, London SW7 3HU

#### Imre Varga's statue of Béla Bartók will be re-unveiled

with Tamás Vásáry, David Mellor and Chelsea Ballet performing *The Bracelet* choreographed to Chris Mowat's brass arr. of the last six of Bartók's *Mikrokosmos* Promoted by the Peter Warlock Society

The celebrated Hungarian sculptor, Imre Varga came to London in 2004 for the initial unveiling of his fourth statue of Béla Bartók. It followed his statues of Bartók in Budapest, Brussels, and Paris where the square has been renamed after the composer. Born in Siófok in 1923, Varga won the Kossuth Prize in 1973, and notable statues of his are of Prometheus, a Piéta, St Stephen. St Francis, Ferenc Rákóczi, Lenin, Raoul Wallenberg, Sir Winston Churchill and Béla Bartók. 300 of his works are now to be found in nine different countries of the world. Varga's Bartók can now be added to a re-discovered statue of Chopin by the RFH in London.

Béla Bartók (1881–1945), the most significant Hungarian composer of the last century, was inspired principally by a love for his native folk music. Choosing exile in America in 1940, he died there five years later. His music, melodic but characteristically dissonant, includes the opera *Duke Bluebeard's Castle*, the *Concerto for Orchestra*, three piano concertos, six string quartets, and a remarkable set of 153 graded piano pieces called *Mikrokosmos*.

Peter Warlock (1894–1930), the most significant English songwriter of the last century, was inspired by the music of Delius, Bartók, and Elizabethan & Celtic music and culture. His music includes a suite Capriol, 150 songs, several exquisite carols, and 600 Elizabethan transcriptions. Peter Warlock helped bring Bartók to London for the first time in 1922, the Peter Warlock Society are arranging this re-unveiling. They also arranged with English Heritage for a blue plaque for Bartók at 7 Sydney Place, London SW7, unveiled by David Mellor and Felix Aprahamian in 1997.

## at 7pm on Thursday 22 September 2011 in conjunction with the British Hungarian Fellowship at the Hungarian Cultural Centre, 10 Maiden Lane, London WC2E 7NA

there will be a discussion between Malcolm Gillies and Peter Laki, two musicologists steeped in the traditions and life and works of Béla Bartók, compared by Malcolm Rudland

### at 6pm on Friday 23 September 2011 in conjunction with the Hungarian Cultural Centre at St Peter's Church, 119 Eaton Square, London SW1W 9AL

#### from 18 to 27 October, the Philharmonia's series

Infernal Dance – Inside the world of Béla Bartók continues at the South Bank; from noon on Thursday 27 October all the Mikrokosmos will be played by RCM students (more details on http://www.philharmonia.co.uk/bartok/co ncerts)

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