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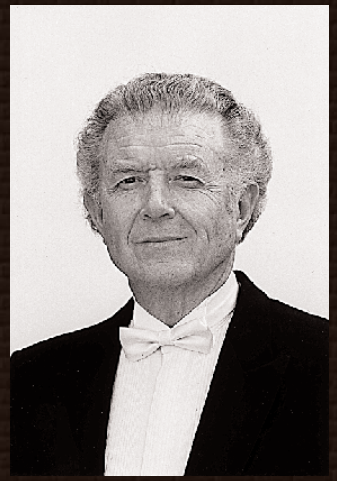
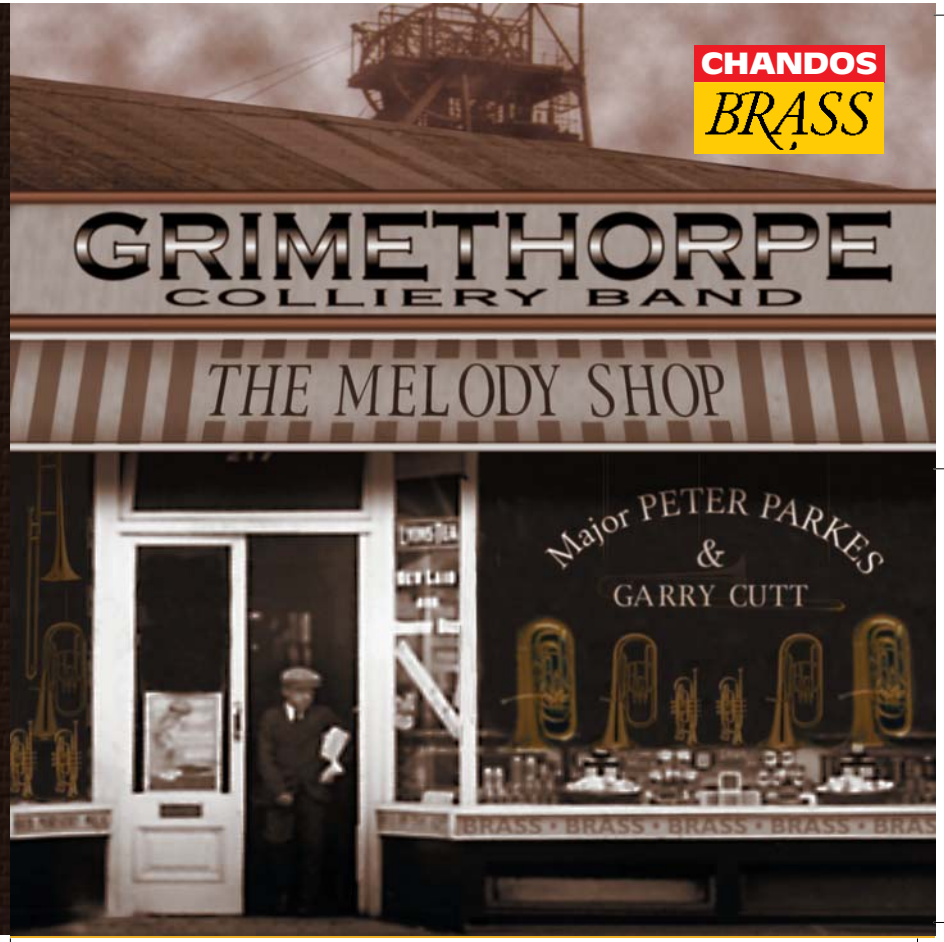
Chan **4552**



Major Peter Parkes



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The Melody Shop

1 Karl King arr. Peter Smalley
The Melody Shop 1:59

2 Jim Webb arr. Alan Catherall
MacArthur Park* 6:25

3 Giacomo Puccini arr. Peter Parkes
Doretta's Aria from *La rondine* 4:16
Mark Walters flugelhorn solo

4 Aram Khachaturian arr. Howard Snell
Lezghinka* 2:08

5 Herbert L. Clarke arr. Sandy Smith
The Debutante* 6:14
Richard Marshall cornet solo

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Prelude to Act III of *Lohengrin* 3:34

7 Cole Porter arr. Alan Fernie
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Jonathan Beatty trombone solo

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One Day In Your Life 4:21
Melvyn Bathgate tenor horn solo

18 J.S. Bach arr. Ray Farr
Toccata 3:28
TT 75:40

Grimethorpe Colliery Band
Major Peter Parkes
Garry Cutt*

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Professional Music Director	Peter Parkes
Resident Musical Director	Garry Cutt
Band Manager	Terry Webster
Soprano Cornet	Nigel Fielding
Principal Cornet	Richard Marshall
Solo Cornets	Duncan Byers
	Darryl Hobbins
	David Barraclough
Repiano Cornet	Shaun Randall
Second Cornets	Michael Kennedy
	Stewart Kennedy
Third Cornets	Stephen Peacock, Colin Brook
Flugelhorn	Mark Walters
Solo Horn	Melvyn Bathgate
First Horn	Ray Curry
Second Horn	Mark Lowe
First Baritone	Robert Archer
Second Baritone	Cliff Hopes
Solo Euphonium	Michael Dodd
Second Euphonium	Matthew Grimes
Solo Trombone	Jonathan Beatty
Second Trombone	Richard Windle
Bass Trombone	Andrew Snell
E Flat Basses	Paul Davies
	Roy Bowater
B Flat Basses	Roy Batty
	Andrew Warriner
	Andrew Lincoln
Percussion	Peter Matthews
	David Hartland
	Ian Matthews
	Chris Starr

Grimethorpe: The Melody Shop

The Melody Shop
This recording is being made at the busiest time in the Band's history. The quite exceptional success of the film *Brassed Off* has resulted in an unprecedented demand on the time of the players, all of whom are amateurs with jobs and families to organize! Concert enquiries have quadrupled, with the band playing to full houses throughout the country, and the concert diary is full for at least a year! Foreign tours have been arranged, with France, Germany and Switzerland on the menu for 1998. In February 1999 there will be a tour of Australia, coupled with New Zealand and possibly a stop-over in Hong Kong – join Grimey and see the world! It is of course not a new experience for the band to play to full houses – the main reason for its popularity is the quality and style of the music played and the sheer virtuosity of the musicians! With the exception of a couple of new numbers, the music on this disc has, at the request of many members of the audience, been selected from the concert programmes currently being performed. Happy listening!

The Melody Shop
At the time of writing this lively circus march Karl King was nineteen years old and making his living playing the euphonium with the band of Robinson's Famous Shows. He spent most of his time on tour, but on one of his visits to his home town of Canton, Ohio, he found the time to write this lively march. He dedicated it to E.E. Powell and Al Shortridge, owners of the local Powell Music Company Melody Shop. Karl King spent a number of years playing in and directing many famous circus bands, including Barnum & Bailey's and Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, before becoming leader of the famous Fort Dodge Band, a position which he held for over fifty years!

MacArthur Park
MacArthur Park was arranged by Alan Catherall especially for Grimethorpe's solo spot at the 1987 *Brass in Concert* contest. It is one of those big, modern finales which tell the audience 'that's it, the concert's over, time to go home!' Alan plays the cornet with the Ever Ready Band, and his fine arrangements are to found in band libraries all over the world!

Doretta's Aria from *La rondine*
Puccini's lyric comedy *La rondine* received its premiere at Monte Carlo on 27 March 1917.

During a visit to Vienna in 1912 Puccini had been invited by a publisher to write a light opera in Viennese style. The War held up the project, but eventually Puccini decided to use the libretto which had been prepared for him. The music is light in style, frequently using waltz rhythms. In the first act Prunier, a poet (tenor) sings his latest song, sitting at the piano. It tells the story of Doretta, who dreams that the king noticed her one day. When Prunier falters in his singing and confesses that he is unable to complete the song, Magda (soprano) begins to sing and she takes the tale to satisfactory conclusion. Mark Walters is the flugelhorn soloist.

Lezghinka
Khachaturian was born on 6 June 1903 in Georgia and studied in Moscow at the Gnesin Institute of Music. He was of Armenian descent and this had a great influence on his music, which is characterized by rich orchestration, urgency of rhythm and richly spiced harmony. His international reputation rests largely on his ballets *Gayane* and *Spartacus*. Howard Snell's arrangement of Lezghinka moves at a furious pace, testing to the full the techniques of cornets, horns and euphoniums!

The Debutante
Herbert Clarke is considered by many brass players to have been the greatest cornetist who ever lived. David Hickman, a twentieth-century trumpet virtuoso, has compared Clarke's success in bringing prestige and popularity to the cornet with Franz Liszt's achievement with the piano, and Paganini's mastery of the violin! He is reputed to have memorized over three hundred cornet solos which he played with the finest bands of his time, including the great Sousa Band. *The Debutante* is one of his finest solos. It tests the technique and musicianship of the soloist as thoroughly now at it did eighty years ago! Richard Marshall is the superb soloist.

Prelude to Act III of *Lohengrin*
Wagner's great opera *Lohengrin* received its first performance at the Court Theatre, Weimar on 26 August 1850, with Liszt as the conductor – what a night that must have been! Originally written for performance in Dresden it was rejected because of Wagner's revolutionary activities. At the time of its first performance Wagner was in temporary exile in Switzerland. The brilliant Prelude to Act III quickly became a concert favourite in its own right and it was orchestrated for every possible type of band. Dennis Wright's version is typical of the many fine arrangements which he made for brass band.

Every Time We Say Goodbye
Cole Porter was born into a rich family in Indiana in 1891. He was educated at Yale and at Harvard Law School but transferred to the music department, writing his first Broadway show whilst still a student. For thirty years from the late 1920s his shows were constantly on Broadway, culminating with his best and most substantial shows, *Kiss Me Kate* in 1948, *Can Can* in 1953 and *Silk Stockings* in 1955. Jonathan Beatty's smooth, lyrical trombone playing is ideal for *Every Time We Say Goodbye*, one of Cole Porter's finest tunes played here in an arrangement by Alan Fernie.

Rhapsody España
Gordon Langford made this arrangement of *España* in 1971. Brass bands were, at that time, urgently in need of new repertoire. This piece and many others of Gordon's fine arrangements arrived just at the right time. The French composer Chabrier, the son of a barrister, was born in 1841. He studied the piano with two Spanish musicians who had settled in his native town, Ambert, Puy-de-Dome. After moving with his family to Paris in the 1850s he had his first real success with the rhapsody *España*.

Trumpet Blues and Cantabile
Harry James was in his time one of the most glamourous and successful trumpet players and big band leaders in the world of music. He starred in several feature films and he had a hand in writing much of the music which he performed with his band. *Trumpet Blues and Cantabile* appeared in 1942 and it was an immediate great hit with band followers everywhere! Bill's arrangement features the cornets led by Richard Marshall.

Adagio
Albinoni was born in Venice in 1671. Very little of Albinoni's vast production of opera survives. His fame now rests on his instrumental music, especially his concertos which are attractive and significant from a historical point of view. The work which has won him most fame is this *Adagio*. Ironically, it is now thought to be the work of Remo Giazotto and not by Albinoni at all! What is certain is that this fine arrangement, written by Kevin Bolton for Mark Walters, that great player of the flugelhorn, is already a firm favourite with Grimethorpe!

Gallop from *William Tell*
Rossini intended his opera *William Tell* to be his masterpiece but it had one fatal flaw – it was long-winded! Taking nearly five hours to perform, it never attained the popularity enjoyed by his lighter comic operas. The gallop is another story – when played well and at a fast and furious pace both bands and

audiences love it. The opera received its premiere performance at the Paris Opera on 3 August 1829.

Slaughter on 10th Avenue
Richard Rodgers was America's most successful composer of musical comedy. Born in Long Island, New York in 1902, he began writing songs with Lorenzo Hart at the age of sixteen. Together they wrote twenty-eight musicals and eight film scores! After Hart's early death due to alcoholism Rodgers teamed up with Oscar Hammerstein II to write eight of the most successful shows of all time, beginning in 1943 with the Pulizter prize-winning *Oklahoma*, and ending with *The Sound of Music*. His very popular ballet sequence *Slaughter on 10th Avenue* was choreographed by George Ballanchine.

Paganini 18th Variation
Rachmaninov was born in Russia in 1873 and studied first at the St Petersburg Conservatoire and later in Moscow. He travelled widely as a pianist, playing his own concertos. In 1909 he gave the premiere of his Third Piano Concerto in America to great acclaim, and with the outbreak in Russia of the 1917 October Revolution he decided to emigrate and make his home in the USA. He wrote his *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini* in 1934 and it quickly became one of his most successful works. The beautiful 18th Variation is played here, on the soprano cornet, by Nigel Fielding.

Punchinello
William Rimmer was a composer, teacher, and conductor whose influence on brass bands was enormous. He wrote many famous marches including *The Australasian*, *The Cossack* and *The North Star*. In 1982 the *British Bandsman*'s Top Ten Marches Poll rated *Punchinello* number one over all other marches. The title comes from the name of a character in a Neapolitan puppet play which later became the hero of the puppet show Punch and Judy. *Punchinello* is still the favourite choice of the bands for their procession to the judging points during the famous Whit Friday Marches.

Ave Maria
The full title of this work is, *Ave Maria, Meditation on Bach's Prelude in C*. This Prelude is the first of Bach's forty-eight Preludes and Fugues – *The Well-tempered Clavier* – in which Bach demonstrated that by slight modification in tuning (tempering), keyboard instruments could play in every available key! Gounod merely placed his lovely melody above Bach's prelude. Ray Farr made the very effective arrangement for brass band which features Richard Marshall's mellow cornet playing and Peter Matthews on the vibraphone.

Light Walk
Light Walk is a big band setting of the hymn tune *Walk in the Light* by Salvation Army Bandmaster Barrie Gott of the Pasadena Tabernacle Corps of Los Angeles. It was first published in 1986, but when it was played later by the International Staff Band it generated a great deal of interest among British brass bands. The flugel ad lib is expertly played by Mark Walters.

One Day In Your Life
This very popular song has been arranged for the tenor horn by Darrol Barry, one of the busiest and most able in the business. In addition to his work as an arranger, Darrol has written a number of fine original pieces for band, including solos like his flugel piece *Tuesday Blues*, all of which have been welcome additions to the brass band repertoire. Melvyn Bathgate, with his warm, mellow tone, is the ideal soloist for *One Day In Your Life*.

Toccata
Ray Farr made this exciting arrangement for Grimethorpe during his very successful period as the band's musical director. Ray takes the first part of Bach's famous Toccata and Fugue in D minor and produces a modern upbeat version which is guaranteed to bring the most laid back audience to its feet!

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Grimethorpe Colliery Band was formed in 1917. Its headquarters are at the Acorn Centre in the heart of the village. In 1996 the band provided music for the feature film *Brassed Off* which tells the story of a colliery band's fight for survival when the pit to which it belongs is closed. The film's fictional band, Grimley, was in a situation not so very far removed from that which faced Grimethorpe in recent years. The real difference is that in the film a number of players accepted that the band would have to go, with Grimethorpe it was 'we don't know how we'll survive as a band, but survive we will!' The real breakthrough came in February with sponsorship from RJB Mining Plc. Major Peter Parkes took over as professional conductor in July 1995 and led the band to victory in the Yorkshire Championships and second place at the National Championships in the Royal Albert Hall. Grimethorpe gives concerts almost weekly all over the country and toured through France, Germany and Switzerland in 1997.

Peter Parkes was appointed as the band's Professional Musical Director in July 1995. Grimethorpe represented England at the 1997

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European Championships at London's Barbican Centre. Peter Parkes's record in this great contest is second to none, his fifteen appearances having yielded fifteen prizes – eight first, six second and one third. He has directed the winning band in a total of twenty-one European, British Open and National Championships.

Garry Cutt was born in Glossop, Derbyshire in 1959. In 1980 he took up the position of Resident Conductor of the Wingates Band. He held this appointment for five years whilst also gaining valuable experience working with James Shepherd Versatile Brass and Yorkshire Imperial Metals Band.

In 1989 he became the youngest conductor ever to win the British Open Championships when he took Kennedy Swinton to first place in Manchester's Free Trade Hall, a feat which he repeated in 1996 with the Marple Band at the first brass band contest to be held in the new Bridgewater Hall.

Garry Cutt was appointed as Resident Musical Director of Grimethorpe Colliery Band in 1991. This combination has proved to be very successful with many concerts all over the country and tours which have included Switzerland and Germany.

Grimethorpe Colliery Band

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Grimethorpe Colliery Band (DDD)
Major Peter Parkes
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