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MUSIC FROM BACK HOME

The BRASS BAND BERNE-ROBERLAND was founded in 1969 by its conductor Markus S. Bach. He had been to England and been impressed by the brass bands and their excellent playing. The band is well known in Switzerland and has been most successful. Its founder, a young man of 30, has promoted the school of music "Saanenland", is a Swiss Army bandmaster and founder of the Swiss Solo and Quartet Contest. In addition, he founded the Swiss National Youth Brass Band.

The band's first journey to Great Britain took place at the beginning of October and included a concert, together with the local band, and a reception by the Mayor at Hemel Hempstead, a visit to the instrument factory of Boosey and Hawkes in Edgware and a concert there, another concert in Croydon, as well as various other engagements with bands and bandmasters. The highlight of their tour was a day at the Royal Albert Hall where the National Finals in Brass Band Playing took place as well as a gala concert.

On Wednesday, 6th October, the BBO gave an open-air recital in the Embankment Gardens at lunchtime. The heavy rains stopped just before the start, and the band began with a chorale. The programme included "Marignan", a march by Jean Daetwyler, "The Mill on the Cliff" by Reissiger, a fantasia on British airs, a frolic for trombones

(Heath) and a New World Fantasy by Langford. There were several solos: Bendicht Berger on the alphorn, a most unusual sound in a London Park; Ernst Renkewitz, Swiss euphonium solo champion 1976; and Walter Fankhauser on the xylophone.

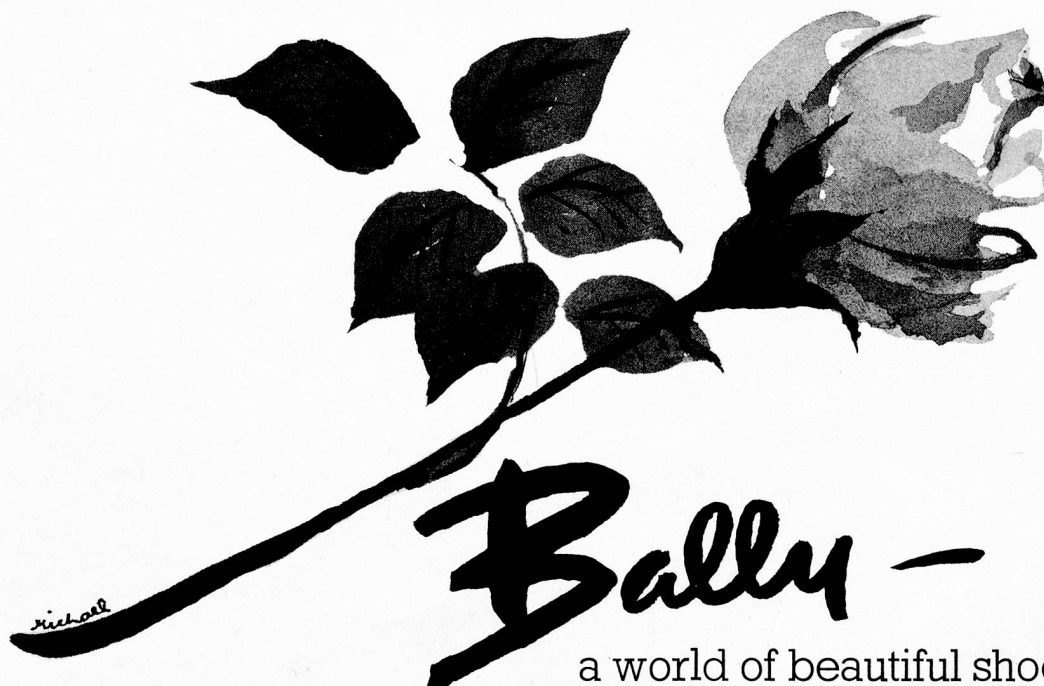
The standard of playing, also of Swiss marches and folk music, was high,

and the band and its conductor may be congratulated on their performance. Markus Bach introduced the individual items and soloists, and he stressed more than once that English brass band playing was their ideal. Good luck to the enterprising young musician and his band! And au revoir!

MM



The Brass Band Berneroblerland is here shown in what might be described as more familiar surroundings than London's Royal Albert Hall where they played recently.



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260 Regent Street W1
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9 Sloane Street SW1
46 King Street Manchester 2

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49 Golders Green Road NW11