

Trio a Revelation



The London Guitar Trio - (L-R Jonathan Preiss, James Keane and Sarah Hornsby) - who played on 22nd May

The London Guitar Trio proved, to this reviewer who had not heard them before, a revelation.

Far from being a muddled collection of sounds and ill timing as is sometimes the case with trios, from this ensemble we heard character, individuality and a very high degree of musicianship perfectly exemplified in the final allegro of Bach's 6th Brandenburg Concerto, a busy, syncopated yet charming movement in the style of a gigue. An effective guitar arrangement

by James Keane had the writer humming it all the way home.

South America was represented by the Brazilian Hermeto Pascoal and the Argentinean Astor Piazzolla whose nationality is worn on his sleeve. It is interesting to remember that during his Parisian studies under Boulanger Piazzolla aimed at becoming a

composer in the European style. He was discouraged in this aim by Boulanger and advised to develop his own musical language in the light of his deep rooted origins. Sound advice as we would not have the tango inspired music which the London Guitar Trio proved so adept and enthusiastic at performing.

David Tudor

Brilliant Byzantine

Julian Byzantine came to West Sussex Guitar Club on 24th April with an enviable performing reputation. He certainly didn't disappoint as he showed his mastery of a varied and eclectic programme which both began and ended in Spain, from Mateo to Isaac Albeniz, both quintessential Spanish composers for the Spanish guitar. A whole world away, the Bach Sonata was both thoughtful and reverent and the exceedingly difficult Scarlatti jewel-like in its precision.

The second half of the programme was a surprise, I had thought the ease of playing the earlier material might, as it often does, show a predilection for

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New Member

We extend a warm welcome to the following new member:

*Robert Bennett
Littlehampton*

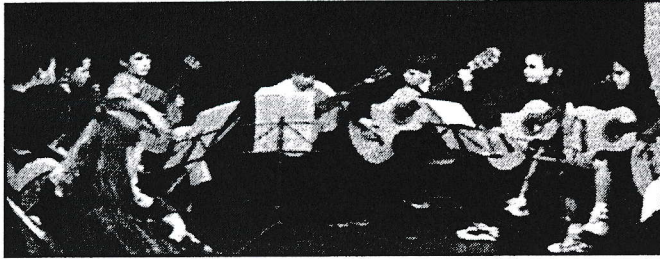
We hope you will spend many enjoyable evenings with us!

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Another Successful 'Stringalong'



The Junior Orchestra playing 'Indian Tune'



The Adult Orchestra playing 'Allegro all' Inglese'

The Club Evening on 8th May took the form of a "Stringalong", where all were invited to play, and was one of the best attended for some time, thanks in part to Sally Paice who invited a number of her pupils and their families, and to our neighbours, Southampton Classical Guitar Society, four of whose members joined us for the evening. It was great to welcome so many new friends and we hope to see them again before long. Who knows? - they may even become members!

The evening commenced with both adult and junior orchestras working on pieces supplied by Sasha, who led the juniors in *Indian Tune* from Chile, whilst yours truly made his debut as a conductor, leading the adults in *Allegro all' Inglese* - a truly nerve-wracking experience! After each orchestra had performed it was the turn of our younger

members and guests to entertain us with solos and duets. As usual they all played with great panache and an apparent lack of nerves, setting a good example to those of us older players who find public performance such an ordeal. Sally's pupils, Amy Starmer and Christine Goodheart started the proceedings well with *Freres Jacques*, and other performers included Katy Richardson, Robbie and Yuli, and Simon Puttock, who played Carcassi's *Study in A Minor* and *Études Simples No. 6* by Brouwer with great confidence. Alex Iles gave an impressive first performance of *Recuerdos de la Alhambra* by Tarrega and Jack Enticott concluded with an excellent presentation of three Grade 8 pieces, including a very striking study by Charles Ramirez. evoking the shattering of glass.

The adults commenced with a very creditable first



Luigi Caste



John Davis



Alex Iles



Mike Notter & Peter Russell



Katy Richardson

Library News

During the Easter break the Library was redecorated and reorganized, making it a lighter, brighter and more spacious room. I hope that every member will enjoy these excellent improvements.

As we approach the end

of our sixth season I have to make my usual request for all borrowed music to be returned to the Library by the last club evening on 17th July. The Summer Party is always a very busy occasion so an earlier response would be greatly appreciated. Guitar Tutors and books of music on long term loan should also be returned.

Unfortunately, four CDs

have gone astray this season and I am sure you will understand how delighted I would be if they suddenly reappeared. Would those of you who borrow CDs kindly check that there are no "strangers with red labels" amongst your own collections.

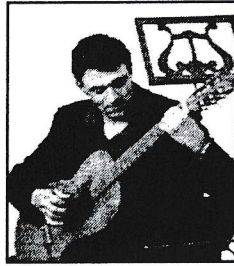
Please note the new arrangement for returning items to the Library. Details

can be found in the Catalogue of Recordings enclosed with this Club News. The RED BOX should prove very useful, particularly if I am not available to check returned items. I shall now be able to carry out this task later and, I trust, more efficiently!

We have recently added eight new CDs to the Library collection. These



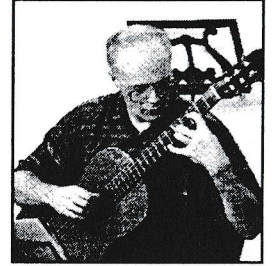
Paul Cheetham



Peter Jones



Eimear O'Connor



Wayne Lines

performance by Peter Jones. Then it was the turn of our Southampton friends; Eimear O'Connor played *La Gatica* by Lauro, John Davies played a *Minuet* and *Gavotte* by Bach and Wayne Lines played *Torija* and *Monte Mayor* from the Castles of Spain suite by Moreno-Torroba. It was good to hear all these pieces played with sound technique and plenty of feeling. We look forward to a reciprocal visit sometime during the next season.

Particularly welcome was the combination of flute and guitar presented by Mike Notter and Peter Russell who played a *Melody* by Schumann and *Rigadon* by Quantz. This is a duo to keep an eye on. Peter then played pieces from the Grade 5 repertoire very convincingly - we wish him luck with the examination.

There were fine performances by Luigi Caste, who played

Villa-Lobos' *Prelude No. 3* very expressively, Adam Jones, and Paul Cheetham who played an *Allemande* and *Farruca* in full troubadour's costume. Linda Kelsall-Barnett gave an immaculate performance of three of Maximo Diego Pujol's *Five Preludes*. Gala Quartet commenced with an *Allemande* by Dowland, then Ian and Debbie performed Poulenc's *Mouvement Perpetuel* followed by Bizet's *Habañera*. Kit and John followed with a charming rendition of two of the *Valses Poeticos* by Granados, then the Quartet rounded off their performance with a rousing account of Handel's *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba*.

The evening concluded as usual with a buffet supper. Our thanks go to all who contributed either food or music to what was a very successful evening.

R.P.



Amy Starmer & Christine Carr



Simon Puttock



Gala Quartet

include some fine recordings by two of our visiting guitarists, Stephen Marchionda and Julian Byzantine.

The Library continues to grow and I intend to improve the choice of printed music next season. Recommendations of books of guitar Duets or Trios would be very welcome as these can be quite difficult

to find and are, probably, the most frequently requested. Please let me know if you can help.

Pam Davis



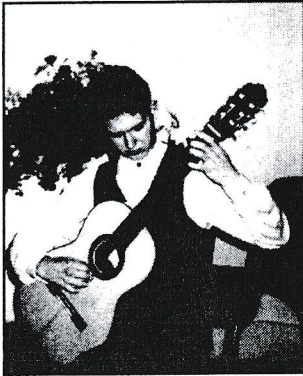
Charles Ramirez & Helen Kalamuniak - 26th June

Don't miss what promises to be an outstanding recital by Charles and his wife, Helen Kalamuniak. The recital will include Bach's Goldberg Variations arranged by Charles for two guitars, and the full suite of

Il Amor Brujo by de Falla, also transcribed by Charles for two guitars.

Charles' recitals are always popular, so come early to avoid disappointment. £5.50 (members) and £7.00 (guests). Further details on 01243 866162.

Michael Hulmes



Our guest artist in the series of Young Professionals this season was Michael Hulmes - a young guitarist of serious promise. Michael started his programme with several pieces by Gaspar Sanz followed by John Dowland's "Farewell". All in this performance was impressive: the right atmosphere, style and very good technique. Michael continued with the Suite Venezolana by Antonio Lauro. This is one of the most serious works by the great Venezuelan composer and Michael indeed did justice to it! Again, it was a very atmospheric performance - very accomplished technically and stylish. We all appreciated a short introduction given by Michael before the piece. Two pieces by Barrios - his well known Barcarole and lesser known Aconquija gave Michael a good chance to show the lyrical qualities of his playing,

although the limitations of his guitar were becoming more apparent - the volume was slightly limited and trebles could be warmer, I thought. Finally, the very popular Usher Waltz by Koshkin - a convincing performance despite the fact that with such a well known piece there is great demand on the performer to find the right balance between the original and the trivial. Without doubt Michael is a musician with distinct personality, depth and ample abilities. We all are very grateful to him for an excellent performance and wish him a bright future.

Sasha Levtov

Summer Party

This year the summer party will be held on Saturday 17th July at 7.30pm, and the theme will be 'the Music and Culture of Spain'.

Various treats are in store so mark it in your diary!

Contributions of food of a Spanish flavour will be particularly welcome - please ring Helena on 01403 753656 for suggestions. Ring Sasha on 01243 866162 if you'd like to play some Spanish music.

R.P.

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those earlier pieces with the 20th century material of part 2 more perfunctory but no, there was an obvious and real affinity in Byzantine's playing for the Pujol Tres Piezas, particularly Rojo y Negro. The 3 less well known Piazzolla pieces were well described beforehand and played with considerable intensity and the return to Spain with the more familiar Albeniz pieces, notably Cadiz and Sevilla, often not included in modern programmes because they are so well known, were played with flair and freshness.

The only regret of a very fine concert performance was a lack of Villa-Lobos from Byzantine, an acknowledged expert on that master.

Graham Bengie

1999 Programme

June	12	Club Evening & Junior Orchestra
	26	Recital by Charles Ramirez & Helen Kalamuniak
July	17	Summer Party - Music and Culture of Spain
September	11	Annual General Meeting
	25	Recital by Mark Ashford
October	9	Club Evening, Junior Orchestra
November	20	Recital by the Eden-Stell Duo
December	11	Christmas Party

All events take place on Saturdays at 7:30pm at the Regis School of Music, 46 Sudley Road, Bognor Regis. For further details phone 01243 866462

Club Evening - June 12th

Our plans for the evening include starting with the Senior and Junior Orchestras working concurrently, then performing to each other, leading on to performances by members and guests; so give Sasha a ring on 01243 866162 to let him know what you'd like to play.

The evening will conclude with a buffet supper as usual - all contributions welcome. Please ring Helena on 01403 753656 to let her know what you can bring.