

News and events - 2014, 2013, 2012

News and events 2014

Piano Trio Day 2014. Sunday 9 March, Royal Northern College of Music, from 10.30 - 18.30.

A day of masterclasses and lessons for student trios with Professor Peter Cropper, Nicholas Trygstad, Wu Qian and Jeremy Young with a lunchtime talk by Dr David Fielding entitled "Suffering for Art - is it necessary?".

This proved to be an exciting and thought provoking day with six student trios receiving coaching. We were delighted to have representatives from the Royal Northern College of Music, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, the Royal Academy of Music, Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance and our first Irish participants from the Royal Irish Academy of Music, Dublin. Works studied included trios by Brahms, Dvorak, Rachmaninov, Ravel and Shostakovich. We had an enlightening talk by Dr David Fielding on the stresses and strains endured by many musicians followed by a short lunch break, and the day finished with a concert in which the participants gave excellent performances which showed that they had taken on board many of the suggestions made by the tutors during their masterclasses. Special thanks were given to Jeremy Young, without whose input and energy the day would not have taken place, and to the staff at the Royal Northern College of Music who ensured the day went off smoothly.

Beethoven Chamber Music Masterclass and Competition 2014, in association with the Beethoven Piano Society of Europe, Steinway Hall Tutor: Professor Christoph Richter

Masterclasses were held on Tuesday 18 March when coaching was given to the Albany Trio and to trios from Middlesex University and the Purcell School of Music. The concert and competition for the **Gwyneth George Award** was held on Wednesday 19 March at 6.00pm when the prize of £400 plus a concert in the BPSE 2014-2015 series went to the Albany Trio. Many congratulations to them!

There was a further season of lunchtime piano trio concerts at churches in Notting Hill during June with the following concerts at St Peter's Church - our thanks to Richard Carruthers for making this possible:

Monday 9 June - 1.00pm - The Birilli Trio Mozart - Kegelstatt Trio K 498, Schumann Märchenerzählungen Op 132 and Kurtág Trio "Hommage à Robert Schumann" Op 15d.

Monday 16 June - 1.00pm - Tarley Trio Rachmaninov Trio élégaique no 1 in G minor and Trio élégaique no 2 in D minor

Monday 23 June - 1.00pm - Jørgensen Trio Ravel Piano Trio, Piazzolla "Four Seasons of Buenos Aires"

Monday 30 June - 1.00pm - Solomon Trio Dvorak Piano Trio in F minor, Op 65, Piazzolla "Winter" from "Four Seasons of Buenos Aires"

Friday 20 June - 1.00pm - St John's Church, Notting Hill - Marmara Piano Trio Mendelssohn Piano Trio in D minor, Op 49, Debussy Piano Trio in G major (1880)

Robert Max, cellist of the Barbican Piano Trio and a contributor to many of our Newsletters, is now making a name for himself as a conductor. He conducted the Oxford Symphony Orchestra at Oxford Town Hall on Saturday 15 June where the programme was Korngold's Violin Concerto and Bruckner's 7th Symphony. Andrew Haveron was the soloist.

Stapleford Granary - 6/7 December

The Piano Trio Society had an enjoyable joint event with the Goldfield Ensemble and composer **Howard Blake OBE** - members of our society - at Stapleford Granary - a new arts centre near Cambridge on 6 and 7 December. On Saturday 6 December there were two performances of "The Snowman" performed by a local children's choir conducted by Lucy Barlow and introduced by the composer Howard Blake. Narration was by Kate Romero and the Goldfield Ensemble gave the world première of *The Snowman* arranged for string quartet by the composer. Howard Blake was then interviewed by Christine Talbot-Cooper about his life and work before the evening concert with a programme included three pieces by Howard Blake - String Trio 1975, Sleepwalking 2013, Piano Quartet 1975 - as well as Mozart's Clarinet Quintet. Sunday 7 December was a day of chamber music coaching with the Goldfield Ensemble followed by a concert by the tutors and participants. The works chosen by participants included piano trios by Frank Bridge and Shostakovich.

News and events 2013

Annual General Meeting - Tuesday 12 February at 2.00pm - Steinway Hall, 44 Marylebone Lane, London W1U 2DB

Our AGM and was followed by our first Trio Conversations event of the year at Steinway Hall when Nils Franke discussed the trios of Rachmaninov with a performance by the Mediterranea Trio of Rachmaninov's Trio Élegaic no 1 in G minor (1892). The evening began with a performance of Cassado's Trio in C major.

Piano Trio Day Sunday 17 March at the Clarendon Muse, Watford Grammar School for Boys from 09.30 - 17.00.

Seven student piano trios received masterclasses and lessons from three distinguished coaches: Professor Krzysztof Smietana , Raphael Wallfisch and Timothy Ravenscroft and there was a lunchtime talk by pianist and composer Raymond Yiu entitled "Piano Trio, Did You Say?". The day was a huge success and there is a write up in the spring Newsletter.

News and events 2012

We started the New Year with a series of concerts given by young piano trios at two churches in Notting Hill which were very well received. We thank all the trios taking part. Special thanks to Richard Carruthers for all his help in making this possible.

Saturday 21 January, 7.30pm at St Peter's Church

The Hepplewhite Piano Trio - Haydn XV:25 in G major "Gypsy Rondo", Beethoven "Kakadu" Variations, Shostakovich Op 8 in C major, Mendelssohn Op 66 in C minor

Thursday, 2 February, 1.05pm at St John's Church

Kingfisher Trio - Mozart K442 in D minor and Fauré Op 120

Monday 13 February, 1.05pm at St Peter's Church

Sequoia Trio - Grieg Peer Gynt Suite no 1, Schubert "Notturmo" D897, Zemlinsky Op 3 in D minor

Wednesday 15 February, 7.30pm at St John's Church

Mediterranea Trio - Mozart K564 in G major, Arensky Op 32 in D minor and Shostakovich Op 67 in E minor

Thursday 16 February, 1.05pm at St John's Church

Bedriska Trio - Beethoven Op 11 in Eb and Smetana Op 15 in G minor

Monday 20 February, 1.05pm at St Peter's Church

Orion Trio - Haydn XV:24 in D major, Mozart K548 in C major and Martinu Five Pieces

Thursday 23 February, 1.05pm at St John's Church

Kirolian Piano Trio - Schumann Phantasiestücke and Beethoven Op 97 in Bb "Archduke"

Monday 27 February, 1.05pm at St Peter's Church

Hebe Trio - Beethoven Op 1 no 3 in C minor and Mendelssohn Op 49 in D minor

Annual General Meeting, Wednesday 28 March, 4.00pm, Steinway Hall.

Our Annual General Meeting was followed by a Trio Conversations event in which Dr James Obelkevich talked about Mozart's Kegelstatt Trio with the Trafalgar Trio.

Piano Trio Day, Sunday 29 April 2012, Lancing College, West Sussex

Our Piano Trio Day took place on Sunday 29 April at Lancing College with tutors Professor Peter Cropper, Alice Neary, Jeremy Young and Jane Faulkner, with a lunchtime talk by composer Raymond Yiu and what an inspiring day it proved to be! Young trios from the Guildhall School of Music, Royal Academy of Music and Chetham's School of Music along with trios from St Swithun's School and Lancing College, enjoyed some excellent masterclasses and lessons on a wide repertoire of works by Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms, Dvorak, Ravel, Bridge and Shostakovich. The lunchtime talk by Raymond Yiu, entitled "Piano Trio, Did You Say?", was a fascinating exploration of reasons why the piano trio medium was not as popular in the 20th century as it had been previously. Extracts of music played included Schoenberg's Pierrot Lunaire, performed with and without the accompanying narrative, music for player piano, Burmese street music, Bridge's 2nd Piano Trio and a piano trio written by Raymond himself. The day concluded with a performance of Beethoven's Piano Trio in Eb major, Op 70 no 2 by Peter Cropper, Alice Neary and Jeremy Young which provided a suitably rousing end to a stimulating day. We thank the tutors and all the participants and also Ian Morgan-Williams, Director of Music at Lancing College, for making the day so special.

We were saddened to hear of the death in Glasgow of violinist Louis Carus, one of our Vice Presidents, on 19 August at the age of 84. After studies at Brussels Conservatoire and the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore Louis had a long and

distinguished career. He joined the Scottish National Orchestra and whilst in Scotland founded a number of chamber ensembles including the Scottish Piano Trio. Teaching played a large part in his life and he was Head of the String Department at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and later become Principal and Dean of Faculty at the Birmingham School of Music. He visited the USSR as a representative of the British Council, was Chairman of the BSM Centenary Committee and also of the European String Teachers Association as well as President of the Incorporated Society of Musicians in 1986 and co-founder of the St Endellion Festival in Cornwall. His professional work over many years has included a wide variety of teaching, adjudicating, and examining in Britain and abroad, as well as free-lance performing with special emphasis on chamber music. Louis was very interested in the work of our Society and was one of the tutors at our Piano Trio Day at Birmingham Conservatoire in 1998.

We are also sorry to report the death of pianist Raphael Terroni on 31 August. Raphael was a Steinway artist and was well known on the concert platform both in UK and abroad, appearing at major festivals as soloist, accompanist and chamber musician including performances with the Terroni Trio. He championed the music of neglected English composers and was a former chairman of the British Music Society. As a teacher he was widely respected and in 2008/9 was Warden of the Performers and Composers section of the ISM.