



The Berkshire Guitar Society

www.berkshireguitar.freemove.co.uk



Newsletter No 127

Apr 2004

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March meeting & Spanish Circle

As our meeting on 14th March was dedicated to preparation for the Spanish Circle later in the month, I'm therefore saving the space in this newsletter for the latter event, but mention must first be made of the early taster that James gave us of his entry to the competition on the theme of the potato - entitled "A spud in a bucket" this certainly showed us what can be done - so don't forget to have a go yourselves folks. Entries should be sent to George Macdonald by the end of October 2004. Possibly one way of putting summer holidays to good use rather than just soaking up the sunshine in some foreign clime??

The Spanish Circle meeting on Friday 26th again demonstrated the ability of this event to provide one of the highlights of the year.

The rehearsal of the ensemble pieces beforehand showed all the usual signs of last minute panic that these occasions seem to require. When 7.30 pm arrived we emerged from our conclave in the rehearsal room to find a decent attendance of Circle members, so that with the BGS members present there was a good sized audience.

Gary started us off with 3 short pieces by Bartolome Calatuyud (Lamento Gitano, Fandanguillo, and Estampa Gitana) which set the Spanish ambience very well. This was followed by Michelle with Moreno - Torroba's Albada. George then played us a Bulerias, a flamenco piece which contrasted well with what had gone before.

Chris Tucker then took the stage to play two of the pieces that he played in his recent Grade 6 exam - Spanish Guitar Blues and Sons de Carrilhoes. Congratulations are due to Chris for his successful result in the exam, having obtained a merit at the tender age of 13.

Tim Parke gave us two Tarrega pieces, Capricho Arabe and Recuerdos de la Alhambra - as someone who has put

off attempting the tremolo into the dim & distant future I for one appreciated Tim's Recuerdos.

The first half of the evening was brought to a close by Paul Miron with his portable orchestral backing playing the Adagio from Rodrigo's Aranjuez Concerto - as always, a high quality performance which went down well with the audience. As an added bonus, Paul played us Los Caujaritos by Figueredo (I wonder what "Caujaritos" are...).

After the interval it took us a minute or two for the combined forces of the BGS to arrange themselves at the front of the room for our ensemble pieces - John Zaradin's Carnavalito and George MacDonald's arrangement of Sertaneja, two Latin American pieces which are as good to play as the audience seemed to find them good to listen to. Yvonne's flute added another dimension to the Carnavalito - it's obviously handy having members who can also play other instruments!

After this solos resumed with Tarrega's Lagrima from Graham Cooper, Yvonne putting her flute down to play Moreno Torroba's Fandanguillo from the Suite Castellana, followed by myself with the Preludio and Milonga from Maximio Pujol's Suite del Plata No 1.

Another change of mode brought us Steve Tucker and Bob Harrison to play us a Latin duet called Lucia, with solos from Steve (Barrios' Waltz no 3) and Bob (El Noi de la Mare). This was followed by Gary and Richard Butters with a selection of 5 short Spanish & South American pieces arranged by Vladimir Bobry. The entertainment was brought to a close by Andy Scott playing the lead in Paco de Lucia's Entre dos Aguas over a recorded accompaniment, the other half of the duo having unfortunately been laid up by an accident.



Gary Jordan and Richard Butters in action at the Spanish Circle.

I quote from an email from our host:

Just a few lines to express my thanks and admiration for your and your society's renderings last Friday. You grasp the regional moods and convert them to sound so accurately, Marvellous. cheers, Richard Mc Ewen

Richard was also moved to send us a map of South America showing the geographical origins of some of the music we played which I am sending with this newsletter.

It seems at least possible we might be invited back

BGS News

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is on Apr 18 (NOT the 11th, which is Easter Sunday). This will be an ensemble evening.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The full programme for the rest of the year is not yet available however coming dates are as follows:

May 9	Orchestra
June 4-6	International Guitar Festival at SHP See below for more information.
June 20	Ensemble (note the change of date)
July 11	Normal meeting, theme tba.
July 25	Workshop/concert - see below.

We have also yet to arrange a date for the summer society BBQ and also require a venue, so if anyone with a reasonable sized garden who can guarantee good weather for a day feels like volunteering don't hesitate to do so ...

The Society is also organising a Workshop and Recital with Raymond Burley to take place at South Hill Park - as these are our own events they do need your support. To quote from the flyers:

Classical Guitar Workshop with Raymond Burley

Sunday 25 July 11:00 to 16:00

The Berkshire Guitar Society are delighted to welcome Raymond to host their 2004 workshop.

Raymond Burley is one of England's most experienced guitarists having performed solo concerts, concertos, on film scores, radio, and television and in virtually every possible guitar ensemble combination. He is in great demand as a teacher and has given master-classes and directed guitar workshops, festivals and summer schools.

This event will focus on ensemble playing, developing music prepared prior to the workshop. The workshop is open to classical guitarists with two or more years playing experience.

Workshop fee £30 (£25 BGS members & under 16s)

Raymond Burley – Classical Guitar Recital

Sunday 25 July 19:30

Raymond Burley is one of England's most experienced guitarists having performed solo concerts, concertos, on film scores, radio, and television and many guitar ensemble combinations. As a soloist he has toured extensively throughout the UK, Europe, the USA and Canada - He has appeared many times at London's Wigmore Hall and Purcell Room, been featured on BBC Radio, and worked with some of England's finest orchestras.

On this occasion Raymond will be playing works by Bach, Lauro, Barrios and Dyens.

Tickets: £ 9, under 16s £4 (BGS members £7)
Available from SouthHill Park Box Office, 01344 484 123

Other news

As mentioned above SHP is holding a guitar festival 4th - 6th June. For further information go to the following page in the SHP web site:

www.southhillpark.org.uk/pages/diary/diary-frame.htm

and click on the "specials" link.

Web site of the month

is taking a rest this month.

And Finally

Lack of space prevents the inclusion of a joke.

However I warn you that I'm running low on material so if anyone knows any decent jokes let me know otherwise I'll soon have to resort to the golfing jokes and I'm quite sure that you wouldn't want that to happen ...