



December 2017 NEWSLETTER

November meeting : Composers' Night

This year the theme was South America. The programme began at the start of the meeting, there being no ensemble this month - which caught out your correspondent who unfortunately missed the first few pieces. However, I am reliably informed by our secretary (to whom I am indebted for the following review) that they did happen as advertised in the Concert Programme. The evening started with Penny Candlin, accompanied by Chris Thompson playing "A Rosa Vermelha" which is a traditional Brazilian piece, and very nice it sounded. Brian then played Maria Luisa by Julio Sagreras (Argentina 22/11/1879-20/7/42) and then a Milonga by Maximo Diego Pujol (Argentina 1/6/57 -). Next up was Colin playing the lovely Julia Florida by the incomparable Augustin Barrios Mangore (Paraguay 5/5/1885 - 7/8/44).

Elaine then played 2 interesting pieces, the first by Maximo Diego Pujol (see above) - "Buen Augurio", and the second by Guinga called "Senhorinha". He is probably the least familiar composer of the evening and we are told is a Brazilian guitarist and composer born in Madureira, a working-class suburb of Rio de Janeiro. As a child, he was nicknamed "Gringo", because of his pale skin, and the artistic name "Guinga" comes from the way he pronounced the word. (His musical genre is given as psychedelic rock ... born 10/6/50 - probably should know better).

Bill then played the Preludes Nos.4 and 5 by Heitor Villa-Lobos (5/3/1887- 17/11/59) who was of course Brazilian and was followed by Tim W who played La Negra by Antonio Lauro (Venezuela 3/8/17 - 18/4/86) and Prelude No. 1 by Villa Lobos (3 out of 5 so far).

Our chairman and mastermind, Stuart then played a Milonga by Astor Piazzolla (Argentina 11/3/21 - 4/7/92) and the Prelude in C minor by Barrios. There was more Villa-Lobos, this time the Mazurka Chôro played by Alastair and then your editor, David Chillingworth, who had managed to get there just in time, played the Vals Venezolano No. 3 by Antonio Lauro.

Chris then played the Vals Op. 8 No. 4 by Barrios and it was generally acknowledged that no-one knew all 4 (or more?) of these Waltzes. There's a challenge for someone! Nina played a Milonga by Jorge Cardoso (Argentina 26/1/49 -) and then one of the masterworks for guitar by Barrios - Una Limosna por el Amor de Dios.

Tim Rushworth then gave us some more Villa-Lobos - the Chôro No.1 and the Schottisch Chôro from the Suite Populaire Brazilienne. Michael played a Partita by Alberto Rojo (Argentina 15/2/60 -) and the Prelude no. 3 by Villa-Lobos (nearly a full house of preludes - 1 to go).

Finally Peter played Los Suenos by Piazzolla and the Berceuse by Leo Brouwer (Cuba 1/3/39 -), which caused some consternation, since Cuba is not in South but rather Latin America, Peter not having got the message about Central America being excluded. Very nicely played though, Peter.

It was a very enjoyable evening with a lot of guitar music: thanks to Stuart for putting it all together.

The theme for next year is already under discussion. Recalling the recent email from Chris T the following are some options but further suggestions are invited:

1. English Composers
2. US composers
3. Renaissance composers
4. Continuing through the alphabet - composers beginning with G

In due course a poll will be taken.

New music

We received information from US composer **Randy Hathaway** about a double CD he has just released called *Classical Guitar In America*. It features 13 guitarists as well as 3 vocalists, a flautist and viola player, and the 3-year collaboration incorporated 10 artists to contribute images for the sheet music and CD cover.

He offers to send an EPK which, apparently, means an electronic press kit, that is a traditional promotional package in a digital form. Anyone interested in this, or who might like to review it for the newsletter, can contact the composer at info@randyhathaway.com.

Students' guitar concert

On Friday 15 December at 7:30pm Tim Rushworth is hosting a Students' Concert featuring group performances. The venue is Redlynch Village Hall, in the New Forest. Admission is free: there will be an interval with refreshments, and donations are invited.

Christmas party

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 13 December** and will take the form of our Christmas Party at which there will be drinks and nibbles. It will be at St Boniface as usual but in the

larger Winchester Room at 7.30pm. We will hear a concert of duets by Adrian Neville and Jenny Osborne. Also, if time allows, we may listen to a recording of a BBC Third Programme interview with Julian Bream in 1960 – at the start of his career. For this we need a CD player: does anyone have a portable system we could use?

Next regular meeting: 7.30pm Wednesday 31 January 2018 at St Boniface.

Forward Date for the Diary

The two Chrises, masquerading as "Nash and Thompson" (not to be confused with Graham Nash and Richard Thompson, are playing at the Havant Arts Centre at lunch time on the 10th March. There will be a mixture of classical, folk and jazz duets with ukulele and mandolin as well as classical and steel string guitars. Food is available as well. Its free (the music not the food).

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