

Soundbites

Christopher Benham

I am pleased to give details of this month's Concerts. As usual, we are most grateful to our sponsors, Waitrose, for their very generous support.

Wednesday 4th July

Penelope Roskell – Piano

Penelope Roskell is Professor of Piano at Trinity College of Music in London and a guest professor at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, where she gives regular master classes. She has performed in major concert halls throughout the UK, Europe and America. This will be her second visit to Sound bites and she has chosen to include music by Chopin and Janacek in her programme.

Although Janacek (1854-1928) did not write many works for solo piano, those that do exist are beautiful gems of expressive piano writing. The four pieces of "In the Mist" were composed in 1912, and is a strongly autobiographical work, reflecting his mental state at the time. The cycle displays an intensely emotional, imaginative musical personality, interweaving fragments of melody - often based on Czech folk melodies - in a fluid but highly structured way.

Wednesday 11th July

Elgar Anniversary Concert

Piano Quintet Op. 84 in A minor

Wearied and depressed by the war years, Elgar retreated to the Sussex countryside in 1917. His spirits were temporally revived and he produced this fine three movement Piano Quintet alongside the String Quartet and Violin Sonata. This work and the Quartet received their first performance at the Wigmore Hall in 1919.

Wednesday 18th July

The Mandeville Wind Quintet

Wind Quintet in F major - G. On slow Kleine Kammermusik for five wind instruments, Op. 24 NO.2 - Hindemith

The Mandeville Wind Quintet was formed in January 2005 and brings together five local

musicians. Last year the ensemble gave concerts at St Mary's, Ware and The ARC, Harlow.

Wednesday 25th July

Dale Noble - Flute & Recorder

Dale Noble studied flute and recorder at the Royal Academy and Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He was, for several years, a member of the Steinitz Bach Players. Dale has given solo recitals at London's Purcell Room and for the BBC. He has been a frequent contributor to Soundbites and he returns with a varied programme including works by Ibert, Reinecke and Telemann.

After this we take a break for the summer. Our Autumn Series begins on 12th September and the first few concerts are as follows:

September 12th

The Fielding Piano Trio

September 19th

Paul Ayres Organ

September 26th

Deborah Stratford Soprano

October 3rd

Jill Crossland Piano

October 10th

Trio con Brio

October 17th

Yvonne Parsons Cello

October 24th

Rachel Broadbent Oboe

October 31st

Simon Smith Violin

I do hope you will be able to join us regularly to enjoy fine music, tasty food and a warm welcome.

More information can be found at our website:
<http://mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk/allsaintshertford>