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Tobin Music

ACCELERATING MUSIC LITERACY

News

COLIN STONE RECITAL

Pianist Sonia Levy was kind enough to write the following report on Colin Stone's Recital at St John's Arc on Sunday 2nd March.

Last night was, hopefully, only the first of more concerts on behalf of the Tobin Music Trust.

Colin Stone, a frequent performer at Candida's Old Malthouse concerts, had generously offered to perform at the ARC to help raise funds for the Trust.

He began his recital with Busoni's gargantuan transcription of Bach's Chaconne for solo violin – and what an opening! - followed by Beethoven's thought-provoking sonata "Les Adieux Op.81a.

Colin brought equal contrast and surprise to the 2nd half of this programme, introducing many of us to Scriabin's 5th sonata: a work filled with exotic, sensual harmony, not short on Technical and musical demands.



He followed this feat with two sensitively played Debussy Preludes, and a Chopin Nocturne and his F minor Ballade.

Each time I hear Colin Stone's performance, I think this is his best yet. Each time he surprises me. He is a pianist who considers every note, phrase, and sound he utters.

That we should have a pianist of this caliber in Old Harlow is in itself an acknowledgment of Candida's contribution to musical life and its artists.



FUNDRAISING SUCCESS!

On the 16th February Candida hosted a Coffee Morning at the Old Malthouse which was a well attended, lively event. There was a huge selection of books and other items set out. The instruments sent by Percussion Plus were a great success and everyone enjoyed the Raffle. Even Morrice eventually managed to win something! Chris Hall provided the entertainment - playing Candida's Norwich Market Suite.

The sales at the cake stall were helped by Morrice's ability to keep tea and coffee flowing.

This hugely enjoyable morning raised nearly £600 which will go towards the production costs of the next DVD.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who made this event a success!



NORWICH PRESS

The following article was published by the Norwich Evening News after Julie Hall wrote to tell them about her wonderful experience in the city.

The quest for a perfect image of our city

TRACEY GRAY
23 February 2008

It's a tale of an 82-year-old musical pioneer, her love for Norwich and the quest for the perfect image of our city. And thankfully thanks to the generosity of a Norfolk artist it is one story that has a happy ending.

Musician Candida Tobin is renowned worldwide for her efforts to encourage more children to learn music.

For 40 years she has pioneered the Tobin Method of music teaching, which uses books, CDs of music she has composed and computer programmes to make learning music easier. And even though she grew up in Hertfordshire, the 82-year-old claims that the music she produces is inspired by her trips to Norwich, a place which over the years she has grown to love.

So, when she composed a charity CD, which called the Norwich Market Suite, to raise funds for her Trust, which aims to promote her system, she needed an image of the city to go on its cover.

And now, thanks to the efforts of a music teacher who uses the system and the generosity of a Norwich artist, the perfect image has been found so the CD can go on sale to the public.

Staffordshire teacher Julie Hall and her husband Chris, a pianist who used to live in Great Yarmouth, had agreed to come to the city for Mrs Tobin in a quest to find an appropriate image for the CD. While in the city Mr Hall called into the Artique art shop in White Lion Street, Norwich, and spotted a watercolour of Norwich market by artist Andrew Dibben which it was thought would be ideal. Shop staff put the couple in touch with Mr Dibben who agreed to let them use the watercolour free of charge.

Mrs Hall said: "We did not know anyone in the city and had just one day to find some artwork, track down the artist and get permission to use it. We feared that we might not succeed. But within minutes of asking at the shop I was speaking to Andrew Dibben who listened to my somewhat garbled request and explanation of the project and immediately agreed to give us permission to use his work. We felt truly privileged to have met this incredibly kind and talented gentleman. I think Norwich should be very proud of the stunning city but even more so of it's people."

The watercolour of Norwich Market Place was painted before the market was modernised and has details of the colourful awnings and surrounding buildings.



Mr Dibben said: "It was a great surprise when I got the phone call as it is not something which you would really expect, but when I heard about what the project is trying to do with the music I was happy to lend my support."

Anyone wanting to purchase a copy of the CD, which is £6 plus p&p, should contact Julie Hall on 01827 282949 or email trustees@tobinmusictrust.org

TOBIN DOWN UNDER

Liza Rossie, a music teacher, sent us the following message.

We are back into the swing of things at school in New Zealand (three weeks into the new school year now) so next week I will send you a photo of my "Lunchtime Recorder Ensemble Club"(8-11year olds) in action and my own class of 27 VERY KEEN eight year olds!

One of them asked me an interesting question that I had not thought about before and didn't know the answer to, "Why is it called a recorder?" I said I would find out!



Liza Rossie's children practicing the recorder

OUTSTANDING PUPIL

Congratulations to Alex (4 years) who, after only a couple of lessons, has mastered his music Short-hand writing and French rhythm names wonderfully well.

He has been using his coloured crayons to liven up the music shorthand symbols and he can now recognize all the musical family notes and their rhythmic values.



SPONSORED PRACTICE

Please join us in a sponsored practice to raise money for the Tobin Music Trust.

The sponsored practice is a great way to nurture good practice habits and discipline. You can only get better by practicing; there is no magic formula! Making music also helps children to develop key literacy and numeracy skills so there is a lot to gain by getting involved with this event.



Simply ask your pupils to commit to maintaining a daily practice routine for two weeks with sponsorship from their family and friends. There are prizes for the top three fundraisers!

For sponsorship forms please contact:
julie.hall@tobinmusic.co.uk

DIARY

MARCH

Sunday 16th Module 4 Sawbridgeworth
Sunday 30th Module 5 Sawbridgeworth

APRIL

Sunday 6th Module 3 Tamworth
Sunday 27th Module 4 Tamworth

MAY

Sunday 18th Module 5 Tamworth

To book your place on any of these courses please contact:
Sawbridgeworth: candida@tobinmusic.co.uk
Tamworth : julie.hall@tobinmusic.co.uk

PARTNERS

A partner of the Tobin Music System is a person who has discovered this unique teaching method and has been so impressed by it that they would like to support any efforts that are being made to make it more widely available.

You can be an active member of the Partners Group by giving your time, sharing your skills or participating in our regular Partners' meetings. Alternatively, it is possible to register your interest and contribute nothing but goodwill.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday April 6th at 12.30pm. Everyone is welcome!

For more information about the Partners Group please contact our National Coordinator Morrice Wells.
morrice.wells@tobinmusic.co.uk

NEWS CONTRIBUTIONS

We would love to hear about your news and any outstanding pupils. Please send all contributions, of no more than 200 words, to newsletter@tobinmusic.co.uk

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