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Newsletter No 184

October 2009

**NEXT MEETING:**

**ENSEMBLE FOR XMAS SHOW  
SUNDAY OCT 11<sup>TH</sup>**

AS FOR EVERY MEETING, VISITORS ARE  
WELCOME - £5

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**SATURDAY OCT 10  
7:00 Chertsey  
Spanish Music and Dance**

**SATURDAY OCT 17  
7:30 SHP  
Ray Burley**

**SATURDAY NOV 28  
7:30 SHP  
Aquarelle Guitar Quartet**



**BGS Meeting News**

**Last Meeting - September 13**

Our last meeting was a members meeting and was well attended. Our theme for the evening was “classical arrangements of popular songs”.

Richard Butters performed *Here There and Everywhere* by The Beatles arranged by Takemitsu. I noticed that this arrangement ranged widely over the fretboard and included wide variations on the original.

Sue Anthill played *Shadow of the Moon* by Vincent Lindsay Clark, and displayed a suitably reflective mood.

Martin Heath performed *Space-Dye Vest* from the album *Awake* by Dream Theater. This piece was interesting in that it was arranged from piano score by Martin. The creation of the actual paper score was an art-work in itself, created not by a software package, but by scissors and paste.

Kath Standen played *Etude No 1* by Villa-Lobos, a piece known and loved by many of us. Not to be outdone, she graced us with another piece Carcassi’s *Etude No 4* when we opened the floor to additional contributions.

Allan de Feu presented *Strawberry Fair* a traditional arrangement by Mary Creswick.

Gavin Smith performed *Over the Rainbow* – arranged by Laurindo Almeida.

Brian Skidmore gave us a taste of South America with a Milonga (an early form of Tango) by Max Pujol. He was inspired to choose this by Orshy’s performance at the Summer concert.

Neil MacFarlane played for us another version of *Here, There and Everywhere* by The Beatles, showing us just how much scope there is for creativity and artistic endeavour in arranging music.

Cheryl Slater and Richard Butters performed a duet for us - *Feelings* by Maurice Albert, with Richard “stepping up to the plate” so to speak, by offering to play his part “sight unseen”.

Gary Jordan played a trio of pieces for us, with quite a wide range. He started with *Norwegian Wood* by The Beatles, where vibrato replaces the original sitar. This was followed by *I've Got Rhythm* by Gershwin and *Paseo* by Eduardo de la Maza.

George Macdonald finished the first round with the Suite in Dm by Robert de Visée. This is a lovely suite with many parts and was very well received.

### **Evening of Spanish Music and Dance - Saturday 10th October**

Gary has invited us to an evening where he plays some classical Spanish pieces whilst the dancers get their breath back - and he is also performing as second flamenco guitarist!

This is an annual event organised by the flamenco dance teacher, Carmen Pacheco, to give her students the opportunity of taking part in a polished production with professional lighting and sound. The flamenco music is played by an amazing flamenco guitarist (Roberto Martinez) who works with the group throughout their rehearsals. As a member of the invited audience you will sit around candle lit tables cabaret-style, and get a chance to dance after the show!

The evening is split into three sections:

- 1) Programme of dance and music, including solos from flamenco classical guitarists
- 2) Tapas time - bring your own food, wine & glasses eat, drink and talk and then....
- 3) Juerga- the informal session led by the flamenco guitarist and students. Guests are welcome to join in!

The event takes place in Chertsey Hall, Heriot Road, Chertsey from 7:00 to 10:30 pm on Saturday, 10 October.

It is only open to invited friends of the performers and costs £20 per ticket (which covers hire of the theatre and lighting equipment etc. for rehearsals and the show).

Places must be reserved in advance as all seating is planned. Gary thinks he can get a few places but please email him *before this Friday Oct 9 at the latest* ([jordangv@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jordangv@tiscali.co.uk)) if you would like to come along.

### **Next Meeting - October 11**

At our next meeting, we will focus on our ensemble work, in preparation for the Christmas performance. There are in fact only two opportunities for rehearsal before the big day, so we need to make the most of them. Gary has already sent out the music to some members. They are asked to make a few copies for others to hand out next Sunday.

Of course, there will be opportunities for members to perform their own pieces. This might be a good forum for trying out pieces which we plan to perform at Christmas - or perhaps organizing duets for the concert.

### **Ray Burley Concert - Saturday Oct 17**

Raymond Burley has entertained us many times before and is known to us as one of Britain's most respected guitarists having performed numerous solo concerts, concertos, film scores, recording sessions, radio, TV, and in virtually every guitar ensemble combination. On this occasion, he is performing works by Scarlatti, Bach, Albeniz and Lauro, among others.

“Some of the most imaginative Bach playing I've heard” John Duarte

Venue: Recital Room

Full price: £10.00

Members price: £8.00

Concession price: £8.00 (incl under 16's)

## The Aquarelle Guitar Quartet - Saturday Nov 28



The AGQ are a dynamic and innovative ensemble that captivates audiences with their repertoire and spell-binding performances.

Described as "the next big thing making its arrival in the classical guitar world", the AGQ have performed in major festivals and venues such as the Wigmore Hall and their performances have taken them throughout Europe. They have performed as part of the Last Night of the Proms festivities and have given live radio broadcasts in many countries.

In their programmes the AGQ are dedicated to presenting music from around the globe that spans from the renaissance to the present day. They have been sent works to perform by established international composers and are constantly expanding their repertoire with their own acclaimed arrangements of music including works by Villa-Lobos, Mussorgsky, Rossini, and film music composer Ryuichi Sakamoto among many others.

### *Upcoming Meetings*

- OCTOBER 11 - Ensemble (prepare Christmas concert)
- NOVEMBER 8 - Ensemble (prepare Christmas concert)
- DECEMBER 13- Christmas concert

### **Upcoming Events**

Saturday OCT 10	Spanish Music and Dance	7:00 Chertsey
Saturday OCT 17	Ray Burley	7:30 SHP
Saturday NOV 28	Aquarelle Guitar Quartet	7:30 SHP