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Forty trumpets, horns and trombones perform a Hard Hat Prom on the site of the Guildhall School's new Milton Court development on Tuesday 25 November 2008

This was a chance to hear some of the most talented young musicians in London performing on the new site of the eagerly awaited Guildhall School building, under the direction of Head of Wind, Brass & Percussion, Paul Archibald. The £80 million re-development of the Milton Court site will house three new performance spaces: a concert hall (609 seats), a theatre (225 seats) and a studio theatre (maximum 128 seats) in addition to drama teaching and administration spaces. By the anticipated opening in autumn of 2012, the Guildhall's facilities will at long last

match the outstanding quality of its training and the success of its graduates.

Professor Barry Ife, Principal of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama says "This concert is a small thank you to our neighbours for their patience while we redevelop Milton Court and a foretaste of future delights when we open our new facilities in 2012."

Log on to:
<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=W4-PXkqwuHo> to see the results...

Richard Bissill *Fanfare*
Mussourgsky/Howarth *Excerpts from Pictures at an Exhibition*
Saxophone Ensemble Feature
Richard Strauss *Wiener Philharmoniker Fanfare*
Samba Band Feature
John Williams *Theme from Star Wars*



Trio Anima



FEATURED ENSEMBLE Trio Anima

Matthew Featherstone Flute
Drew Balch Viola
Anneke Hodnett Harp

Formed at Guildhall School in 2006 Trio Anima's first performance was a premiere of Sofia Gubaidulina's trio *Garten Von Freuden Und Traurigkeiten* for the BBC Composers Festival. In 2007 they were finalists at the Royal Overseas League Music Competition and Gold Medal Winners of the Camac Harp Competition. The trio have given performances in the UK for the Aldeburgh and City of London Festivals. They recently enjoyed a highly successful tour of France, performing in Paris, Pithivers, and at the Orléans Conservatoire.

Described as "daring, audacious and simply magnificent" in the *Republique du Centre*, a recent performance demonstrates their innovative programming with many original works placed alongside contemporary music.

The concert included Debussy *Sonate*, Benhaim *Chamber Music*, Genzmer *Trio*, and ended with an improvisation based on ideas from the audience.

Matthew explains the inspiration behind the improvisation: "We performed improvisations as part of the Aldeburgh festival with the Navarra string quartet by drawing from ideas the audience had: we asked them to give us a place, time and maybe a character to set the piece. We found that as people see our vulnerability in our performance of improvisations, a special connection happens with the audience and they become much more engaged in what we're doing. It's a very exciting thing to do. We're really encouraged by audience's response and want to pursue this further. I think especially nowadays it's very important to get our audiences involved and engaged in classical music performance, and this seems like a perfect way to do that."

For more information on the group and details of performance visit www.trioanima.com

COMPOSITION CORNER

Wind, Brass and Percussion players with the BBC Symphony Orchestra broadcast live on BBC Radio 3

Radio 3's *Hear and Now* programme will be broadcast live from the Barbican on Saturday 17th February 2009. The Tristan Murail day features music by this eminent composer as well as premières of new works by Guildhall School composers Ed Nesbit, Aaron Holloway and Jane Hebbard. The works are inspired by *Spectral Music* by Tristan Murailand written for an octet of cor anglais, horn, viola, cello (BBCSO musicians) and flute, clarinet, percussion and harp (Guildhall School musicians).

Ed Nesbit, Fellow in Composition at the Guildhall School comments:

"It is a great opportunity for us all to have our music broadcast to a wide audience both at the Barbican and on the Radio. It is also exciting to be engaging with the music of Tristan Murail and his colleagues, which is a new area for me."



Ed Nesbitt

FEATURED ARTIST Philip Cobb (trumpet)

Philip Cobb is in his final year at the Guildhall School. This term he performed the solo trumpet part in the *Piano Concerto No 1* by Dmitri Shostakovich at the Barbican with the Guildhall Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Vasily Petrenko

This has been a busy term for you Phil, what have been the highlights for you?
I have had many highlights, its difficult to talk about or pin point one in particular but I was extremely knocked out by German Brass and the variety and flexibility of the group. I was in Germany performing at a festival in September too which was great fun as well as playing the Shostakovich Piano and Trumpet concerto in the Barbican. I really am enjoying most of what I'm doing at the moment. Everything is new to me but working with the London orchestras is also something I love and learn an awful lot from.

German Brass performed at the School this October. What are your thoughts about the weekend of activities surrounding their visit?

The German Brass visit was such an inspirational weekend. I think for me the best concert I have ever been to simply because of the variety of the group and of course the solo trumpet player Matthias Hof. It was a bit of a geeky weekend but there was a real atmosphere surrounding the event and the college.

I understand you are originally from the Salvation Army. How has that shaped your playing?

Yes that's correct. I grew up in the Salvation Army. I'm not sure how much the Salvation Army shaped my playing but I think the people I listened to who happened to be in the Army must have had an influence on the way I play. Players such as David Dawes and Philip Smith (New York Philharmonic) had, and continue to have, a huge influence on the way I play as they are fantastic musicians.

You will be leaving the Guildhall School at the end of this year, what are your plans for the future?

I don't think you can really plan at this stage. I would like to continue playing both solo concerts and orchestral concerts as variety is something I really enjoy and I believe it keeps you fresh musically. I am lucky to be having some great opportunities at the moment and I am learning so much as a result of the playing that I'm doing. I guess I would like to just continue as I'm doing now see where I end up.

Guildhall Ubu Ensemble

Musical Director: Simon Wills

The Guildhall Ubu ensemble presents nine concerts of surprising repertoire arranged - more or less - by theme. Programming has been done in part by students. Despite the obscurity of some of the music played, these concerts will be accessible - and at times anarchic!

Concert 2 9 Feb 2009 Music Hall

God Bless America

Leonard Bernstein *Prelude, Fugue and Riffs*

John Adams *Chamber Symphony*

Works by Ruggles, Ives and some unexpected people.

Concert 3 25 Feb 2009 Music Hall

Other Peoples' Music: arrangements of the masters, by other masters.

Webern's arrangement of Bach, Stravinsky's versions of Hugo Wolf, Maxwell Davies' reworking of Dunstable. The concert ends with Bernd Aloys Zimmermann's insane collage of just about every work under the sun - *Musique pour les Soupers du Roi Ubu*.



Simon Wills

Concert 4 11 March 2009 Music Hall

German Iconoclasts: Music by northern enfants terribles

Wolfgang Rihm *Bonus*

Kurt Weill *Klein*

Dreigroschenmusik

Works by Richard Wagner and Heine Goebbel

Further details concerning the concert series by the Guildhall Ubu Ensemble can be found on the Guildhall School website at <http://www.gsmd.ac.uk/>

CHAMBER MUSIC

Joiette Saxophone and Percussion Duo

Ellie Steemson *Saxophone*
Caz Wolfson *Percussion*

Joiette is an exhilarating and versatile saxophone and percussion duo which explores the diverse and interesting range of repertoire for this unusual combination of instruments.

Ellie and Caz met as undergraduates whilst at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama where they are now studying on the Guildhall Artist Masters programme. Their interest in saxophone and percussion music arose from explorations into how different percussion instruments compliment and change the tonal qualities of the various saxophones...

For more info go online to see: www.cazwolfson.com/joiette.html

Forthcoming performances include:

Tuesday 18 November 2008 1.00pm
St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London

Thursday 20 November 2008 1.00pm
LDS Hyde Park Chapel, South Kensington, London

Tuesday 13 January 2009 1.05pm
Guildhall School of Music & Drama

Tuesday 21 April, 2009 1.00pm
St George's Church, Holborn, London

REVIEWS

German Brass Descend on Guildhall! 25 - 26th October '08

Last weekend saw the legendary ten piece German Brass pay a visit to the Guildhall School for two days of masterclasses, workshops and concerts in what has to be one of the most exciting brass events the school has seen in a long time. Each instrumental department showed off their skills as they performed to large audiences in the music hall on Saturday, with workshops led by Guildhall School tutors.

That evening German Brass performed what many students (and Peter Gane) have said was 'one of the best concerts' they had ever seen. This was followed by the necessary trip to the Artillery Arms, where we managed to show German

Brass a few of our English drinking traditions!

Sunday morning saw masterclasses taken by members of German Brass with selected students (some more bleary eyed than others!) which were all well attended.

The weekend was rounded off by the Guildhall Brass ensemble under the direction of Eric Crees performing a varied programme, including some of

Eric's arrangements and Elgar Howarth's *Spooks - an outrage for bass trombone, brass ensemble and percussion* featuring Mark Frost as soloist. This was followed by a celebratory drink and a good old brass curry.

A cracking time was had by all - bring on the next one!

Emily Allen
Postgraduate horn student



German Brass

REVIEWS (cont.)

Brass Band Concert, 30th October 2008

Our conductor, Paul Cosh, chose very complicated repertoire for this concert, but also really interesting! *The Drop* is a work based on sounds that a DJ can make with an electronic music studio. These sounds are presented during the piece and at the end everything is mixed and drops in a short theme that makes sense.

The second piece was a tuba concerto which is based on rock and funky music. The tuba part, played by Alex Costley-White was really similar to an electric bass score. example in the 3rd movement cadenza he started tapping on the floor keeping the rhythm and giving to the piece a sense of hard rock style.

The piece for soprano cornet and brass band, it was beautifully played by Phillip Cobb. This piece includes as well a brass quartet seating in the middle of the stage. This piece was very short, but

really beautiful. I would say that this is the classical writing for brass band.

"CHI" was the title of the next piece. It was very contemporary and extremely hard.

The big piece in this concert was "Lyonesse", which is based in the world of "Tristan und Isolde". It sounded like epic music; music for ancient wars and heroes.

The experience of playing in a brass band is a new experience for me. Before coming to Guildhall I never played in Brass Band, only in Wind bands. Playing in the brass band gave me the opportunity to play the cornet instead the trumpet Most of the times the cornets have to led and play very difficult and virtuosity melody.

Jose Luis Reyes Acebes
3rd Year Trumpet

had great relationships with all my teachers and feel so grateful to have worked with them. Doing a postgraduate at the Guildhall School was one of the best decisions I ever made as it prepared me for everything in the profession and built up my confidence. It was amazing to be able to work on so much repertoire in wind rep classes and in the School orchestras. Now, as I'm about to start my job. I realize how lucky I am to have had that experience.- Fiona Paterson.

STUDENTS PROFILE

Fiona Paterson *flute*

Fiona Paterson studied at the Guildhall School from 2003 finishing her Postgraduate Diploma in 2008. During her student life Fiona was chosen to be principal flute for the Joint Guildhall school and Royal Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir Colin Davis in 2007. She has also performed as principal flute in the Guildhall Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra and she was the winner of the *Needlemakers Wind Prize* in 2007.

Fiona Paterson was recently appointed sub-principal flute in the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

I spent five years at the school and loved being there. The flute department, in particular, is very supportive and it's a very inspiring environment to work in. I

RECENT PERFORMANCES

Friday 3 October:

Thomas Sekgura in concert

Sunday 5 October:

Wind and Brass Ensemble perform in Kings Place

Thursday 16 October:

Guildhall Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Thursday 23 October:

Thomas Sekgura with the Guildhall School Percussion Ensemble

Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 October:

Weekend Brass Festival with German Brass

Thursday 30 October:

Guildhall School Brass Band

Tuesday 4 November:

Jiggs Whigham in performance with six trombones, rhythm section, bass and drums.

Friday 21 November:

Bozza Wind Trio performing with wind and brass students from the Guildhall School

Friday 21 November:

Wind, Brass and Percussion Open Platforms

Wednesday 3 December:

chamber music with David Walter
Leading chamber musician and Visiting Professor David Walter returned to direct Guildhall School musicians in a programme that included Ravel's *La Mère l'Oye* and the *Quintet* by Caplet.

FORTHCOMING PERFORMANCES

Wednesday 7 January, 1.05pm Music Hall

Percussion Ensemble & Helix Duo with Richard Benjafield conductor

Lou Harrison – *Suite* (quintet)

Johanna Beyer – *March* (septet)

Nick Hayes – *Shining Through* (quartet)

Wednesday 25 February

Open Day: Wind, Brass and Percussion

Booking for this Open Day from 1 December 2008

Thursday 5 March: 1.05pm Music Hall

Percussion Ensemble

Catherine Ring *soloist*

Richard Benjafield *conductor*

Xenakis *Rebonds*

Xenakis *Okho* (trio)

Xenakis *Persephassa* (sextet)

Thursday 5 March: 7.00pm Music Hall

Sankorfa *percussion ensemble*

Saturday 7 March 1.00pm Barbican Hall and BBC Radio 3 BBC Xenakis Day

Percussion Ensemble

Catherine Ring *soloist*

Richard Benjafield *conductor*

Xenakis *Rebonds*

Xenakis *Okho* (trio)

Xenakis *Persephassa* (sextet)

Tuesday 10 March: Needlemakers Prize

Internal music competition for woodwind players

Further details concerning forthcoming performances can be found on the Guildhall School website at <http://www.gsmd.ac.uk/events>

Yao Cong Tan *tuba*

I am from Singapore which is this really small country from South East Asia. Prior to this, I had to serve in the army for 2 years, which is why I am already 21 when I start this course. I have played the tuba since I was 13 when I was assigned it after joining my secondary school band. Although I played the tuba only in my free time, I really enjoyed performing and the satisfaction after a good performance. I hope to be a better performer and inspire people with music. That is mainly why I decided to study music.

One of the reasons why I chose to study at the Guildhall School was because of my teacher. I was lucky to have met Mr Harrild a few years before and really enjoyed my lesson with him. I knew then that if I were to pursue my studies in music I wanted to learn from him. I was also impressed during my audition and interview at the School last December. I learnt a lot about the course and was excited about the developments here. I also liked the fact that Guildhall School is not just a music conservatoire but has many other departments. I hope to meet and learn from all these people.

I guess coming to Guildhall School was definitely a good decision. The curriculum and activities are all well thought of and will help make everyone a better musician and performer. I look forward to learning from my time here and am excited about it.

I really enjoy being in London; there is just so much happening everyday! I feel really lucky to be staying so near to the Barbican and have been to a few concerts there. The quality of performances in London is better than those I get back home so I really try to attend as many as I can.

I guess I have adapted pretty well to living in London but I do miss home occasionally, especially the food! My favourite event in school so far was the brass weekend held in October. Being a brass player, that weekend gave me the chance to listen to many great brass pieces and also to experience my first masterclass. I did learn a lot from it and particularly enjoyed listening to all my friends perform. The highlight of the festival was definitely the German Brass performance and that just amazed me. I finally got to hear them perform live and they played so well! It was by far one of the best concerts I have been to and it really inspired me.

Jo Harris *trumpet*



Jo Harris

Josephine Harris is a freelance trumpet player performing across major UK venues and abroad. As a founding member of the trumpet quartet, Bella Tromba, she was awarded the Park Lane Group Young Artist Award sparking an interest in contemporary music that has led to many new commissions for this group. Her chamber work has included TV appearances on BBC Songs of Praise and live broadcasts for BBC Radio 3. She has given recitals at the Purcell Room, Cheltenham Music Festival and Harrogate International Festival and performed concerti by Vivaldi, Haydn, Hummel and Arutunian.

In demand as an orchestral player, Josephine has performed with the London Mozart Players, Britten Sinfonia, the Orchestra of St Johns, the National Symphony Orchestra, Brandenburg Sinfonia and the London Soloists Chamber Orchestra. She is currently studying for a Masters in Performance at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Cristina Strike *clarinet*

Cristina started to play clarinet at the age of nine. She entered in the Conservatory of Music in Jerez de la Frontera. Since then Cristina received four special prizes and a first prize in the composition competition in the conservatory.

She then studied at the Conservatorio Profesional de Musica Manuel de Falla in Cadiz where she studied clarinet with Juan Carlos Armentia. After five years she obtained the teacher's diploma winning the Honor Prize of the Conservatory of Music.

During 2000-2001 she attended the Pablo Casals School of Music and studied with Piotr Szymislyk, soloist of the Seville Symphony Orchestra. In the same year she was offered a place to study at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama with Julian Farrell. A year later she finished her degree in the Conservatorio Profesional de Musica Rafael Orozco in Cordoba, Spain.

Currently Cristina is a Fellow at the Guildhall studying with Julian Farrell, Nick Carpenter, Andrew Webster and Joy Farrall, generously supported by the Ministry of Culture of Spain. As a soloist she has performed Mozart's *Clarinet Concerto* in Singapore with the Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra. Also with the Huntingdon Philharmonic Orchestra and the Orquesta Ciudad de Ceuta.



Cristina Strike

Cristina is also a keen chamber musician and played in the UK Premiere of *Axiom* by Mark Andre Dalbavie at the Proms in the Royal Albert Hall, August 2006. She is also a member of the Trio Ebano

Cristina was a member of the Risa Wind Quintet which won the Ivan Sutton Chamber Music with Piano Competition in February 2005. She is also a member of the Guildhall Symphony Orchestra, Guildhall Symphony Wind Ensemble and has been principal clarinet of the National Youth Orchestra of Spain (JONDE) since November 2006.