



## CAVATINA Chamber Music Trust NEWSLETTER

When we try to review what happened at **CAVATINA** during 2006 we are amazed by the level of activity that took place. It was a very busy year all round. This is mainly due to the many organisations and individuals that share our passion for chamber music and who have volunteered to promote the cause of this wonderful genre of music in their own areas. Thus a few Music Societies have started to mount Family Chamber Music concerts, sponsored by **CAVATINA**, and with great success. A number of schools have established annual chamber music events for their pupils. **CAVATINA** has now reached, since the inception of the project, 57,500 children through school concerts. The **Ticket Scheme** is making good progress, especially in venues that go out of their way to communicate with local schools.

An important landmark in **CAVATINA**'s progress is the trend towards 'globalisation' of our mission. **CAVATINA**-style school concerts have triggered the imagination of ensembles in other countries and are now a reality in the Czech Republic. More details later. A wealth of new initiatives is lined up for the current year. We are deeply indebted to all the **CAVATINA** Friends and generous benefactors for their steadfast support. **Simon Majaro**

### CAVATINA in the Czech Republic

The Zemlinsky Quartet (formerly Penguin Quartet) who won 3rd Prize in the London String Quartet Competition 2006 and the Audience Prize, donated by **CAVATINA**, are now carrying the flag for **CAVATINA** in the Czech Republic. Already experienced in Outreach work, they gave two concerts for us at the Zakladni Skola in Prague in 2007. These concerts are sponsored locally.



### CAVATINA at the Florestan Festival in Peasmarsh

**CAVATINA** supported a children's concert as part of the June 2006 Florestan Festival in Peasmarsh near Rye at Beckley Primary School. Seventy children from the school plus 20 from nearby Sedlescombe Primary School formed a most attentive and enthusiastic audience. The concert was given by the Sacconi Quartet, who kept their young audience entranced for almost an hour. This was a very important event for **CAVATINA** as it provided a link between the Festival and education work leading to children attending not only Festival concerts, but others in the future, funded by **CAVATINA**.



*The Sacconi Quartet at Beckley Primary School.*



## Chamber Music Competition at South Hampstead High School

**CAVATINA** has a long and happy affiliation with South Hampstead High School and we have been delighted by the enthusiastic response of the staff and girls to **CAVATINA** concerts there over the years. This has led to the establishment of chamber music groups whose standard improve steadily from year to year. This year marked the school's fifth Chamber Music Festival on May 9, in which nine groups, including string and wind players and pianists, participated, presenting a wide and exciting variety of music. The final item in the Festival was a performance of Mendelssohn's Octet, played with enormous enthusiasm by seven **CAVATINA** junior friends and an eighth player who has since been invited to join. **CAVATINA** donated a prize for the competition.

## The Wihan String Quartet's work with young quartets

As well as school concerts, **CAVATINA** sponsors master classes for young quartets. Five years ago, we established two residencies at Trinity College of Music for the Vellinger and the Wihan Quartets. Unfortunately the Vellinger Quartet has now disbanded but the members of the Wihan continue with their enormous skill and experience as teachers. They work with a whole range of abilities, from beginners in schools and at Junior Trinity College of Music, through to very advanced quartets such as the Carducci Quartet,

They gave an inspiring day's classes on November 4, 2006 at Junior Trinity to three quartets, trained by Gordon Pringle. During this year, there were also master classes open to the public for the current Bulldog Scholars at Trinity, the Carducci String Quartet. The latter was very well attended and the audience included pupils from schools local to Blackheath Halls where the classes took place.



## University Ambassadors for **CAVATINA**



We thank Daniel Ledermann, our Oxford University Ambassador and Luke Aldworth Davis, our Bristol University Ambassador, who have carried on the good work for **CAVATINA** this past year at their respective universities.

We now have a **CAVATINA** Ambassador at Cambridge University, pianist, Ilan Lazarus. He is studying mathematics at Clare College. Ilan, an ex-pupil of JFS, a state secondary school, is an excellent pianist and plays frequently in chamber music ensembles. We met him first at Pro Corda and he responded to our invitation for him to assume the role of an Ambassador with great alacrity. We hope that this appointment will help to advance our cause in Cambridge University.

## Winner of the 2006 **CAVATINA** Postcard Competition in 2006

Grace Badenoch, aged 9 – pupil at the Eleanor Palmer Primary School, London NW5, won the postcard competition in 2006. The **CAVATINA** 'Jury' sifted through thousands of painting and drawings submitted during the year following school concerts. The painting will be reproduced as a postcard shortly. Copies will be available from our office.



## CAVATINA Chamber Music Competitions in Cardiff and London



The two annual **CAVATINA** Chamber Music Competitions, at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Cardiff and Trinity College of Music, Greenwich, took place again in 2006 on March 10, and May 7, respectively and provided great entertainment for their large audiences. In Cardiff, the competition formed part of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama Chamber Fest, which lasted five days and provided a platform for past and present winners of the competition in venues all over Cardiff. Simon gave a talk on violin making to an audience of 50 on the Saturday afternoon during the festival. There was a string quartet, a piano trio and a piano quartet in the Cardiff final, in which the prize went to the James Piano Trio, for their performance of the Smetana trio in G minor. The Adjudicators were Edmond Fivet (The Principal of the Welsh College of Music and Drama) and Ioan Davies (Director, Pro Corda).



The Trinity College Competition final, in which three ensembles were competing, was adjudicated by Raphael Wallfisch (international 'cello soloist, recording artist and teacher) and John York (Raphael's duo partner in concert and the recording studio). The Trotovek-Hauser-Aydogan Trio (later renamed as the Greenwich Piano Trio) took the prize with a wonderfully musical performance of Schumann's Piano Trio No 1 in D minor. We were delightfully entertained during the tea break in the Loggia by a Junior Trinity Quartet.

Both Competitions are important events in the calendar of both Colleges. Winning ensembles of previous competitions are making progress on the professional scene and some undertake 'outreach' work on behalf of **CAVATINA**. The winners of the first competition in Cardiff, the Mavron Quartet, regularly undertake outreach work on our behalf.

The two competitions will be repeated in 2007 on February 16th at 2.00 pm at the RWCMD, Cardiff and on May 13th at 2.30 pm at TCM, Greenwich. The Cardiff competition will again be the centre point of a Chamber Fest.

### Fundraising Event at the home of Vernon and Hazel Ellis

On Thursday September 14th 2006, Vernon and Hazel Ellis kindly hosted a wonderful evening of chamber music given by the Sacconi and the Wihan String Quartets in their most beautiful Kensington home. The rooms could almost have been designed for chamber music, large enough and with high ceiling to produce just the right acoustic. We were treated to stunning performances of Mozart's quartet 'The Hunt' by the Sacconi and Smetana quartet No 1 'From my Life' by the Wihan – surely no other quartet matches their playing of Czech music-they had us enthralled every moment. The combined quartets then had us on the edge of our seats for the ever-popular Mendelssohn Octet. The refreshments, given by an anonymous donor, were delectable. An evening greatly enjoyed by all raised enough to provide a large number of additional **CAVATINA** school concerts.

### A very Special **CAVATINA** friend

Eight years ago Anne Vallings from Devon heard Simon being interviewed on Radio 3 about **CAVATINA** and was at once excited about our project and became a friend. She has continued to be very enthusiastic and supportive of our cause. She has worked hard to find us new friends and has even paid the membership fee for one of them, a retired musician, Sylvia Wade, as a special gift. Sylvia Webb in turn gave us two further names and addresses of chamber music lovers in Devon. Thank you both for your steadfast support in Devon.

### **CAVATINA** Winners at Netherhall House

The Greenwich Piano Trio (re-named after the Competition) are the Winners of the 2006 **CAVATINA** Chamber Music Competition at Trinity College of Music. As part of the prize they were invited to give a concert at the Netherhall House Recital Series in Hampstead in January 2007. The hall was packed and extra chairs had to be brought in. Many **CAVATINA** Friends were in the audience. On the threshold of a professional career, they gave an outstanding performance for an audience captivated by their passionate playing. The programme, consisting of Mozart Piano Trio No. 3 in E major; Smetana Piano Trio in G minor and Schubert Piano Trio in E flat major, was a very demanding one performed with remarkable maturity.



We have commissioned a Quartet entitled '*CAVATINA and Moravian Dance*' from Roxanna Panufnik. It will have its world premiere in the Wigmore Hall on 26th June 2007 given by the Wihan Quartet. The interesting feature of this project is that Roxanna's father, Sir Andrzej Panufnik, wrote the set piece for the 1991 London International String Quartet Competition in which The Wihan Quartet won First Prize and the Audience Prize. The new quartet by Roxanna consolidates the close relationship between the Panufnik family, the Wihan Quartet and the Majoros. Do come to this special **CAVATINA** event.

**Nella Marcus – CAVATINA Friends' administrator writes:**

I write this report with very mixed feelings. On the one hand it's great to report that membership continues to grow with more than 40 new members joining last year. This is largely due to introductions from existing Friends; your loyalty and commitment to the work of **CAVATINA** is very much appreciated. However, I feel much sadness as this will be my last report and am leaving after eight extraordinary years. It has been very worthwhile working with Simon and Pamela and experiencing at first hand the success of their efforts in introducing young people to chamber music. However, even volunteers need new challenges, but **CAVATINA** will be a hard act to follow. It has been rewarding also being involved in the continuing support and enthusiasm of the Friends which have contributed so much to **CAVATINA's** success. I won't say 'Goodbye', just 'Au Revoir' as I look forward to seeing you all at forthcoming events. **Nella Marcus**

The Trustees of **CAVATINA** would like to thank Nella for her hard work, devotion and friendship.

**Last Year's caption competition**



The Winner is Jonathan Pilgrim - Junior **CAVATINA** Friend, whose caption is: *"Do you think we qualify for the CAVATINA Free Ticket Scheme?"*

The winner receives a CD of the Alpenhorn Quartet Opus 77, also known as 'The Methane Rhapsody' by the famous composer Lignus Heisslufthorn.

**Loss of a Trustee**

We are very sad to announce the death of our devoted Trustee, Professor Peter Scheuer on March 1, 2006. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, Louise and their family. An appreciation of Peter's work for **CAVATINA** was published in last year's Newsletter.

**CAVATINA Chamber Music Trust**

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**Patrons:**

Vernon Ellis, Edmond Fivet, Gavin Henderson CBE, Lady Irvine of Lairg, Lord Moser, Steven Isserlis CBE, Siegmund Nissel OBE, Menahem Pressler, Gabor Takacs-Nagy, Sir John Tusa, Dr. Peter Woodford, Benjamin Zander.

**Trustees:**

Marion Friend, Pauline McAlpine, Pamela Majaro, Simon Majaro, Alan Rabin