

Registered Charity No. 1067716

Issue March 2009



## **CAVATINA** Chamber Music Trust

### TENTH ANNIVERSARY NEWSLETTER

**CAVATINA** has just celebrated its 10 Years Anniversary. It seems only yesterday that **CAVATINA** was born. Ten years have passed so quickly. It has been an exciting, albeit on occasions, arduous journey. We have been blessed with wonderful support from our many Friends and a number of very generous Foundations. We are full of gratitude to all of them. We are also most grateful to all the wonderful musicians who have helped our cause with so much dedication, talent and humour.

**CAVATINA** Friends who have attended any of our School and Family Concerts are always moved by the experience.

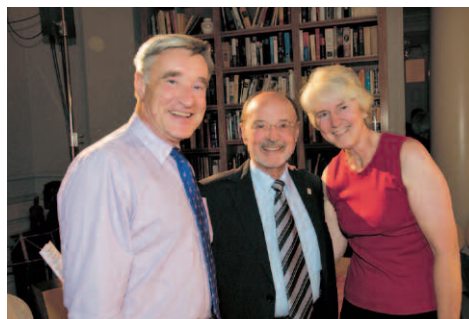
**CAVATINA** has reached 70,000 children in ten Years. 12,000 children and young people have attended chamber music concerts under the **CAVATINA** Ticket Scheme. If only a small fraction of this number develops the Chamber Music concert-going habit all our efforts will have been worthwhile. It is particularly gratifying to note that the number of young people attending concerts on a regular basis under our Ticket Scheme is growing steadily.

**CAVATINA** has become a significant factor on the Chamber Music scene. It is here to stay and we all hope that the next decade will be equally successful.

**Simon and Pamela Majaro**

### **CAVATINA** 10th Anniversary Gala Concert

**CAVATINA** celebrated its 10th Anniversary in great style with a Gala Concert at the home of Vernon and Hazel Ellis to whom we are most grateful for generously hosting this **CAVATINA** event. Star-studded groups of players treated the audience to some wonderful music with surprises! The Carducci String Quartet and the Thorne Trio demonstrated some of the ways in which they draw in their young audiences and invite them to participate in school outreach concerts. Members of the audience found themselves on the platform as 8-year-olds listening out for who was playing the rondo theme and waving their arms and the whole audience were, at one point, on their feet marching with crescendo and diminuendo to Scotland and back! The two commissioned **CAVATINAS** were played; the latest, 'Cavatina at Midnight' by Cecilia McDowell was performed by Catriona Scott (clarinet) Gemma Rosefield (cello) and Michael Dussek (piano) and Roxanna Panufnik's 'Cavatina and Moravian Dance' was performed by the Wihan Quartet, who ended the concert with a performance of Beethoven's String Quartet Opus 130 (5th movement) 'Cavatina'. The memorable evening ended with a raffle and then a delicious supper.



Vernon Ellis Simon Majaro Hazel Ellis



## Honour for Pamela and Simon



We are very proud to announce that Pamela and Simon were presented in December 2008 with an Honorary Association of Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance (Hon ATL) in recognition of their contribution to Chamber Music, and especially their support of the programme at Trinity College of Music, now Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance. **CAVATINA** has, for many years, provided string quartet master classes, for both the junior and senior colleges and run a chamber music competition for the senior college, giving many groups the opportunity to perform and improve their standard and has launched the careers of winning quartets and piano trios. Many congratulations to Pamela and Simon for this well-deserved award, so aptly coming in **CAVATINA's** 10th Anniversary year.

*Carol Lovelidge*

## **CAVATINA** Family concert at the Wigmore Hall

Our first Family Concert at Wigmore Hall on November 8, 2008 was a sell-out.

The Kungsbacka Trio with Lawrence Power, viola, Graham Mitchell, double bass and Elizabeth Watts, soprano, gave a lively performance of Schubert's Trout Quintet. They first recounted an endearing tale of little Franz wandering in the Viennese hills demonstrating the themes, which brought the story to life for the audience whether they were 2 or 82.

**The next concert at Wigmore Hall takes place on November 7, 2009 at 2.30pm with The Emperor Quartet playing Ravel and Stravinsky.**

## **CAVATINA** launches a Family Concert Series at Blackheath Halls

Whilst the outreach project at Swiss Cottage Central Library has enjoyed enormous continuing success with large audiences of parents and children since May 2007, a new series of Family Concerts was launched in the south London venue, Blackheath Halls, starting with the Sacconi String Quartet on Sunday January 18th. Monthly concerts will take place at 2.30pm on one Sunday a month (excluding April) until June. An almost full house for this very first **CAVATINA** concert at Blackheath Halls was an outstanding success. Good coverage in The Times and the local press attracted an audience from far and wide. The Sacconi Quartet gave of their best having left the Isle of Wight at 8am in the morning (do these musicians ever rest?).

An above average musical knowledge was demonstrated by many of the children, even the small ones. An amazing answer by a 4-year old girl to Ben Hancox's question, "What are these?" pointing to the strings, was "G - D - A - E".

See **CAVATINA** website for details (Swiss Cottage Free and no booking; Blackheath Halls bookable £5/£3)

## **CAVATINA** Ticket Scheme at Wigmore Hall

Our new **CAVATINA** ticket scheme at Wigmore Hall got off to a flying start in November 2008 with free tickets for 8-22s available at selected concerts. This shows great promise for the future especially when linked to a school visit. However, the Wigmore Hall has made it very easy for anyone in this age group just to phone the Box Office and quote '**CAVATINA**' and pick up their ticket on the night.

With increased publicity in the broadsheets and in Wigmore literature, this scheme, we are convinced, will be a huge success.

## **CAVATINA** in the Press

Spreading the word of **CAVATINA's** work has been helped enormously by press coverage of our mission and announcements of our events. A two-page article about **CAVATINA** appeared in **Music Teacher** in August 2008 describing our work and achievements over our first ten years. In December 2008, Brian Marquard, the editor of 'Sounds Great' a publication which lists all concerts in London and South East England, included a section about **CAVATINA** in his editorial. He had noticed in E-mails from concert organisers that free tickets for children were available courtesy The **CAVATINA Chamber Music Trust** and contacted us for an interview and information. Events are beginning to appear in the broadsheet newspapers with noticeable effect on the size of our audiences.



## CAVATINA commission



Following the great success of Roxanna Panufnik's commission, 'Cavatina and Moravian Dance', a second commission was given to Cecilia McDowell last year. Cecilia produced an evocative 'Cavatina at Midnight' for clarinet, cello and piano, inspired by Beatrice Harrison's 'live' recordings of her playing the cello in her garden with nightingales, which sang as she played. The première was performed at the Hampstead and Highgate Festival in May 2008 by Catriona Scott (clarinet) Gemma Rosefield (cello) and Michael Dussek (piano). Further performances were given by them at Channing School in Highgate and at the Gala Concert.

## New University Ambassador for CAVATINA



Naomi Miller joined Thomas Hancox in 2008 as our second Ambassador in Oxford. Naomi is in her first year reading Classics at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. She has been playing the cello since she was seven, recently passing her LRSM with distinction. Also a keen pianist, she has always enjoyed chamber music, taking part in a range of ensembles ranging from self-organised school groups to ProCorda. She looks forward to becoming involved with **CAVATINA** and general musical life at Oxford.

## News from CAVATINA University Ambassador

Given the veritable ocean of concerts in Oxford and the demanding lives students lead there, assuring concert attendance is a tall order. However, recent concerts that the **CAVATINA Chamber Music Trust** support (particularly the series of Oxford Chamber Music) have enjoyed an upsurge in students, with superb recitals from Colin Carr and the Atrium String Quartet to name but a few. Plans are afoot for a **CAVATINA** showcase concert.

**Thomas Hancox**

## CAVATINA Chamber Music Competition, London

The **CAVATINA** Chamber Music Competition took place in 2008 on Sunday May 11th and provided a lovely afternoon's entertainment for a large audience in Trinity College's Peacock Room.

Three ensembles (two piano trios and a clarinet, cello and piano trio) were the finalists. The adjudicators were **Ioan Davies**, founder member of the Fitzwilliam String Quartet, and a well-known cello soloist and chamber musician and **Joanne Talbot**, professional cellist, teacher and music journalist. The **Maestoso Piano Trio** (Christina McMaster, piano, Mansoon Bow, violin and Joás Cardoso, cello) won the **CAVATINA** Prize and the Audience Prize with a very professional and polished performance of the Piano Trio in D minor Opus 63, by Robert Schumann.

**The next Competition at Trinity College of Music will take place on May 17, 2009 at 2.30pm**

## Feedback from School Concerts

After **CAVATINA** concerts we receive many touching and amusing comments from the children and their parents: Following a concert by the Sacconi Quartet at St Peter's C of E Primary School in Eaton Square, London, SW1, a child sent a drawing with the comment: "I drew this picture because I thought the music was so good that even the few school mice would sit and listen". Kathleen Gentle, also from St Peter's, wrote a wonderful description of all the images that had come into her mind as she listened to the music- full of horror, magic and pleasure as one piece led to the next- please see our website for the full text. From a teacher at Arnold House School after a concert by the Carducci Quartet: "You might like to know this little gem - after the concert one of our boys walked into his violin lesson and told his teacher that he and some class mates were going to form a string 'courgette'. Needless to say they loved it all.' The Carducci Quartet were a huge success at Churchill Music in Somerset too.



This led to many children clamouring to try school violins during their 'Golden Hour'. Comment from a member of the audience: *"The Carducci Quartet were amazing!. Such colour, such range of tone and feeling; I was amazed."* Some unsolicited comments following the Sacconi quartet's concerts at St Uny Primary School Carbis Bay and St Ives Junior School during the 'St Ives Music in May' Festival: *"My daughter was absolutely spell bound for the whole hour. When she came home she couldn't stop talking about it"; "My son said he cried when they played one of the pieces of music. He has not felt an emotion like that before"; "Vicky was clearly transfixed by the whole session. I have been told before that she has difficulty concentrating, but she had no problem here"; "He came home and couldn't stop talking about the Sacconi's visit. They clearly made deep impression on him"; "Jess now wants to learn the violin - she was so taken by their visit."*

The Naima Jewish Preparatory School has posted an account of the Emperor String Quartet's visit to the school on their website: [www.naimajps.co.uk/news/view/stringquartet2008](http://www.naimajps.co.uk/news/view/stringquartet2008)



## FESTIVALS

**CAVATINA** supports several festivals throughout the country.

Near home, we have worked with **the Hampstead and Highgate Festival** for several years culminating in a Premiere in May 2008 of the newly commissioned 'Cavatina at Midnight', by Cecilia McDowall (See above). This and other music can be heard on our website. The opening concert of the Festival on May 7, 2009, will feature the Wihan Quartet with Gemma Rosefield and Tom Dunn. There will be a concert on the previous day for the pupils of South Hampstead High School.

Both the **Sacconi Quartet Festival** in Folkestone and the **Carducci Quartet Festival** in Gloucestershire are supported in their outreach work and also by Ticket Schemes allowing 8-22-year-olds to come free to their concerts. Trinity College of Music has ongoing support for Master Classes by the Wihan Quartet and the Carducci Quartet and a new Festival, **The Greenwich International String Quartet Festival** 2009, April 17-19. (See our website)

A new **CAVATINA** Inter-Collegiate String Quartet Competition will be part of this Festival. This will include a new **CAVATINA** commission to be played as a set piece by the competitors.

Other Festivals supported are: **Oxford May Music Festival**, April 29 - May 4 2009, **St Ives 'Music in May'**, May 22 -25, 2009 and the **Dante Summer Festival** June 24/25, 2009, in the Tamar Valley.

## CAVATINA Friends concert

A Friends concert on May 30, 2009 will take place at the newly refurbished Netherhall House, London, NW3

### CAVATINA Chamber Music Trust

52D Maresfield Gardens, London NW3 5RX; Tel: 020 7435 8479  
e-mail: [majaro@cavatina.net](mailto:majaro@cavatina.net); [www.cavatina.net](http://www.cavatina.net)

Newsletter Editor: Dr. Carol Lovelidge

**Patrons:** Vernon Ellis, Edmond Fivet CBE, Gavin Henderson CBE, Lady Irvine of Lairg, Seppo Kimanen, Lord Moser, Steven Isserlis CBE, Menahem Pressler, Gabor Takacs-Nagy, Sir John Tusa, Dr. Peter Woodford, Benjamin Zander.

**Trustees:** Huw Davies, Marion Friend, Pauline McAlpine, Pamela Majaro, Simon Majaro, Alan Rabin